

**SOUTH COUNTRY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
189 No. Dunton Avenue, East Patchogue, New York 11772**

**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER (6:00 p.m.)**

Call to Order

Board President Gregory C. Miglino, Jr. called a Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting took place in the Boardroom of the South Haven School, 2714 Montauk Highway, Brookhaven,, New York. The Long Island Advance and South Shore Press were notified of this meeting. Notices were also sent to all school buildings and the local libraries.

**Board of Education Members Present:** President Gregory C. Miglino, Vice President Carl Moodt, Trustee Victor Correa, Trustee Toni Huffine, Trustee James Jankowski, Trustee Kevin Kirk, Trustee Marian McKenna

Roll Call

**Members Absent:** Trustee Barbara Schatzman

**Members Late:** None

**Others Present:** Barbara LaMonica, reporter – South Shore Press; former Board of Education member James Vaughan; guests, and members of the community

**2. BOARD CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. WHEREAS** the Board of Education presented charges against Trustee Antoinette A. Huffine alleging official misconduct; and

Remove Toni  
Huffine as  
Board Trustee

**WHEREAS.** Pursuant to Education Law section 1709 (18), the Board of Education has the power to remove any member of the Board upon finding that a Board Trustee has engaged in official misconduct after a hearing has been afforded the trustee; and

**WHEREAS** a proper notice hearing was conducted, pursuant to education Law section 1709 (18) and presided over by Impartial Hearing officer Kevin A. Seaman, Esquire, to hear the charges of official misconduct by Trustee Antoinette A. Huffine; and

**WHEREAS** a report was issued by the Impartial Hearing Officer that made findings of fact and recommendations to be taken by the Board of education.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that after full consideration of the findings of fact, analysis, and recommendations made in the

Remove Toni Huffine as Board Trustee

report of Impartial Hearing Officer Kevin A. Seaman, Esquire, the Board of Education adopts the recommendations made in the report and removes Trustee Antoinette A. Huffine from her position as Trustee of the Board of Education of the South Country School District. The removal is effective immediately.

On a motion by Victor Correa; seconded by Carl Moodt, with Barbara Schatzman absent for vote, the Board votes as follows:

- \_\_\_\_\_ VOTING Yea  
Gregory C. Miglino, Jr., President
- \_\_\_\_\_ VOTING Yea  
Carl Moodt, Vice – President
- \_\_\_\_\_ VOTING Yea  
Victor Correa
- \_\_\_\_\_ VOTING Nay  
Toni Huffine
- \_\_\_\_\_ VOTING Yea  
James Jankowski
- \_\_\_\_\_ VOTING Yea  
Kevin Kirk
- \_\_\_\_\_ VOTING Yea  
Marian McKenna
- \_\_\_\_\_ ABSENT FOR VOTE  
Barbara Schatzman

**\*\* The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.**

DISCUSSION

Discussion

- Board member *Marina McKenna*, before casting her vote, asked that the following statement is entered into the record:

“Before voting, I would like to express how I came about my decision today. Toni Huffine has been a true advocate for positive educational change her in South Country. Her record on the issue that affect our children has always been exemplary and nothing should ever take away from her contribution to the children of South Country. Her keen insight into what is best for our children always comes out in discussions and through her dedication to this district. Mrs. Huffine should be thanked for her years of service and for her lasting contributions to our district.

Letter from Marian McKenna for the Record

When I first heard of the charges set against Mrs. Huffine, I knew the time would probably come when the Board would be considering removing her

from her position. When I received my copy of the decision of the Impartial Hearing Officer, I combed through it to see what it contained that would affect how I would vote this evening. I put great weight to the section that cited on what the Commissioner of Education based his decision. I also reviewed our district's policies. The policies were clear as were the Commissioner's previous decisions. That being said, the decision I must make will be based upon my duties as a Trustee and my accountability to the children of the South Country community.

Letter from  
Marian  
McKenna for  
the Record  
[Cont'd]

Mrs. McKenna also mentioned the dollar amount expended on the Board of Education vs. Mrs. Huffine; said this amount could pay for a teacher's salary; also spoke about the purpose of Board policies and says she wonders who else has breached these policies.

- After the vote had been taken, with the resolution being adopted, Mrs. Huffine asked to speak. She said that the Board has repeatedly failed to comply with Education Law, and has generated countless legal fees because of its inappropriate actions; that there are many instances of inappropriate actions that left the district open to countless legal fees; in addition, Mrs. Huffine said that the this Board failed to find actions that constitute official misconduct.

Adjournment

### 3. ADJOURNMENT (6:05 p.m.)

On a motion by Kevin Kirk; seconded by Victor Correa, with Barbara Schatzman, *absent for vote*, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Judeth DeGree.*

Judeth DeGree, District Clerk