

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

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER (7:05 p.m.)

Call to Order

Board of Education President Gregory C. Miglino, Jr., called a Public hearing of the Board of Education to order at 7:05 p.m. The hearing took place in the gymnasium of the Bellport Middle School, 35 Kreamer Street, Bellport, 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 Jr.; Vice President Carl Moodt, Trustee Victor Correa, Trustee Kevin Kirk, and Trustee Marian McKenna

Roll Call

Members Absent: Trustee James Jankowski; and Trustee Barbara Schatzman

Others Present: Superintendent of Schools Raymond Walsh; Interim Assistant Superintendent for Business & Finance Michael Buzzeo; Board Members Elect Lisa Di Santo Grossman, and Robert Powell; BTA President Spencer Stickley; teachers; other staff members; local vendors, guests and members of the community.

2. PRESENTATION

Presentation

Assistant Superintendent for Business & Finance Michael Buzzeo gave the following PowerPoint presentation on the \$15 Million Bond:

AGENDA

- Alternative Power Exhibition (3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.)
- Bond Hearing
 - Financial Impact
 - Planned Work Items
 - Panel Discussion after Presentation

COST TO TAXPAYERS

- Construction \$15,000,000
- State Aid Estimate \$14,250,00
- Use of Reserves \$\$750,000
- Net Cost \$\$0

NOTE: The 95% aid sunsets on June 30, 2010; after that date, only 76% is aidable

SOLAR POWER INCENTIVES

- Long Island Power Authority
 - New York State Energy Research & Development Agency
- District will receive a checks totaling at least \$750,000 from these two entities

COMPUTATION OF THE 95% AID

- South Country Basic Building Aid	76.2%
- Reorganization Building Aid	30.0%
- TOTAL	106.2%
- Maximum State Building Aid	95%

Work Items for 2010:

BELLPORT HIGH SCHOOL

- Reconstruct bus drop-off and parking at the front of the building
- Masonry reconstruction
- Replace greenhouse near science prep room
- Alterations to Family and Consumer Science Classroom
- Alterations to Library
- Replace rooftop exhaust fans
- Provide solar panels – mounted on rooftop
- Other miscellaneous upgrades

Subtotal \$3,300,000

BELLPORT MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Create a new science center and planetarium within the original auditorium. Convert one or both Industrial Art Room to Music Rooms
- Replace existing Kitchen equipment with new
- Extend soccer fields to the west
- Masonry reconstruction
- Provide solar panels mounted on rooftop
- Other miscellaneous upgrades

Subtotal \$4,100,000

FRANK P. LONG INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

- New goal posts on field
- New playground equipment and fencing, including new base and border
- Replace antiquated rooftop exhaust fans
- Replace compressors in each of the building's two boiler rooms
- Provide computerized heating controls for all classrooms
- Replace window blinds
- Provide solar panels – mounted on rooftop
- Additional clearing to create fields
- Other miscellaneous upgrades

Subtotal \$2,340,000

VERNE W. CRITZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Replace concrete curbing and sidewalks

- New playground equipment and fencing, including new base and border
- Replace galvanized cold water piping with copper piping
- Provide computerized heating controls for all classrooms
- Provide solar panels mounted on the roof
- Other miscellaneous upgrades
- Subtotal \$1,525,000**

KREAMER STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Replace asphalt driveway and parking area
- Sidewalk and curb replacement
- New playground equipment and fencing including new base and border
- Improve lighting at the parking lot
- Modify drainage at athletic fields
- Renovate playground area (new base and border)
- Handicapped accessibility improvements at rear entrance to the building
- Replace remainder of antiquated kitchen and roof top exhaust fans
- Replace galvanized cold water piping with copper piping
- Provide computerized heating controls at all classrooms
- Provide solar panels mounted on the roof
- Other miscellaneous upgrades
- Subtotal \$1,895,000**

BROOKHAVEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Irrigate the back fields
- Replace one (1) condensate tank in the boiler room
- Replace domestic hot water heater
- Replacement of Kitchen hot water heater
- Renovate playground area (new base and border)
- Replace existing fuel oil tank at the Annex with new
- Stucco reconstruction work at the Annex
- Replacement of roof leaders at the Annex
- Addition of drainage pools at the front of the Annex
- Provide computerized heating controls at all classrooms
- Install boiler alarms to prevent freeze up
- Replace all roof top exhaust fans
- New vinyl composition floor tile in the Annex
- Provide solar panels mounted on the roof
- Miscellaneous alterations
- Subtotal \$1,840,000**

GRAND TOTAL..... \$15,000,000

3. DISCUSSION

Panel: Gregory Miglino, Rick Wiedersum, Michael Buzzeo, and Ray Walsh.

Q&A

Chris Deutsch: Q re: for each school, the amount of payback for solar megawatts? Why this item was not presented for voter approval at the May 18th elections?

Answers: Gregory Miglino: there will be a maximum 1.25 gigawatts of power from each building; and if this item was presented at the May 18th elections, of the \$15 million going toward the panels, there would have been a cost to the district; doing this now is saving the district money.

Chris Deutsch: Q re: maintenance on inverters; spoke of DC and AC currents having an eight to ten-year lifespan, adding that there would be an additional cost of \$500 thousand; Q re: the cost to taxpayers? and Q re: the environmental impact?

Greg Miglino: LIPA will give incentives at a minimum of \$750 thousand; the district will use \$750 thousand from its reserve fund; we are now spending \$650 to \$750 thousand a year on electric and will be able to reduce this cost by 50%, which will more than pay for the maintenance and upkeep. We are also considering the environmental impact.

Chris Deutsch: If the district will not see savings for at least thirty to forty years, why install solar panels now?

Gregory Miglino: because installation will be at no cost to the district.

Chris Deutsch: again had questions about the maintenance of the panels?

Gregory Miglino: The Solar Panels will require very little maintenance; the district is reinvesting in the infrastructure because boilers break down, resulting in continued maintenance.

John Knapp: Q re: whether there are dedicated funds for maintenance?

Gregory Miglino: says everything requires upkeep; but that the June 17th Board meeting will be dedicated to discussing creating special maintenance funds; and the Board will be asked to put certain amounts of money in the Capital Fund.

Wes Springhorn: Q re: whether installation of Solar Panels will disturb the integrity of the flat roofs?

Rick Wiedersum: No. two types of systems will be installed: Crystalline and Flat (thin-skinned) solar panels; additional discussion re: using the correct types of panels in order to allow optimal drainage on the rooftop

Julio Morales: proper use of State Aid money – whether it can be used for other things? and Q re: installation costs for panels?

Gregory Miglino: the state sets criterion on what the money can be used; and the cost of installation is \$78 per square foot.

Julio Morales: Q re: the existing condition of our buildings? Q re: whether the district has conducted feasibility studies to determine the condition of our buildings?

Rick Wiedersum: Yes, feasibility studies have been conducted; some buildings have modified roofing and some have membrane.

Gregory Miglino: The boilers have been inspected, also checks for asbestos, etc.

Gianardi: says the district is being “disingenuous” to the residents and that this project is not free; also says the “cost of this project will come back to haunt” the district; spoke of a payback not coming for forty years; says this is not desirable and that the factor should be the environmental issue, and that it appears the situation will be a “net loss”.

Cole: Q re: the underwriting cost – when a reimbursement is due? Q re: the length of the Bond: and Q re: penalty for early payoff?

Gregory Miglino: there will be costs associated with Bond counsel, but all costs are included in the \$15 million; the State allocates at least 20%.

Mike Buzzeo: the \$15 million Bond has a 20-year term; the state will hold the payment schedule; there are no incentives for early payments.

Cole: Q re: Crystalline systems?

Rick Wiedersum: Crystalline panels are angled toward the sun and filter energy from dusk to dawn.

Tom: Q re: current Bond rating?

Mike Buzzeo: Bond II; we will be receiving investment rating this summer.

Tom: Cost for this special Election? and asked why not pay cash for the project?

Gregory Miglino: it cost \$15 to \$20 thousand dollars to run an election; the project is 95% aidable; why not use this opportunity while it exists?

Resident: says she believes the project is an excellent idea; Q re: costs associated with the project overrunning its coverage? Q re: amount of interest payment?

Gregory Miglino: the district is required to remain within the mandated ceiling; and interest payments are included in the \$15 million.

Stu: Savings and specific use of money?

Gregory Miglino: this money will be put into the reserve fund.

Paul Conrad: says schools are closed during the summer months and asks whether arrangements have been made to sell back power to LIPA?

Gregory Miglino: the answer is yes – energy will be banked for use in the winter.

Mary: If the district is converting to solar power, then why is there replacement of boilers, boiler parts, water pipes, etc.?

Gregory Miglino: Solar panels will help but they will never totally replace conventional heating devices.

Chris: Can the proposition be “broken up”?

Gregory Miglino: No, because of legal requirements

Owen Durney: Q re; whether a feasibility study is required?

Gregory Miglino: Yes.

Owen Durney: Q re: projects – new playground and fencing; and handicap accessibility at the rear entrance of Kreamer Street School?

Gregory Miglino: asked Mr. Durney to consult the Bond Chairperson Carl Moodt; Mr. Miglino added that the school principal and superintendent were consulted, and that they gave their recommendations.

Carl Moodt: Kreamer’s parking lot was redone; therefore, handicap requirements must be updated.

Resident: Q re: response to environmental issues? says the impact seems to be negative.

Gregory Miglino: says he is not technically qualified to respond to that question/statement

Resident: If the voters do not approve the Bond, from where will the money come to pay for the project – the pockets of the residents?

Gregory Miglino: says he cannot respond to this question at this time.

Vendor: in response to the questions pertaining to the environmental impact: the Carbon Footprint – Use for 180 days, and 2. giving back to LIPA and Suffolk County.....

4. CLOSING STATEMENT

Gregory Miglino thanked the residents and vendors for coming out, and then says he hopes to run this again in the future. Mr. Miglino asks that everyone come out and vote on Tuesday, June 16th.

Closing
Statement

NEXT MEETING DATE: Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Next Meeting
date**5. ADJOURNMENT (8:16 p.m.)**

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Judeth DeGree,

Judeth DeGree, District Clerk