

**SHOREHAM-WADING RIVER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
250B Route 25A, Shoreham, New York 11786 ~ (631-821-8100)  
*Dr. Steven Cohen, Superintendent of Schools*

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**Public Meeting**

**August 3, 2011**

At 7:35 PM, a public meeting of the Board of Education of the Shoreham-Wading River Central School District was called to order in the District Office board room by Dr. McGrath.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dr. William McGrath, President  
Mr. Michael Fucito, Vice-President  
Mr. Leo Greeley  
Ms. Marie Lindell  
Mr. John Zukowski

**ALSO PRESENT**

Dr. Steven Cohen, Superintendent  
Mr. Glen Arcuri, Director of Finance and Operations  
Dr. William Bushman, Director of Student Services  
Mr. Alan Meinster, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mr. Jack Costas  
Mr. Richard Pluschau

**I Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

At 7:35 PM, the Public Session of the Board of Education of the Shoreham-Wading River Central School District Board of Education was called to order by Dr. McGrath.

**II Presentation**

Dr. Cohen began by defining the term budget “drivers” - budget expenses which the District has no control over. The most important budget driver is schooling of children.

Dr. Cohen next discussed Fiscal 2012-2013 Budget. Dr. Cohen talked about the management of prior years' state aid. Mr. Arcuri spoke about the tax levy, tax assessments, and the new tax cap. Mr. Arcuri proposed that the Board begin to look at the budget drivers of 2011-2012 which are automatically carried into 2012-2013. There will be shortfall which the Board will have to find ways to fill. Discussion of tax cap options followed.

Mr. Arcuri gave an update on the prior years' state aid funds. Discussion of prior years' state aid use for 2012-2013 followed. Mr. Greeley warned any use of prior years' state aid for tax stabilization will eventually cause a tax spike.

Discussion of eliminations followed. Dr. Cohen suggested a community survey be done to help the Board determine what reductions / eliminations should be made. Discussion of co-curricular activities, unfunded mandates, facilities repairs, and transportation followed.

Dr. Cohen asked why a greater effort is not being made by all interest parties involved to put the Shoreham Nuclear Plant property to a greater use which will benefit the entire community.

Mr. Arcuri gave an update on capital projects currently in progress. Mr. Arcuri then gave a prioritized list of capital projects needed to be done due to health and safety issues, preventive maintenance, etc: roofs (especially the High School roof); sidewalks, curbs and paving; tennis courts and tracks; science labs; security system, etc. Dr. Cohen and the Board agreed to reassemble the Space and Facilities Committee to assist with prioritizing these and other projects.

Dr. Cohen next addressed Community Relations. Dr. Cohen suggested scheduling a series of community forums, discussion of the best way to advertise these forums followed. Dr. Cohen gave examples of topics which could be discussed; Dr. McGrath suggested school budget development as a topic.

Dr. Cohen summarized the discussions between the Board and administration:

1. Administration to provide the Board with “best guess” reductions in the current budget for next year's budget.
2. Examine community survey.
3. Convene Space and Facilities Committee to assist prioritize facilities repairs.

**III Board Discussion**

Mr. Zukowski suggested a SWR High School Student Government student sit on the Board of Education as a non-voting member. Mr. Fucito advised this would require voter approved.

**V Discussion**

**IV Questions / Comments from Residents**

A resident spoke about the potential community survey and the community forums.

Ms. Lisa Wild spoke about the PTO and PTA involvement in the community survey and community forums.

Ms. Christine Zukowski spoke about the new tax cap and mandates. Ms. Zukowski recommended the budget development begin earlier in the year so the community becomes more aware of the eliminations that are inevitable.

The Board discussed a multi-year financial plan.

At 9:25 PM, a motion was made by Mr. Fucito and second by Mr. Zukowski to adjourn the Public Session and enter into Executive Session. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

At 9:26 PM, an Executive Session of the Board of Education of the Shoreham-Wading River Central School District was called to order by Dr. McGrath to discuss a personnel matter related to a particular person.

At 9:48 PM, a motion was made to adjourn Executive Session and Public Session by Mr. Greeley and seconded by Mr. Fucito. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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Janice M. Seus  
District Clerk