

The Annual Program and Service Review was held at 5:30 PM in the cafeteria with administrators and board members. Each administrator reviewed the status of their current department and answered questions.

The Public Hearing on the Alternative Veterans’ Exemption was called to order at 6:45 PM. Mrs. Joyce-Turner led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Information was shared on 458-A Property Tax Exemption and 458-A Property Tax Exemption-Gold Star Parent Option. Several members of the audience spoke favorably for the exemption.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 7:16 PM followed by the regular monthly meeting of the board of education.

- Motion was made by Mrs. Meckle, seconded by Peachey to accept the Agenda.
Unanimously carried
- Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mr. Murphy to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held December 18, 2014 as submitted.
Unanimously carried

Mrs. Joyce-Turner opened the meeting for public comment. There was none.
Mrs. Brey shared the report from the Finance Audit Committee.
Dr. Hackett gave her superintendent’s report followed by Mrs. Poston’s report.

Motion was made by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Peachey:

WHEREAS, the District has considered adopting the Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a exemption which allows school districts to offer a partial exemption from school taxes to the qualified primary residence of (1) a veteran of the United States Armed Services who actively served during a period of war, (2) a veteran who received an expeditionary medal, or under certain conditions, (3) a veteran of the Merchant Marine service, (4) a veteran of the American Field Service, or (5) a veteran who served as a Pan American World Airways flight crew and aviation ground support employee (the “Veteran’s Alternative Exemption”); and

Adopt Real
Property Tax
Law 458-a
exemption

WHEREAS, based upon the District’s review and analysis of the purpose and intent of this exemption as well as its potential financial impact upon the District, the District finds it appropriate and in the District’s best interests to resolve to adopt the provisions of this exemption, at the statutory “default” levels, as follows:

Qualified Combat Veteran:15% of Assessed Value / \$12,000 Value Cap

Qualified Wartime Veteran:10% of Assessed Value / \$8,000 Value Cap

Qualified Disabled Veteran:½ of Disability Rating / \$40,000 Value Cap

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the District as follows:

Section 1 The District hereby adopts this resolution and allows henceforth the partial exemption for qualified veterans from real property taxes as allowed by the Veteran’s Alternative Exemption under Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a as amended December, 2013.

Section 2 All terms herein shall be defined in accordance with Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a.

Section 3 As allowed by Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a, this resolution adopts a partial real property tax exemption for the “qualified” property of “qualified” veterans as set forth below.

(a) Qualifying residential real property owned by a qualified veteran shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of

(b) fifteen percent of the assessed value of such property; provided, however, that such exemption shall not

(c) exceed twelve thousand dollars or the product of twelve thousand dollars multiplied by the latest state equalization

(d) rate for the assessing unit, or in the case of a special assessing unit, the latest class ratio, whichever is less.

(b) In addition to the exemption provided by paragraph (a) of this subdivision, where the veteran served in a combat theatre or combat zone of operations, as documented by the award of a United States campaign ribbon or service medal, or the armed forces expeditionary medal, navy expeditionary medal, marine corps expeditionary medal, or global war on terrorism expeditionary medal, qualifying residential real property also shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of ten percent of the assessed value of such property; provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed eight thousand dollars or the product of eight thousand dollars multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit, or in the case of a special assessing unit, the class ratio, whichever is less.

(c) In addition to the exemptions provided by paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subdivision, where the veteran received a compensation rating from the United States veteran's administration or from the United States department of defense because of a service connected disability, qualifying residential real property shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of the product of the assessed value of such property multiplied by fifty percent of the veteran's disability rating; provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed forty thousand dollars or the product of forty thousand dollars multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit, or in the case of a special assessing unit, the latest class ratio, whichever is less. For purposes of this paragraph, where a person who served in the active military, naval or air service during a period of war died in service of a service connected disability, such person shall be deemed to have been assigned a compensation rating of one hundred percent.

Section 4 An application for the exemption must be made by the owner of the property on a form prescribed by the state. The owner shall file the completed form in the assessor's office on or before the appropriate taxable status date. The owner of the property shall not be required to refile each year. Applicants shall be required to refile on or before the appropriate taxable status date if the percentage of disability percentage increases or decreases or may refile if other changes have occurred which affect qualification for an increased or decreased amount of exemption. Any applicant convicted of making any willful false statement in the application for such exemption shall be subject to the penalties prescribed in the penal law.

Section 5 If the assessor is satisfied that the applicant is entitled to this exemption, he or she shall approve the application and the real property shall thereafter be partially exempt from taxation as provided for herein commencing with the next

assessment roll. The assessed value of any exemption granted shall be entered by the assessor on the assessment roll with the taxable property, with the amount of the exemption shown in a separate column.

Section 6 This resolution shall be read in conjunction with the provisions of Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a to effectuate the authorized real property tax exemption. If any provision of this resolution is deemed inconsistent with Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a, the Real Property Tax Law provisions shall control.

Section 7 This resolution shall take effect immediately and shall be applicable to all assessment rolls prepared hereafter.

Unanimously carried

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mrs. Meckle:

WHEREAS, the District has adopted the Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a exemption which allows school districts to offer a partial exemption from school taxes to the qualified primary residence of (1) a veteran of the United States Armed Services who actively served during a period of war, (2) a veteran who received an expeditionary medal, or under certain conditions, (3) a veteran of the Merchant Marine service, (4) a veteran of the American Field Service, or (5) a veteran who served as a Pan American World Airways flight crew and aviation ground support employee (the “Veteran’s Alternative Exemption”); and

WHEREAS, and in addition to the foregoing, the District has considered extending the provisions of the Veteran’s Alternative Exemption to the parent of a child who died in the line of duty while serving in the United States armed forces during a period of war, such individual being known under the law as a “Gold Star Parent”; and

WHEREAS, based upon the District’s review and analysis of the purpose and intent of the “Gold Star Parent” exemption extension as well as its potential financial impact upon the District, the District finds it appropriate and in the District’s best interests to resolve to adopt the provisions of this “Gold Star Parent” exemption extension as follows:

Parent of a Qualified Combat Veteran:	15% of Assessed Value / \$12,000 Value Cap
Parent of a Qualified Wartime Veteran:	10% of Assessed Value / \$8,000 Value Cap
Parent of a Qualified Disabled Veteran:	Not permitted per RPTL § 458-a(7)(c)

Adopt Real
Property Tax
Law-458-a
exemption
Gold Star Parent

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the District as follows:

Section 1 The District hereby adopts this resolution and allows henceforth the partial exemption for qualified veterans including a “Gold Star Parent” from real property taxes as allowed by the Veteran’s Alternative Exemption under Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a as amended December, 2013.

Section 2 All terms herein shall be defined in accordance with Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a.

Section 3 As allowed by Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a, this resolution adopts a partial real property tax exemption for the “qualified” property of “qualified” veterans and a “Gold Star Parent” as set forth below. A “Gold Star Parent” is the parent of a child who died in the line of duty while serving in the United States armed forces during a period of war. A “Gold Star Parent” shall be considered a “qualified owner” of qualifying real property pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a(1)(c).

(a) Qualifying residential real property owned by a qualified veteran including a “Gold Star Parent” shall be exempt

(b) from taxation to the extent of fifteen percent of the assessed value of such property; provided, however, that such

(c) exemption shall not exceed twelve thousand dollars or the product of twelve thousand dollars multiplied by the

(d) latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit, or in the case of a special assessing unit, the latest class ratio,

(e) whichever is less.

(b) In addition to the exemption provided by paragraph (a) of this subdivision, where the veteran including the qualified veteran child of a “Gold Star Parent served in a combat theatre or combat zone of operations, as documented by the award of a United States campaign ribbon or service medal, or the armed forces expeditionary medal, navy expeditionary medal, marine corps expeditionary medal, or global war on terrorism expeditionary medal, qualifying residential real property also shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of ten percent of the assessed value of such property; provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed eight thousand dollars or the product of eight thousand dollars multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit, or in the case of a special assessing unit, the class ratio, whichever is less.

(c) Pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a(7)(c), the additional exemption provided for in paragraph c of subdivision 2 of Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a relating to an additional exemption for disabled veterans shall not apply to real property owned by a “Gold Star Parent”.

Section 4 An application for the exemption must be made by the owner of the property on a form prescribed by the state. The owner shall file the completed form in the assessor's office on or before the appropriate taxable status date. The owner of the property shall not be required to refile each year. Any applicant convicted of making any willful false statement in the application for such exemption shall be subject to the penalties prescribed in the penal law.

Section 5 If the assessor is satisfied that the applicant is entitled to this exemption, he or she shall approve the application and the real property shall thereafter be partially exempt from taxation as provided for herein commencing with the next assessment roll. The assessed value of any exemption granted shall be entered by the assessor on the assessment roll with the taxable property, with the amount of the exemption shown in a separate column.

Section 6 This resolution shall be read in conjunction with the provisions of Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a to effectuate the authorized real property tax exemption. If any provision of this resolution is deemed inconsistent with Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a, the Real Property Tax Law provisions shall control.

Section 7 This resolution shall take effect immediately and shall be applicable to all assessment rolls prepared hereafter.

Unanimously carried

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mrs. Brey to accept the Treasurer’s Report for November 2014.

Unanimously carried

Accept Treasurers
Report

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mrs. Brey to approve the Budget Transfer for November 2014.

Unanimously carried

Approve Budget
Transfer

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mrs. Brey to accept the extra-curricular report for November 2014.

Unanimously carried

Accept extra-
curricular report

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mrs. Meckle that the Board of Education (“Board”) herby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools (“Superintendent”), or Superintendent’s designee to prepare and execute an Agreement (the “Agreement”), with Dr. Michael E. Schwartz for the purpose of contracting with Dr. Schwartz to provide evaluations as outlined in the Professional Service Agreement between the School District and Dr. Schwartz; and

Authorize contract
agreement
with Dr. Michael
Schwartz

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes an appropriation, within budgeted amounts, in the sum of Two Thousand Four Hundred and Ninety-Nine Dollars (\$2,499.) as payment to Dr. Schwartz for services to be provided in accordance with the aforesaid Agreement.
Unanimously carried

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mrs. Brey to excess, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Hackett, the attached list of technology equipment (file #011515-01)
Unanimously carried

Excess equipment

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mrs. Brey that the Board of Education authorizes the Board President to execute the Architecture, Engineering and Construction Management Services agreement with CSArch for the purpose of contracting with CSArch for the following projects: Elementary School Field & Drainage Improvements; Replace Oil Tank at the SW Elementary School and Replace 1961 Vintage Roof as outlined in the in the agreement between the School District and CSArch; and
WHEREAS, the Board also authorizes an appropriation to include the Building Condition Survey & Five Year Plan 2015; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in accordance with the RFP accepted and awarded on December 6, 2012 for Architecture, Engineering and Construction Management Service the Board hereby authorizes an appropriation in the sum of \$435,569. (File 011515-02).
Unanimously carried

Execute agreement with CSArch for various projects

Motion was made by Mrs. Brey, seconded by Mr. Peachey that the Board of Education (the “Board”) of the Sullivan West Central School District (the “District”) hereby approves the revised Second Amendment To Purchase And Sale Agreement for the purpose of clarifying the insurance requirements therein; and the Board authorizes and directs the Board President to sign and thereby execute the revised Agreement on behalf of the Board and District.
Unanimously carried

Approve 2nd Amendment to NB Sale Agree-ment clarifying Insurance Requirements

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mrs. Brey to adopt the 2015-2016 Budget Assumptions and Parameters
Unanimously carried

Adopt 15-16 Budget Assumptions & Parameters

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mrs. Brey to accept, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Hackett, the donation of \$100.00 from Elizabeth Ferrell to be deposited into the Trust & Agency Fund for the Henry Umnik Memorial Scholarship Award.
Unanimously carried

Accept donation Umnik Scholarship Award

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mrs. Brey to accept the Judgment as specified by the Small Claims Court of the State of New York in the County of Sullivan for the 2014-2015 school year as summarized:

Tax Payer	S-L-B	Original Tax Bill	Correct Tax Bill
J. Stelcer	10.-1-5	\$4,396.24	\$3,126.22

Unanimously carried

Judgment Small Claims Court

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mrs. Brey to approve the CSE report as recommended by the Chairperson of the Committee on Special Education.
Unanimously carried

Approve CSE Report

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mrs. Brey to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Hackett, **Danielle Meyer** to a teacher assistant position, effective January 16, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2015 at a pro-rated salary of Step 1, \$19,567 (funded by Title I Grant). Ms. Meyer holds a NYS Certificate in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Initial.
Unanimously carried

Appoint D. Meyer Teacher Assistant

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mrs. Brey to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Hackett, **Michele C. Crasa** to the position of part time teacher aide (3-hour per day) at an hourly rate of \$11.87; effective January 16, 2015.
Unanimously carried

Appoint M. Crasa 3-hour aide

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey, seconded by Mr. Murphy to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Hackett, **Kristina M. Verrico** to the long term leave replacement of Kim Eschenberg, effective January 20, 2015 until March 20, 2015, in the tenure area of Music at a salary of Step 1, \$44,500., with compensation for Masters Degree and additional credits when documentation is presented. Ms. Verrico holds a NYS Certificate in Music, Initial.
Unanimously carried

Appoint K. Verrico leave replacement Music

Motion was made by Mrs. Meckle, seconded by Mrs. Brey to create, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Hackett, one FTE teacher aide position effective immediately.
Unanimously carried

Create one FTE teacher aide

Motion was made by Mr. Peachey seconded by Mrs. Brey to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Hackett the additional substitute personnel for the 2014-2015 school year:
Teacher Assistant & Aide: Kathleen Hyde
Unanimously carried

Appoint substitute personnel

Motion was made by Ms. Glase, seconded by Mr. Peachey to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 PM
Unanimously carried

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret L. Luty
District Clerk