



April 17, 2018

# Re-Cap!

Woodmere Education  
Center

## A summary of the Board of Education Meeting

**Board Members:** Scott McInnes, *President*; Cheryl May, *Vice President*; Jonathan Altus, M.D., Melissa Gates, Mitchell A. Greebel, Daniella R. Simon, Stephen B. Witt

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### Regular Meeting

- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by James Verschleiser, high school senior and Salutatorian.
- Mrs. McNiff introduced Mr. William Galati, Principal of G.W. Hewlett High School, effective July 1, 2018. Mr. Galati expressed his enthusiasm for joining Hewlett-Woodmere Public Schools.
- Mrs. McNiff recognized the hard work and dedication of the following six staff members who recently earned their Doctoral Degree: Richard Mangeri, Ed.D., Kimberly Mattes, Ed.D., Mark Se-caur, Ed.D., Tina B. Smith, Ed.D., Lorraine Smyth, Ed.D., Sonia Tejada, Ph.D., and Dina Weiss, Ed.D.
- Mrs. McNiff welcomed the newly tenured staff members to Hewlett-Woodmere Public Schools. The following staff members received tenure: Dr. Tina Smith, Assistant Director for Special Education Services, David Viegas, District Director of Physical Education, Health and Athletics, Valerie Hall, School Psychologist, Joyce Narciso-Raikos, ESL Teacher, Melanie Cintron, ESOL Teacher, Jennifer Campagnoli-Kearney, Foreign Language Teacher, Anita Richman, Teaching Assistant, Mary Hughes, Teaching Assistant, and Jennifer Keen, Teaching Assistant.
- Mrs. McNiff recognized WEC Head Custodian, William Voyes, and thanked him for his 37 years of service and commitment to the students and the Hewlett-Woodmere community.
- Mr. Jack Lenson, Interim Principal, Hewlett High School, introduced the 2018 Valedictorian, Michelle Schwartzman (not present) and Salutatorian, James Verschleiser.
- Mrs. Alba Gallegos, Chairperson of World Languages, accompanied by Mrs. Michele Hochhauser, Chairperson of ELA, recognized six students who have met the requirements for the NYS Seal of Biliteracy. The following students were recognized: Georgelyne Jean-Pierre, Paul Ledon, Ana Melgar, Zoe Superville, Anna Tevzadze, and Nicholas Zumba.
- Mr. David Viegas, District Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics, recognized the Fall & Winter Sports Teams.
  - The Varsity Football team, led by Coach John Palladino, was awarded Conference 3 Officials Award for Sportsmanship. Varsity football players, Chris Rodriguez and Gavin Adler (not present) were named All Star Game Participants. Matthew Mannino was named All County.

- o Boys Winter Track and Field, led by Coach Eamon McHugh, recognized All County athlete, Jayden Francis.
- o Girls Volleyball Team, led by Coach Jarret Rubin, recognized All County athlete Kayla Ragazzini (not present), All Class athletes Emma Blumenstein and Amanda Fam (not present), and Scholar Athlete Lauren Dori.
- o Boys Soccer Team, led by Coach Nick Lacetera, recognized All Conference athletes: Roy Schwartz, Lesly Honore, and Mark Ziarano (not present), Honorable Mention All County athlete Luca Preziosi, and Scholar Athlete Rom Raviv (not present). In addition, Alex Vardaro (not present) received All County Honors.
- o The Girls Soccer Team, led by Coach Gil Kreiss, recognized two athletes. Karlie Stolls received Conference Goals of the Year and was All Class; Michelle Pham was a Senior Scholar Athlete and won the NC Coaches Unsung Hero Award.

Although, they were not in attendance at the meeting, Mr. Viegas highlighted the following teams and players:

- o Girls Cross Country and Winter Track, led by Coach Stephen Honerkamp, who was named NC Coach of the Year, recognized All State athlete Patsy Iannico. In addition, Kayley Ragazzini was named NC Field Athlete of the Year.
- o Wrestling, led by Coach Stephen Jones, recognized All County athlete Michael Gordon.
- o Boys Bowling, led by Coach Nick Paxinos, recognized All County athletes Matt LeBlanc, Zane Lipson, John Paul West, and Dylan Ristano.
- o Girls Bowling, led by Coach Tricia Civita, recognized Samantha Lipson.
- o Cheerleading, led by Coach Rosemarie Abrignani, recognized Scholar Athlete Sydney Feldman and All Division athlete Emmie Cohn. Stefanie Weinstock received the Coaches Award.







*James Verschleiser, Mr. Jack Lenson*



*Mr. William Galati, Incoming HHS Principal*



*Mr. William Voyes, Mrs. Barbara McNiff*



*Mrs. Michele Hochhauser (Far Left) , Mrs. Alba Gallegos (Far Right) G. Jean-Pierre, P. Ledon, A. Melgar, Z. Superville, N. Zumba*



*Dr. Ralph Marino, Jr., Mr. David Viegas*



*Doctoral Degree Recipients - M. Secaur, K. Mattes, T. Smith, L. Smyth, D. Weiss*



*Tenure Recipients - T. Smith, D. Viegas, J. Raikos, A. Richman, M. Hughes, V. Hall, J. Kearney, J. Keen*

## Administrator Reports

- **Superintendent's Report was given by Dr. Ralph Marino. Recent events attended include One World at FECC; the Chinese New Year Parade at HES; Dancing with the Stars at OES; the Youth Leadership Forum at WMS; and the Montreal Art/Music Festival with Mr. Lastowski and HHS students. Dr. Marino has accompanied students from OES and FECC on bus runs. He has held Staff Chats at FECC, HES, WMS, WEC, and the Maintenance Department. Superintendent's Roundtables were held at the Hewlett Fire Department and the Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library. The Legislative Committee met with Police Commissioner Patrick Ryder and discussed several important topics of mutual concern, particularly school safety. Dr. Marino also provided an update on the proposed 2018-2019 school budget, which includes a 2.86% budget-to-budget increase and a 2.86% tax levy increase. Proposition Two will allow the District to continue its investment in facilities by utilizing \$14.7 million in reserve funds. Budget Question and Answer sessions will be held on the following dates: April 25 from 7:00 PM—8:00 PM at the Hewlett Fire Department; May 8 from 11:00 AM—12:00 noon at the Center for Adult Life Enrichment; and May 14 from 10:00 AM—11:00 AM at the Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library. Dr. Marino provided an update on the HW 2025 initiative. The strategic planning team met twice in March and twice in April. They are currently working on a draft focus statement and goals. A survey link has been sent to all parents, students, and staff. The team from K-12 Insight met with building principals and P-12 chairpersons.**
- Dr. Secaur provided the Curriculum Report. Dr. Secaur also attended many events this past month, including being a Mystery Reader at FECC; the HES Ball Fundraiser; and a BOCES workshop entitled, "Creating an Equitable School Landscape." **Dr. Secaur provided an update on the NYS 3-8 ELA Testing. Our test refusal rate was similar to that of the past few years. The building-level administrators, ELS chair, and teachers did an excellent job managing the administration of the exams. Dr. Secaur's committee work is ongoing. The Math Committee, PTA Curriculum Committee, and Professional Development Committee have all had recent meetings. Dr. Secaur attended the Education Policy Fellowship Program seminar in Washington, DC. He participated in workshops related to policy and impact of federal intervention in our schools.**
- Mr. Louis Frontario provided the Business Department Report. Preparation for the RFP process for 2018-2019 is underway. All bids will be analyzed and recommended, as appropriate. The Federal Single Audit has been completed and reviewed by the Audit Committee. **No corrective action plan is necessary. The Internal Auditor's Report has been reviewed by the Audit Committee and is recommended for approval.** The proposed budget for the 2018-2019 school year has been in development since fall 2017. The Annual Budget Hearing is May 2 and the budget vote is Tuesday, May 15.
- Mrs. Barbara McNiff provided an update from Human Resources. She congratulated all of the tenure recipients and doctoral recipients. She welcomed Mr. Bill Galati once again as the New principal of Hewlett High School.

- **Dr. Lo Verde provided the Special Education Report. March was National Social Worker's Month** and Dr. Lo Verde recognized District social workers Gina Carillo, Ginette Orlando, and Andrea Lev, who were in attendance. Social workers not in attendance were Dena Watkins, Nadia Hopkins, and Raphaela Pugliese. Dr. Lo Verde attended a Tri-State visitation in Rye Neck. She highlighted the Beautiful Me Project at WMS. It is a nationally known platform for females of all ages on how to think positively, identify strengths and talents. It is sponsored by the Hance Family Foundation. A Connect Kids Field Trip Grant was received by HHS to attend environmental field trips. SEPTA will co-sponsor a Transition Fair with Lynbrook SEPTA on May 30 called Life After High School. April is Autism Awareness Month and there are a variety of activities planned in our schools.
- Miss Abigail Glattman reported from the Student Advisory Council. They are in the midst of planning Sports Night, which will include one outdoor event this year. It will be held on May 18. She encouraged the BOE to attend.
- Central Council co-presidents Debi Sheinin and Susette Preziosi highlighted events including the SEPTA Run/Walk at OES; the FECC Earth Day Rock Garden; two TVs in the WMS cafeteria for special broadcasts; graduation lawn signs and senioritis t-shirts for sale. The PTA Installation Dinner is May 29 at Temple Avodah.

### Board Committee Reports

- Mr. Greebel reported on behalf of the Special Education Committee. The Committee recommends the approval of both the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Pre-school Special Education.
- Mrs. Simon reported on the Communication Committee. The committee discussed website accessibility, redesign of the District Website, budget materials, and pre-k mailing. The meeting set for this week will be rescheduled.
- Mrs. Gates reported that there were no policies tonight, and noted that recent meetings had been cancelled due to snow days. The annual review policies are coming up. She attended a very worthwhile NYSSBA policy workshop, which focused on student rights.
- Mr. McInnes reported that the Audit Committee met and reviewed single audit and independent audit reports, both of which are recommended for approval this evening.

### Board Member Reports

- Mrs. Gates reported on her attendance at the National School Boards Conference in San Antonio. There were different keynote speakers each day. Of special note was the speaker about Student Voice. There was an increased focus on school safety. The highlight of the event was a team building exercise, which involved participating in a community service project for a food bank.

### Action Taken by Board of Education

- Minutes of the March 22 and March 23 meetings were accepted.
- The consent agenda was approved, with the exception of I.1.6 Schedule of Gifts, which was con-

sidered separately.

- The Schedule of Gifts was approved.
- The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS:

May 2, 2018, 6:00 PM: Annual Budget Hearing at WEC

May 9, 2018, 7:30 PM: BOE Work Meeting at WEC

May 15, 2018, 7:00 AM—10:00 PM: Budget Vote, School Board, and Library Trustee Election, WEC

May 16, 2018, 8:00 PM: BOE Regular Meeting, WEC

#### NOTE:

All agendas and supporting documentation for the April 17, 2018 meeting can be found by clicking

[HERE!](#)