



# Re-Cap!

December 21, 2017

Woodmere Middle School

## 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

### Regular Meeting

- The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Stephanie Ziegler, an eighth grade student at Woodmere Middle School.
- Music students, Jared Glassman, Zoe Ng, Marion Hausman, Nila Katsman, Gabriele Pesantez, and Sasha Mayer, performed the Star Spangled Banner under the direction of Mr. Andrew Fund.



### Presentations

- Mr. Walter Lastowski, District Director of Art & Music, recognized six HHS students for their participation at the NYSSMA All State Conference. The students who participated were: Theodore Tourneux, Danielle Cohen, Edward Maday, Chloe Van Steertegem, Olivia Lee, and Danielle Frucchione.
- Mr. Walter Lastowski also recognized Sydney Isseks and Aria Patni, whose artwork was on display at NYSSBA's Annual Convention in Lake Placid, NY.



### Professional Recognitions

Mrs. McNiff recognized middle school head custodian, David Greco. She thanked Mr. Greco for the extra effort put forth in coordinating this



evening's Board of Education meeting at the middle school, and noted his many years of service to the District and students of HWPS.

## Administrator Reports

- Superintendent's Report was given by Dr. Ralph Marino. Recent events attended include the FECC I Can parade and assemblies, the OES STEAM Night and bus run, the HES Trees for Troops event at Dee's Nursery and Family Literacy Night, the WMS Frost Valley trip, and HHS Interview Day. He has also hosted many staff chats throughout the District, as well as a Superintendent's Roundtable at the HW Library. The next Superintendent's Roundtable will be on January 16, 2018 at the Center for Adult Life Enrichment. He has also recently visited four non-public schools located within our District boundaries. Dr. Marino concluded by mentioning the wonderful Holiday Concerts.
- Dr. Mark Secaur presented the Curriculum Report. He also attended the Trees for Troops event at Dee's Nursery and mentioned how wonderful it is to see photographs of our men and women overseas enjoying the trees. He presented the District's approach to professional development at the recent Public and Private Schools Council meeting. He attended the Education Policy Fellowship Program at Columbia University. Recent committee meetings include the District Technology Committee, the PTA Curriculum Committee, where Mrs. Michele Hochhauser presented on ELA, and the Professional Development Committee, who debriefed the recent EdCamp and discussed a new teacher development program.
- Mr. Louis Frontario provided the Business Department Report. The proposed 2018-2019 budget is in development. The Audit Committee met on December 1 and accepted the results of the District's audit and risk assessment report. Several members of the Business Department attended a primer on ERate, which provides potential reimbursement for technology expenses.
- Mrs. Barbara McNiff provided an update from Human Resources. She recently attended the Long Island Association of School Personnel Administrator's conference, where topics of discussion were negotiation trends and strategies. She also attended the Nassau County Association of School Personnel Administrators meeting. Mrs. McNiff was recently sworn in as the Recording Secretary of the Center for Adult Life Enrichment. She attended Interview Day at HHS.
- Dr. Debra Lo Verde provided a Special Education report. She recently attended the conference on Education and Law at Touro Law School, where topics of discussion included racial disparity and the complexity of the public school system. She conducted site visits to non-public schools within the District to visit HW students. She attended the South Shore Consortium of Special Education Directors, where the topic of discussion was mental health in schools. Dr. Lo Verde welcomed the new WMS Special Education Chairperson, Ms. Laura Guggino-Hastings, and thanked Mr. Howie Bernstein for his expertise in filling the role on a temporary basis. She attended the SEPTA Forum on November 30 entitled, Kids in the Middle, and participated in 504 training provided by the District attorney. Dr. Lo Verde and Dr. Lynne Einberg attended a three-day program to address a citation from last year's Special Education audit.
- Central Council Co-president Debi Sheinin highlighted events in all the school buildings, including the HHS Senior Committee Paint Night fundraiser, the OES Linguini and Learning event for par-

ents, the HES First Nations event, the FECC Puffball and New Year's events, and all of the holiday boutiques. She also invited the BOE to attend the WMS Welcome Back breakfast on January 4, 2018.

### **Board Committee Reports**

- Mrs. Cheryl May reported on behalf of the Special Education committee. The Committee recommends for approval the recommendations of both the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education.
- Mrs. Gates reported on behalf of the Communications Committee. The committee met on December 7, 2017 and discussed the NYSSBA Communications Workshop, the District Facebook page and app, and the future of the District Website.
- Mrs. Gates also reported on behalf of the Policy Committee. There are three policies on the agenda for approval. The committee is also currently working on the technology policies, assisted by Mrs. Amanda Kavanagh.

### **Board Member Reports**

- Mr. McInnes reported on behalf of the HW 2025 Committee. The committee met on December 18, 2017 and began discussions on the District mission and vision. The community survey results were reviewed and examined. The strategic planning process and timeline were also discussed. Agendas and minutes for all HW 2025 meetings can be found by clicking [HERE](#).

### **Public Comments**

- HHS student Daniel Tzach thanked the Board of Education for their assistance in completing his Eagle Scout project at the Community Garden Learning Center.

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:40 PM.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

Wednesday, January 10, 2018: Work Meeting at 7:30 PM at WEC

Wednesday, January 17, 2018: Tour of Facilities at HES at 7:00 PM

Regular Board Meeting at HES at 8:00 PM.

Thursday, January 25, 2018: BOE Budget Session at 7:00 PM at WEC

### **NOTE:**

All agendas and supporting documentation for the December 20 meeting can be found by clicking [HERE!](#)