



# Re-Cap!

**January 10, 2018**

**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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### **Work Meeting**

- The Treasurer's Report was made available to the Board of Education. There were no questions for Mrs. SanPhillipo.
- Mr. Frontario introduced Mr. Vecchio, the Internal Claims Auditor, who presented his quarterly report. There were no questions.
- Ms. Parahus introduced Mr. Kevin Herbst, who performed the District's fire inspections this year. The District had no major violation and Certificates of Occupancy were issued for all buildings.
- Dr. Secaur presented two drafts of the 2018-2019 calendar for discussion. He discussed the number of instructional days (181) that are built into the HWPS calendar, as well as the 180 session days necessary for the District to receive its full allotment of State Aid. Superintendent's Conference Days and Parent Teacher Conferences are also a consideration. Both options allowed students to return to school following Labor Day. The need for "buffer" days if all allotted snow days are used was also discussed. Dr. Secaur explained the rationale for adding the Eid holidays on both drafts of the calendar, indicating that they are the two most important holy days in the Muslim faith, and enumerating the number of days off this would require over the next five years if added to the calendar. He shared that several Long Island school districts have added or are considering the addition of the Eid holidays to their calendars.
- Mr. McInnes assured the audience that the Board would not be voting on the calendar at the Work Meeting. The vote will take place at the Regular Meeting on January 17, 2018. He explained that they would open the floor to questions and comments prior to the Board discussion. He reminded speakers to be respectful of differing opinions and other speakers.
- Many members of the community asked questions and voiced their opinions regarding the proposed 2018-2019 calendars. Some speakers expressed their desire to include the Eid holidays on the District calendar moving forward. Other speakers shared their disapproval of adding the Eid holidays to the calendar. Mr. John Gross, the District's attorney, answered questions regarding the legality of adding a religious holiday to the calendar.

- Following three hours of community commentary, the Board of Education discussed the item. Board members expressed their concern regarding adding a religious holiday to the calendar. Although the formal vote will not take place until January 17, 2018, the consensus was that the Eid holidays would not be added to the calendar. Dr. Secaur was asked to prepare an additional calendar draft for consideration prior to next week's regular meeting.
- Mr. Frontario presented the following information: Budget Status Report, Revenue Status Report, Transfers of Appropriation, Interfund Transfers, Schedule of Contracts, Schedule of Gifts, and Club Charters. A Board member requested information regarding the gift from the Five Towns Community Chest. Mr. Frontario will provide additional information.
- Dr. Secaur presented the recommendation for the District to host a Nassau County Division I Wrestling Tournament in February.
- Dr. Marino discussed the National School Board's Conference in San Antonio, Texas in April. Mrs. Gates would like to attend. Mrs. Simon requested information on additional conferences.
- The following policies were presented for initial review: Policy #4526 Networks and Internet Acceptable Use Policy, #4526.2 Electronic Communications Policy (for abolishment), Policy #4526.3 Website Policy (for abolishment).
- The following policies were presented for final review: Policy #4526.1 Internet Safety, Policy #8630 Digital Resources and Data Management Policy, Policy #4126.4 Computer Resources and Data Management (for abolishment).

The meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 11:45 PM to discuss a matter of particular personnel and the mid-year evaluation of the Superintendent.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

- Wednesday, January, 17, 2018
  - 7:00 PM Facility Tour, Hewlett Elementary School
  - 8:00 PM Regular Board of Education Meeting, Hewlett Elementary School
- Thursday, January 25, 2018
  - 7:00 PM Budget Development Meeting, Woodmere Education Center

**NOTE:** All agendas and supporting documentation for the January 10, 2018 Work Meeting can be found by clicking [HERE!](#)