



Re-Cap!

June 8, 2022
Woodmere Education Center

A summary of the Board of Education Meeting

Board Members: Debra Sheinin, President; Cheryl May, Vice President; Mitchell A. Greebel, Judy Menashe, Francois Tenenbaum, Shari L. Amitrano, Jonathan D. Altus

WORK MEETING

The work meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Sheinin.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Mrs. Donnelly. There were no questions.

Mrs. Donnelly introduced Mr. Joseph DiBartolo, who provided an update on the Registration and Attendance Office. Mr. DiBartolo shared the registration requirements, information on the registration packet, and non-public school registration. He also shared the Confirmation of Residency procedures, as well as the steps the District takes to ensure that all students who attend our schools are residents. Mr. DiBartolo also discussed the legal issues and court orders handled by the department, as well as the requirements under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Mr. Tenenbaum asked if there are high school students who do not live in the District who commute. Mr. DiBartolo responded that we are diligent about residency issues. Dr. Altus thanked Mr. DiBartolo for the informative presentation and asked if there is a deadline for students who move out of the District to remain in their current school. The date is April 1. Mrs. Menashe asked about the timeline for families having homes remodeled. Mr. DiBartolo responded that we stay in contact with all families who have moved out of the District temporarily for home remodeling. Mr. DiBartolo's presentation can be viewed [HERE](#).

Mrs. Donnelly presented the Business Office Reports: Budget Status Report, Revenue Status Report, and Preliminary Fund Balance Report.

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the Schedule of Contracts. A question was asked about the cost of repairing versus replacing the piano at HHS. Mrs. Donnelly responded that it is not cost effective to try to fix the old piano.

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the Schedule of Bids and shared that another bid opening would be added next week.

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the Request for Proposals for Athletic Training. This is a time sensitive issue, as we need the trainers in place prior to the beginning of fall sports.

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the Transfers of Appropriation and the Schedule of Gifts. Another gift will be added, as the HHS PTA will be donating a table with benches for outside the commons.

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the following Business Office Resolutions: Authorizing the Discretionary Reserve Accounts and the Voter Authorized Reserve Account; Actions Related to District Reserve Accounts; Participation in Long Island School Nutrition Directors Cooperative Bid; Participation in Cooperative Purchasing (IT) for 2022-2023 Year; Participation in Cooperative Purchasing (F&O); Standard Work Day and Reporting for Employees.

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the Applications for Club Charters, the Non-Resident Tuition Rate, and the Use of Cell Phones and Electronic Equipment.

Mrs. Donnelly discussed the District Safety Plan. The plan is on the Website for review. Click [HERE](#) to view. It will be on the agenda for approval on June 15, prior to the new school year. This plan is not the same as the confidential building plans, which are not shared with the general public for safety reasons.

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the Budget Timeline for the establishment of the 2023-2024 school budget. Mr. Tenenbaum asked why we schedule the meetings for 60 minutes when they often only last a half an hour. Mrs. Sheinin added that we need to be prepared if there are items of increased interest to the community. Abbreviated meetings will be considered following the next budget cycle.

Dr. Marino reviewed the Board of Education meeting dates for 2022-2023. The April 25 date has been changed to April 18 to coincide with the BOCES calendar.

Dr. Marino discussed the pilot of the video recording of the April 6 Board meeting. The BOE policy was suspended to allow for the recording of the meeting. There were only 26 views. A discussion ensued about whether the BOE would like to continue recording meetings. Dr. Marino noted that there is an associated cost to recording meetings. After a thorough discussion, it was agreed that the BOE would review the recording and address it again at the next work meeting.

Dr. Marino explained that the BOE was asked to include the possibility of a COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate on the agenda. The BOE was asked to write a letter to Governor Hochul in opposition to the potential mandate. Mrs. Sheinin reminded attendees that the BOE is sworn to follow the law and at this time, there is no mandate. Mrs. Kravtsova suggested that the BOE write a letter informing the Governor that the District will lose enrollment if there is COVID-19 vaccine mandate. After a thorough discussion, the BOE decided not to prepare a letter to the Governor at this time.

Mr. Hogan reviewed the upcoming conferences and travel, which includes Mr. Wimmer's attendance at the LEAF Diversity Symposium in Ithaca, and Mr. Machado, Dr. Fund, and Dr. Greenberg's attendance at the School Administrators Association of New York State New Leaders Virtual Cohort Series.

Mr. Hogan reviewed the following policies for final review: #1500 Public Use of School Facilities; #4526.1 Internet Safety Policy; and #1925 Interpreters for Hearing Impaired Students.

Mr. Hogan discussed the following policies for initial review: #1900 Parent and Family Engagement; #1336 Fees; #8630 Digital Resources and Data Management; #6240 Investments. Mr. Amil Virani asked about the Investment Policy. Mr. Tenenbaum noted a repeated paragraph on policy #1900.

Mr. Greebel asked about testing for dyslexia. Ms. Peterson responded that the NWEA has a screener that can be added on and every child will be screened.

Mr. Greebel asked about the Teacher's College program and literacy. Ms. Peterson responded that reading teachers utilize other programs and tools, including Orton Gillingham. Mrs. Amitrano stated that the Curriculum Committee was having a meeting on Thursday and these topics would be discussed.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Mr. and Mrs. Shapiro discussed the HES Fifth Grade Civil Rights Project and the inclusion of visuals that are political and inappropriate for display in school. Mrs. Sheinin stated that the BOE reviewed the curriculum and the project is in agreement with the District's HW 2025 plan regarding the relevance of curriculum to real world issues. Topics for the project were student-driven and not suggested by the teachers. The museum is no longer on display at HES.

A community member discussed the behavior of HHS students at nearby businesses during lunch periods. Dr. Marino explained that the District is working with the local businesses.

A community member asked about the drug problem at HHS and if someone at the District is monitoring student Facebook posts.

A community member commented about the adult basketball league and that some of the attendees were smoking pot in the parking lot while elementary students were in the building.

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 10:15 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Wednesday, June 15, 2022, Regular Meeting, 8:00 PM, Woodmere Education Center

Monday, June 27, 2022, Work Meeting, 5:00 PM, Woodmere Education Center

Wednesday, July 6, 2022, Organization and Regular Meeting, 5:00 PM, Woodmere Education Center

Wednesday, August 17, 2022, Regular Meeting, 5:00 PM, Woodmere Education Center

NOTE: Click [HERE](#) for the agenda and supporting documentation for the June 8 Work Meeting.