



Re-Cap!

March 10, 2021
G.W. Hewlett
High School

A summary of the Board of Education Meeting

Board Members: Debra Sheinin, *President*; Cheryl May, *Vice President*; Melissa Gates, Mitchell A. Greebel, Judy Menashe

BUDGET DEVELOPMENT MEETING

- The budget meeting began at 6:30 PM.
- Mrs. Marie Donnelly proposed budget revisions from the January 28 meeting to bring tax levy below 2%. The revisions include a \$840,000 decrease which includes personnel and non personnel reductions. The presentation can be found [HERE](#).
- Mrs. Donnelly explained the ballot for the 2021-2022 budget vote. Residents will vote on the school budget, five Board of Education trustees, the library budget and one library trustee. Voter registration is ongoing at Woodmere Education Center. There will be one evening voter registration on May 3. Applications for absentee ballots will be available beginning on April 12 on the District website and via the District Clerk.
- A member of the public asked if a contingency budget is being developed. Mrs. Donnelly said it is being prepared for the State and will be shared in a future presentation.
- The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

WORK MEETING

- The work meeting began at 7:30 PM.
- The Treasurer's Report was reviewed.
- The Internal Claims Auditor reported on the claims audit. There were a few confirming purchase orders, and very few exceptions, of the thousands of claims reviewed.
- Mrs. Amanda Kavanagh presented an Instructional Technology Update. Mrs. Kavanagh used four words to characterize the past year: support, flexibility, adaptability and progress. While there were many challenges, the staff and students were resilient and persevered through it all. Teachers have been using Seesaw (P-4) and Schoology (5-12) as the main communication and learning hub with their students. Google Meet has been the primary platform for live streaming and meetings. Students and staff have been able to virtually participate in meetings, orientations, celebrations, athletic events, conferences, clubs and more. Mrs. Kavanagh provided feedback from a survey given to students, parents and staff members in January 2021. Overall, the majority of all groups said the technological experience had been Average, Good and Above Average. Specific technical findings are being addressed and will hopefully improve. The planning for 2021—22 will depend on whether or not there is an online component.
- Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the Business Office reports. There were no questions.

- Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the following Business Office Resolutions: Facilities Cooperative Bid for the 2021—22 school year and Propositions to be placed on May 11, 2021 ballot:
 - Proposition One: *Adoption of Hewlett-Woodmere Public Schools 2021—22 Budget*
 - Proposition Two: *Adoption of Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library 2021—22 Budget*
- Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the Schedule of Contracts. A few additional contracts will be scheduled for approval.
- Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the Transfers of Appropriation. A transfer is needed to cover the cost of postage related to budget materials.
- Mrs. Donnelly discussed the establishment of the Ntina Paleos-Stemas Scholarship. The scholarship will be awarded to a Hewlett High School ELL student in the amount of \$500 per year.
- Dr. Marino discussed the District-wide Safety Plan, which is on the District website for public comment for 30 days. The plan is scheduled for approval on March 17.
- Dr. Marino discussed the Legal Notice of Public Hearing, Budget Vote and Election which will be published four times in English and Spanish in the weeks preceding the Budget Vote.
- Dr. Marino recommended a date change for the Board to adopt the proposed budget. Currently, the date is set for April 14. Dr. Marino suggested a Special Meeting on March 25, which will allow us time to meet all the necessary requirements, since our election has been moved up by one week. The Board of Education agreed to a Special Meeting on March 25 at 8:00 AM.
- Dr. Marino discussed the Shared Decision Making Plan. The Plan was last approved in 2015. A Board member questioned if the document aligned with HW 2025 and the District's Strategic Plan. It was agreed that the Plan should be reviewed at a later date.
- Dr. Marino discussed the two policies up for final review: Policy #2260 Citizens Advisory Committee and Policy #4510 Selection of Instructional Materials Print and Non-Print were reviewed and will be submitted for approval on March 17.
- Dr. Marino discussed two policies for initial review: Policy #1800 Gifts from the Public and Policy #2265 Shared Decision Making and School Based Planning. Policy #2265 generated questions from Board members and was referred back to committee.
- There were no questions from the public.
- The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:10 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 8:00 PM, Regular Meeting at Hewlett High School

Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 7:00 PM, Budget Meeting at Hewlett High School

Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 7:00 PM, Public Budget Forum at Hewlett High School

Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 8:00 AM, Special Meeting at Woodmere Education Center

NOTE:

The agenda and supporting documentation for the March 10 work meeting can be found [HERE](#).