



# Re-Cap!

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

May 18, 2022  
Woodmere Education Center

## REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Hewlett High School student, Mia Kaminsky.

The Hewlett-Woodmere Administrators and Supervisors Association (HWASA) were announced. The recipients are:

- FECC - Giuliana Borgia
- HES - Emma Kesler
- OES - Michael Abelev
- WMS - Logan Sheflin
- HHS - Mia Kaminsky
- SKA - Eden Cohen



The Hewlett-Woodmere Faculty Association (HWFA) awards were announced. The recipients are:

- FECC - Isabella Guailas
- HES - Sammy Sobel, Romy Fruma
- OES - Ella-Marie Cayo
- WMS - Nylah Phillip
- HHS - Jared Glassman, Alice Fried
- SKA - Sydney (Meira) Beylus









Dr. Marino provided the Superintendent's report. He has attended many school events including spring concerts, National Junior Honor Society Induction, Business Honor Society Induction, and the Employee Recognition Ceremony. The Tri-States Consortium visit in Mathematics began today. Dr. Marino thanked the community for the passing of the budget and congratulated Mrs. Sheinin and Mrs. Jeter. He provided an update on the Princeton Plan Task Force. The work groups are continuing their efforts. The next meeting will be on June 1. An update on the 9-Period Day Task Force was also provided. The work groups continue their efforts. The Task Force will meet again on May 23. Dr. Marino provided an update on HW 2025. The Making Feedback Matter workshop for the School Quality Survey is on May 25 with the Shared Decision Making Teams from all schools. The next Superintendent's Roundtable will be held on June 9 at the Center for Adult Life Enrichment.

Mrs. Donnelly presented the Business Office Report. She thanked the community members for their support in voting yes to the budget and congratulated the new and re-elected board members. Mrs. Donnelly thanked the team of people who contributed to the budget process. It takes a lot of work and much coordination between many people and departments and she thought our team did a great job preparing and executing all aspects. The Business Office staff is continuing to prepare for year-end close. The office continues to review open purchase orders, and finalize grant spending so reports can be submitted for reimbursement. The auditors will be visiting on June 9 and 10 to work on the pre-audit review process.

Dr. Bediako provided the Human Resources report. Her office continued to process staff leaves, replacements, and new hires due to resignations and retirements. The Employee Recognition Ceremony was held earlier in the evening where staff members were honored for 10, 15, 20, 30, and 35 years of service. The District also recognized this year's retirees. Negotiations are continuing with various bargaining units.

Ms. Peterson provided the Special Education report. Ms. Peterson reported that last month she failed to mention that SEPTA sponsored each of our schools in celebrating Autism Acceptance in April. She shared that SEPTA provided a wonderful book, *Just Ask*, by Sonya Sotomayor and each school created a video of staff reading it that was then played for students. SEPTA also provided a bounce house and ice cream truck for the Friendship Games at HHS. The event was widely attended by neighboring districts and everyone had a wonderful time. Ms. Peterson also attended the HES CARE camp which had an impressive lineup of events and activities for students, supported by the staff, PTA, and Saving Lives Five Towns Coalition. Ms. Peterson shared that the Unified Basketball team was doing well in their season and she was impressed by the effort and teamwork displayed by our students. Ms. Peterson has participated in meetings with Northwell Health's Behavioral Clinic, looking ahead to next year and reviewing the services provided to families and staff. Ms. Peterson continues to have meetings with staff, participating in interviews and completing teacher observations. Her staff is busy with Annual Reviews, which are wrapping up in most buildings.

Ms. Sasha Mayer reported on behalf of the Student Advisory Council They are working on many end-of-year events, including the blood drive and Battle of the Classes on June 3. She thanked the Board of Education and Dr. Marino for all of the opportunities provided to her.

The Student Advisory Council recently met with Mrs. De Carlo. They are resuming Walk Along Wednesday music. They are collecting supplies for Ukraine. Battle of the Classes is being planned and it will be held indoors.

Mr. Ric Stark reported on behalf of the District's employee organizations. He thanked the community for passing the budget and congratulated Mrs. Sheinin and Mrs. Jeter. Mr. Stark also thanked Mr. Greebel for his years of service on the Board.

Mrs. Alyssa Honig and Mrs. Irina Abramovich reported on behalf of the Central Council PTA. The information can be found in the PTA newsletter at the end of this document.

### **Board Member Committee Reports**

Mr. Greebel reported on behalf of the Special Education Committee. The Committee recommends the approval of the recommendations by both the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education.

Mrs. May reported on behalf of the Policy Committee. The Committee recommends the approval of the four policies on the agenda.

Mrs. Menashe reported on behalf of the Activities & Athletics Committee. Mr. Viegas is starting a wonderful athletic summer sports camp this summer for students in grades 3-12. The information will be sent to all community members this week.

### **Board Member Reports**

Mrs. May thanked the community for passing the budget and congratulated Mrs. Sheinin and Mrs. Jeter. Many of the Board members attended the Employee Recognition Ceremony earlier in the evening. She attended many of the wonderful concerts and encouraged the public to attend. Mrs. May also mentioned the New York State guidance on Regents weighting and that the Board of Education may want to discuss the Do No Harm policy.

Mrs. Amitrano mentioned that the Board members attended the Arts Below Sunrise event. There were wonderful musical performances and art displays. The entire community enjoyed the event.

Mrs. Sheinin thanked Mrs. Donnelly for responding to their many budget inquiries and for always providing feedback. She further thanked the staff who worked with Mrs. Donnelly. She also thanked Mrs. Randazzo for running the election so efficiently. Mrs. Sheinin then spoke about misinformation in the community. The Communications Committee will work to ensure that all community members have accurate information. This will be one of the Board's missions for the upcoming school year.

The minutes of the April 26 meeting were approved. One item was removed from the Consent Agenda: H.1.1. Schedule of Contracts and was voted on separately. Mr. Greebel abstained from voting on the Schedule of Contracts. The remainder of the Consent Agenda was approved.

### **Opportunity for the Public to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items:**

Mrs. Susan Farber spoke about social media and the importance of eliminating inaccurate information. Five very promising community members ran for the Board of Education who care for all students. There is still work to be done. She appreciates all of the work that was done on the Public and Private School Subcommittee and hopes that work continues.

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 9:32 PM.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Wednesday, June 8, 2022, Work Meeting at 7:30 PM, Woodmere Education Center

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

### **NOTE:**

Click [HERE](#) for the agenda and supporting documentation for the May 18 regular meeting.

Click [HERE](#) for the minutes of the second Princeton Plan Task Force meeting.

Click [HERE](#) for the minutes of the second Nine-Period Day Task Force meeting.

Click [HERE](#) for the Central Council PTA Newsletter.