



Re-Cap!

October 21, 2020
G.W. Hewlett
High School

A summary of the Board of Education Meeting

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

- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Ilene Gabel. Following the pledge, Mrs. Sheinin welcomed the public and livestream viewers to the meeting.



- Mrs. Alba Gallegos, the District's Chairperson of World Languages and English as a New Language, joined the meeting virtually to present 2020 graduates who achieved the Seal of Biliteracy. The following students received the Seal of Biliteracy:
 - Alex Tang (earned 3 seals)
 - Sofia Pesantez (earned 2 seals)
 - Stacey Garcia Orellana
 - Lauren Ledon
 - David Durdaller
 - Randel Placino
 - Avi Mikhaylov
 - Amy Schwartz
- Mrs. Gallegos then announced the students who achieved gold, silver, or bronze in the spring 2020 administration of the National Language Exams. The students recognized include:

FRENCH:

SILVER: Sidrah Ashrafi Ranked 8th in Nassau and 8th nationally

BRONZE: Lauren Ding Ranked 8th in Nassau and 17th nationally
Naomi Golbin Ranked 11th in Nassau and 11th nationally
Megan McBrien Ranked 10th in Nassau and 19th nationally

ITALIAN:

GOLD: Michael Pignatelli
Idan Sela

SILVER: Alessia Montoya Cisneros

SPANISH:

GOLD: Alex Breslav Alexander Niyazov
May Cayzer Elani Rocha
Yerlin Girón Alex Rodriguez
Abigail Khaytman Daniel Tkach
Blake Lippman

SILVER: Giovanni Castro Alessia Montoya Cisneros
Emily Erdos Melanie Shvartsberg
Ariella Golbin Talya Uziel
Christian Gomes

BRONZE: Megan Avdoo Olivia Ginzburg
Aryana Borjas Mikayla Joseph
Brian Chen Andrea Pérez Reyes

- Dr. Marino made a special presentation in honor of School Board Recognition Week. He read the official proclamation from the State of New York. Each Board of Education member received a certificate and a small gift from the District. A video with students thanking the Board of Education for all they do was shown.
- Dr. Fale recognized Mrs. Ilene Gabel, who is retiring from the District after almost 50 years of service. Dr. Fale presented Mrs. Gabel with a gift, thanked her for dedicating her entire career to students of HWPS, and wished her well in retirement.
- Dr. Fale continued his report. He is continuing to work with District staff to deliver high quality instruction. He attended the virtual NYSSBA Law Conference with Mr. Greebel. The conference was very relevant and provided good information for COVID-19 related issues. The District hosted mobile COVID-19 testing for staff. Testing will be provided three times in October. More than 90 employees have been tested. October is BEDS month in the HR office. Classroom observations have begun and he enjoys the opportunity to share in the excellent teaching and learning taking place in our classrooms.



- The Superintendent's Report was provided by Dr. Marino. He announced that 1961 HHS graduate, Louise Glück, received the Nobel Prize in Literature for 2020. He provided a reopening update and shared that the District is working hard to keep schools open. The Task Force continues to meet on a weekly basis. The District website has a vast amount of information about COVID-19 and our schools, including the most recent FAQ document. Dr. Marino provided an update on HW 2025. We will meet with K12 Insight to prepare for the Student Engagement and Curriculum and Instruction surveys in November. He hosted a Superintendent Roundtable in October and will hold another on November 16. Virtual after-school clubs began on October 19. We continue to explore the possibility of holding in-person club meetings. Interscholastic athletics is scheduled to begin on January 4, 2021.
- Mr. Flatley provided the Curriculum Report. The Reopening Task Force has been working hard and doing a great job. He is in regular communication with the Nassau County Department of Health as the District's COVID-19 coordinator. Our contact at the Nassau County Department of Health is an expert in the field and available to the District at all times to provide guidance. Mr. Flatley completes the COVID-19 School Report Card each day that school is open. The school nurses are doing an excellent job. Everyone is doing their part to keep schools open. Some of the private schools on our transportation list have been closed recently, but are beginning to reopen. He has recently attended the PTA Curriculum Committee meeting and the weekly NADCO meetings. The teacher observation process has started. He is meeting with the principals and chairs to discuss course additions, modifications, and deletions.
- Mrs. Donnelly provided the report from the Business Office. The external audit is complete and the District is in excellent financial condition. The BOE will accept results of audit during the meeting. The District received a management letter with items that need to be addressed and the business office will begin to work on these items. The Audit Committee met on October 9 to review the District's financials. R.S. Abrams presented at the meeting. Mrs. Donnelly attended the Questar Fall Workshop, which was very informative. The 2021-2022 budget development process has begun. The next meeting is November 4. The District is waiting on TRS and health insurance rates.
- Dr. Marino provided the report on Special Education in Ms. Peterson's absence. Ms. Peterson continues to participate in meetings with Cohen's Pediatric Behavioral Health Clinic, the BOCES Directors and Mental Health Consortium, the South Shore Consortium, and the LIASEA. These meetings help the District stay up to date on the support available to our students and families. Ms. Peterson also participates in the Reopening Task Force meetings. She has completed five non-public school visits and speaks with administrators on how we can work together to support all students. The recent SEPTA meeting was held at WEC and virtually. The Parenting an Anxious Child workshop is coming up in November. Ms. Peterson participated in the FECC PTA meeting with the elementary school psychologists to share the programming available as students move from FECC to our elementary schools. She attended her first Tri-State meeting, where she met many special education administrators from member districts. They were able to share modes of instruction and discuss challenges facing all schools. Ms. Peterson completed her annual recertification training and has begun teacher observations. She has been meeting regularly with psychologists and chairpeople, speech teachers, social workers, and clerical teams to discuss challenges and plan for the rest of the year.
- Mrs. Ilene Gabel provided an update from the Hewlett-Woodmere Faculty Association. She thanked the Board of Education for all they do for the District.
- Mrs. Milillo and Mrs. Honig provided the PTA report. They thanked Dr. Marino for administering the Oath of Office to the PTA officers at their meeting. FECC: Full In-Person instruction is run-

ning smoothly. The children are doing well with the barriers and masks. They are running two fundraisers for mums and pumpkins. Their Storybook Parade will be held outside and the students will decorate pumpkins in their classrooms. They are planning a pie sale and a mask/lanyard sale. The upcoming Magic Show will be held remotely. HES: Students are doing well. Custodians were thanked with a lawn sign on Custodian Day. The PTA donated pumpkins for students. The Fall Extravaganza is coming up. They are running a Boo Bag fundraiser. OES: Drive-in movie night was very successful. They may make this an annual event. Their mum sale is currently taking place. WMS: PTA has been meeting via Zoom. Virtual clubs are starting. They are planning an online book fair. Picture day is approaching. Yearbook plans are being discussed. SEPTA: Held joint PTA meeting with FECC. Their next dual meeting is November 16. HHS: Parent teacher conferences discussed. Barriers are causing some issues in classrooms. Recent positive case caused some disruptions as students needed to quarantine.

Board Committee Reports

- Mr. Greebel reported on behalf of the Special Education Committee. The Committee recommends the approval of both the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Pre-school Special Education.
- Mrs. May reported on behalf of the Policy Committee. The committee met on October 16 and discussed Homebound Instruction. They will be reviewing several policies within the next few months.
- Mrs. May also reported on behalf of the Audit Committee. The committee met on October 9. Mrs. Donnelly covered the meeting in her report. All District financial information is available on the website.
- Mrs. Simon reported on behalf of the Communications Committee. The committee met on October 1 and discussed the COVID-19 section of the Website and the many letters to the community. They also discussed the District calendar and the Happy New Year newsletter planned for January 2021.

Board Reports

- Mr. Greebel reported on the NYSSBA pre-convention Law Seminar. It was very interesting and provided a great deal of information on COVID and how school districts have handled the new normal. The second half of the seminar is on October 22, where they will review new laws.
- The Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.
- There were no questions from the public or via the livestream chat box.
- The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

November 4, 2020, 6:30 PM Budget Session/7:30 PM Work Session at Hewlett High School

November 18, 2020 8:00 PM Regular Meeting at Hewlett High School

NOTE:

All agendas and supporting documentation for the October 21 meeting can be found by clicking [HERE](#).