



Re-Cap!

September 16, 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. Sheinin. Following the pledge, Mrs. Sheinin welcomed the public and livestream viewers to the meeting.
- Dr. Marino recognized the Board members who have earned achievement awards from the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA). The NYSSBA Recognition Program is designed to appreciate the extensive time and effort of school board members who continually strive to expand their governance knowledge and skills.

Mrs. Cheryl May has earned more than 500 points and is the recipient of The Board Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mrs. Simon has earned more than 250 points and is the recipient of The Board Mastery Award.



Mrs. Sheinin congratulated Mrs. May and Mrs. Simon and thanked them for their service as Board members.

- The Superintendent's Report was provided by Dr. Marino, who recapped the successful start to the school year. He shared that all are working hard to keep school open. He thanked everyone involved with preparing the schools for the new year and thanked parents and guardians for their patience and understanding. Dr. Marino shared that the District has received all of the desk barriers for student and teacher desks. The teacher barriers have been installed and student barriers will begin to be installed this weekend at WMS and HHS. We are still waiting for 500 students desks to arrive for the elementary schools. These desks are needed in order for

the District to begin Full In-Person Instruction on October 5. Dr. Marino provided an update on HW 2025. Our partners at K12 Insight presented at the Work Meeting last week. We will be completing five surveys this year asking students, parents, community members and staff for their opinions. Dr. Marino is still working out logistics for the Superintendent Roundtables to ensure compliance with social distancing guidelines. Dr. Marino announced that Section VIII has postponed all fall sports until January 2021. We are reviewing how to successfully begin after-school and co-curricular activities safely. The after-school hours are being used to clean and disinfect our buildings. Considering a possible start in mid-to-late October.

- Mr. Flatley provided the Curriculum Report. He thanked the Reopening Task Force, faculty, staff and all building personnel for their assistance in the successful reopening of our schools. We opened in a manner that was consistent with guidance provided by the governor, the New York State Education Department and the Department of Health. Mr. Flatley provided an overview of the Staff Welcome Back and all of the workshops provided on Superintendent's Conference Day. A great deal of expertise was shared with and among staff. On September 3 and 4, our faculty spent additional time working with our learning management systems, Seesaw and Schoology. Mr. Flatley discussed the importance of the new health screening app.
- Mrs. Donnelly provided the report from the Business Office. She is meeting with the audit team to review the audit process. Ms. Van Duynes will be attending the Audit Meeting on October 9 and the Board of Education Work Meeting on October 14. Mrs. Donnelly also discussed the fund balance allocations for the school year. The District's internal audit firm recommends that the District consider funding the Teachers' Retirement & Employees' Retirement reserves, as we are anticipating increases in the employee contribution rate. The District is experiencing higher than normal expenses due to COVID-19. The internal audit was not completed due to the March school closure. The internal audit will take place in September/October. Mrs. Donnelly discussed the anticipated reduction in state aid and the District's revenue shortfall.
- Ms. Peterson provided a report on Special Education. She has been attending task force meetings and making sure the department is ready for reopening. An FAQ document was created to answer questions about what we are doing for students with disabilities and how to support them once we are back in the buildings. The partnership with Northwell Health is ongoing. Staff from Hewlett-Woodmere and Northwell Health participated in parent meetings at the elementary and secondary level and shared strategies on how to bring students back to school. Evaluations were conducted over the summer to complete testing that could not be done during the closure. Most of the outstanding evaluations and meetings were completed so IEPs were ready for the school year. She shared that the IDEA grant was approved and plans to utilize the funds to purchase items and services are underway. She enjoyed welcoming back the students, staff, and parents, and thanked the Board for their support.
- Dr. Fale provided the Human Resources report. The HR Department has been hard at work screening and recommending 37 employees over the past few weeks. Dr. Fale thanked the office staff for their hard work in completing this task. Dr. Fale met with staff with preexisting health conditions and is taking steps to ensure they have the necessary accommodations. As a member of the Re-Opening Task Force, Dr. Fale has discussed how to work in collaboration with the nurses and the Department of Health so that positive cases of COVID-19 are handled properly. In addition, staff development and training is being provided to nurses so they know how to keep the health offices safe and secure. Dr. Fale attended a socially distant reception for new staff members and gave his best wishes as they start their new positions.
- Mr. Ric Stark provided an update from the Hewlett-Woodmere Faculty Association. He has been meeting with the teaching staff in each building and will be scheduling a meeting with Superin-

tendency soon.

- Mrs. Milillo and Mrs. Honig provided the PTA report. They are both starting their two-year term as Central Council Presidents. They are working on a District-wide fundraiser of long-sleeved tee shirts and sweatshirts with all schools on them. FECC: FECC is off to a smooth start and the students are acclimating to the new normal. The PTA provided welcome balloons and ran a mask sale and child-friendly lanyard sale. HES: Also off to a great start. The PTA decorated each entrance to welcome the students. The PTA also ran a mask sale. OES: Students stopped by the school to meet teachers from the car. The PTA provided goodies at the supply pick-up. They are planning the Chalk Walk Night and Movie Night. WMS: School started smoothly. Back-to-School Night was successful. The PTA is selling Bulldog masks in conjunction with HHS. Hosting a staff breakfast on Friday. HHS: PTA is selling Bulldog masks. The Senior Committee will be working on creative events and activities for the graduating class. SEPTA: First meeting will be held on September 21. Parents are welcome to call in to the meeting.

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 that the Policy Committee recently held their first meeting where they worked on several old policies, policies for possible consolidation, and policies required by law.
- The Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.
- There were no questions from the public or via the livestream chat box.
- The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:40 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

October 14, 2020, 6:30 PM Budget Session/7:30 PM Work Session at Hewlett High School

October 21, 2020 8:00 PM Regular Meeting at Hewlett High School

NOTE:

All agendas and supporting documentation for the September 16 meeting can be found by clicking [HERE](#).