

*In an effort to increase Board/Public Communications, after each Board of Education meeting an email will be sent to parents, staff, and anyone who requested to receive district e-mail communications, highlighting board discussions.*

The following was discussed at the September 22, 2016 meeting:

\*The meeting started with a moment of silence in memory of Legislator Judy Jacobs who passed away earlier this month. “Judy was a great friend to the district and a great advocate for education and we plan to honor her further at a board meeting,” said Board President Bill Ferro.

\*New staff members were introduced at the meeting, and also enjoyed a reception before the meeting took place to welcome them. “These new staff members have a special commitment to their profession and have already shown us that they go above and beyond,” said Superintendent Hank Grishman.

\*During the External Audit Report, presented by Mr. Alan Yu from the firm Cullen and Danowski, LLP, it was announced that the audit of the financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2016 was completed ahead of schedule. Mr. Yu also stated there are no recommendations for the district and the district is in “a very good financial state.” Mr. Ferro thanked administration, including Victor Manuel and his office, for managing the finances wisely.

\*Bill Ferro shared both “good and bad news” with the community. Joseph Lorintz, who has served as a board member in Jericho for more than 12 years, is stepping down later this year. Joe has been endorsed by both the Democrats and Republicans as a candidate for Nassau County Supreme Court Judge and will have to step down as a board member once he holds this position. “The judiciary system will be better because they have Joe. He is open

mindful, bright, honest, and fair. Joe has been such an asset to the Jericho school district and an advocate for all people in the Town of Oyster Bay. As a community, even though he will not sit on the board, I know that we will continue to be blessed by his service,” said Bill Ferro.

\*Middle School and High School students updated those in attendance about school happenings during the Student Council reports. Lisa Davis, PTA Council president, said that all PTA units are striving for 100% membership and forms are available online and at each school. Also, she invited everyone to the October 17 Open Council meeting in the High school library featuring New York State Senator Carl Marcellino and James Gaughran, both running for office in the 5<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District.

\*During the Superintendent’s Report, Hank Grishman congratulated everyone in the district for a successful school opening. He also updated those in attendance about a health and safety concern with the carnival that takes place during homecoming weekend. “All adults that are in contact with our students are vetted and go through a screening process,” said Mr. Grishman. “Those individuals that work for the carnival companies do not go through that process.” Mr. Grishman said he is directing high school administration to work with staff and students to find an alternative to the carnival for next year’s homecoming. “I am doing this with mixed feelings because of the long history that the carnival has had, but I look forward to new ideas that don’t have the increased health and safety concerns like the carnival does.”

\*The board took action on a number of items, including the acceptance of a donation, and approval of schedules. The Board also voted to change the December board meeting to December 22, 2016. All information, including the full agenda and minutes, is available on the district website at [http://jerichoschools.org/district/board\\_of\\_education](http://jerichoschools.org/district/board_of_education).

\*The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for October 20, 2016 at 7:15 PM in the Middle School Library.

*-Bill Ferro, Board President*

*Sent on behalf of the Jericho Board of Education*