

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 March 23, 2017 meeting:

*The Board of Education unanimously adopted the 2017-2018 Budget of \$122,669,127. This will be on the ballot for the May 16 Budget Vote.

*Also, the board adopted proposition #2 and #3. Proposition #2 authorizes the Board to spend \$9.3 million from the already existing \$10 million Capital Reserve II to implement the second phase projects from the Capital Facilities. Proposition #3 authorizes the Board to create an additional capital reserve (Capital Reserve III) not to exceed \$20 million which would be funded over the next several years.

*Middle School and High School students updated those in attendance about school happenings during the Student Council reports.

*Pam Heath, PTA Council vice president, invited everyone to come to the March 27 PTA Open Council meeting at the Middle School library at 9:30 AM featuring Todd Benjamin and Danielle Smith talking about the Wellness Coalition and Mindfulness. Also, PTA Council is sponsoring Parent University the evening of April 4 featuring STEAM based workshops. More information will be emailed to parents soon.

*High School Student Council representatives Chase Serota and Kasha Bhatia joined the board during the work session and at the dais during the regular meeting as student representatives. Chase and Kasha spoke about an initiative they were recently involved in that was a collaboration and cultural exchange between Jericho and Uniondale High School. They hope to expand this program to other districts.

*Many students and teachers were recognized for exceptional accolades. A

full list is available on the online agenda and pictures from the meeting are available on the district website under “News.”

*Jericho’s SEPTA presented grants to Jericho staff members to fund various initiatives to assist Jericho’s special education program.

*During the Superintendent’s Report, Mr. Grishman said that meetings are ongoing at the state level regarding the status of many educational issues, including the 3-8 testing. He has a meeting with the education commissioner scheduled and will keep everyone updated.

*Mr. Grishman also said that the next few board meetings include many student and staff recognitions and in the interest of time, those meetings will begin at 7 PM. That time change will be publicized well in advance of the meeting dates.

*Victor Manuel presented his final budget workshop in his budget review. The full presentation is available on the district website or by clicking this link. <http://www.jerichoschools.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=5887816&pageId=27271072>

*The board took action on a number of items, including the, acceptance of a donation, and the approval of schedules. All information, including the full agenda and minutes, is available on the district website at http://jerichoschools.org/district/board_of_education.

*The next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2017 at 7 PM in the Middle School Library.

-Bill Ferro, Board President

Sent on behalf of the Jericho Board of Education