

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 October 21, 2021 meeting:

*The meeting started with a moment of silence to remember two Jericho employees who recently passed away – Benny D'Aquila, a former principal, assistant principal and curriculum associate in Jericho, and Rande Siper, a teacher at Cantiague Elementary School. The district is establishing a scholarship in each of their names that will be given to a graduating senior. More details will be shared soon about contributing to these scholarships.

*October is School Board recognition month and in honor of their volunteerism and dedication, all of Jericho School District's unions combined their efforts and made a donation in the form of a scholarship for a graduating senior in the name of the Jericho Board of Education. Also, Superintendent Hank Grishman thanked the school board members, who volunteer many hours to benefit the children and the school community. Gifts were presented from the district, bargaining units, and PTA Council. Well wishes and thanks were sent by Legislator Josh Lafazan, Legislator Arnie Drucker, and Congressman Tom Suozzi.

*Middle School and High School students updated those in attendance about school happenings during the Student Council reports. Gina Levy, PTA Council President, thanked everyone for their support of PTA.

*Joanne Gosal, the student Board of Education Representative, recently surveyed the high school students, with approximately 400 students responding. She spoke about Nest Period, communication with students, and the High School testing calendar. Joanne continues to work with High School administration to address the needs of students.

*Christina Celic, a Jackson teacher, received tenure.

*Ruth Breidenbach was appointed Curriculum Associate for Fine and Performing Arts. She will begin her position later this year.

*Hank Grishman recognized Margaret Aaron and Jill Citron for their volunteerism and assistance in helping Jericho families in need. He also thanked Denise Nash

for her constant support. Jill Citron thanked the community for always donating so generously to each of the food drives for these families.

*The National Merit Commended and Semifinalists students were recognized. Click here to see the video honoring these students: <https://youtu.be/1RrUX8-SUW8>

*Dr. Ivy Sherman, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, presented data on test scores, including NWEA, Regents Exams, and AP Exams. Please click here to access her presentation: <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1NoHL9DR4pcfdMXu1PBAb6KwS9VhQU8ai8n8zytcpGIo/edit?usp=sharing>

*During the Superintendent's Report, Hank Grishman thanked the Jericho Education Foundation for their efforts, as they recently raised \$25,000 through their brick sale. Furniture and arcade games for Café 126 were purchased with the funds and they are in the process of purchasing blue and gold Adirondack chairs for each of the 5 schools.

*With respect to indoor events, Mr. Grishman said that the district will be making a decision on a case by case basis, taking the size of the space and number of attendees into consideration. At this time, larger events, such as staff recognition, curriculum fairs, and multicultural nights will be postponed until the spring. The next three board meetings were originally scheduled to be at the three elementary schools, but instead will be held in the MS/HS auditorium.

*Regarding vaccinations, out of approximately 700 employees, 87% are vaccinated. Approximately 71% of eligible students are vaccinated. These figures were determined by submission of vaccine verifications so this number may be higher. Students who have been vaccinated but have not yet submitted proof of their status can do so in order to avoid being required to do daily health checks.

*The Board discussed the turf field, as the acceptance of the bid was on the agenda. The Board voted to table that item and will reconvene next week to discuss.

*The board took action on a number of items, including the reading and adoption of policies, adopting the 2022-2023 calendar, which is available here: <https://bit.ly/3ngTVQI> 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 Board Meeting in its entirety is available here: https://youtu.be/XGxe37_xXFc

*A special board meeting is planned for Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 7 PM to discuss the turf field. Meeting details will be released early this week.

* The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for November 18, 2021 at 7:30 PM in the MS/HS auditorium and will be streamed via Zoom.

-Jill Citron, Board President

Sent on behalf of the Jericho Board of Education