



THE BOARD REPORTS

Highlights of the White Plains Board of Education Meeting

BOARD MEMBERS: Rosemarie Eller, *President*; Cayne Letizia, *Vice President*;
Sheryl Brady, James Hricay, Rose Lovitch, Charlie Norris, Randy Stein

August 25, 2022

Including the Special Meeting of August 4, 2022

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Superintendent of Schools **Dr. Joseph Ricca** asked for a moment of silence in memory of **Dorothy Kirby**, Administrative Assistant in the Human Resources Department for 18 years, until retiring in 1991, and **Anna Maloney**, who held various positions from Clerk to Senior School Office Manager in several schools, from 1975 to 1992.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Ricca introduced **Jessica Scheckton** of Capital Region BOCES, who made a presentation on the communication services which her organization offers.

BOARD COMMENT: Board President **Rosemarie Eller** commended the 15 summer school graduates who received their diplomas this afternoon and said it was a moving ceremony. She and Board Member **Charlie Norris** also attended the administrators' retreat this afternoon and Mrs. Eller also addressed the new teachers at their orientation on Monday. She said we have a large and enthusiastic group of new staff members.

PERSONNEL: The Board named two new Assistant Principals at the Middle School-Highlands. **Tara Daly** will replace **Michael Eaton** who was named Principal at a previous meeting. She has been a Social Studies teacher at the school prior to being appointed Interim Assistant Principal last year. **Jessica Maracallo** comes to the District from an Assistant Principal position in Elmsford and replaces **Valerie Cadet-Simpkins**.

Resignations were accepted from two administrators: **Jessica Torres-Maheia**, Principal at Ridgeway School, and **Natasha Freeman-Mack**, Administrator for Superintendent Hearings, Homebound Instruction & Student Activities at the High School. Both are leaving to take positions elsewhere – Ms. Torres-Maheia as a Middle School Principal in New York City, and Ms. Freeman-Mack as an Assistant Superintendent in Newburgh, New York.

The Board accepted resignations for the purpose of retirement of **Melanie Monteleone**, Senior Cook Manager at the High School, and **Lisa Michaels**, Elementary Education Teacher at Ridgeway School.

Tenure was granted to the following Teaching Assistants: **Wendy Abreu** and **Adrian Buitron** at George Washington School, **Leah Carter** and **Maura Lynch** at Mamaroneck Avenue School, and **Sara LaMattina** at Ridgeway School.

Probationary appointments were granted to the following: **Cristina Oliveira**, Special Education at George Washington School; **Jeta Zebelaj**, STEM Teacher at George Washington; **Anel Suriel**, Elementary Education, Dual Language Coach, Districtwide; **Erin Farley**, Reading Teacher, Middle School-Highlands; **Vanessa Gonsalves**, English Teacher Rochambeau; **Jessica McMahan**, Kindergarten, George Washington; **Lindsay McLaughlin**, STEM Enrichment Teacher, Ridgeway;

Samantha Escobar, Math Instructional Specialist, Post Road; **Meera Rajani**, Math Instructional Specialist, Mamaroneck Avenue School; **Samantha Russo**, Earth Science, Middle School-Highlands; **Katrina Cullen**, Social Studies, Middle School-Highlands, **Shirlee Manoogian**, Math, Rochambeau; **Rosaria Sagnibene**, ENL, High School; **Christopher Wong**, School Psychologist High School; and **Dane Merrill**, Library Media Specialist, Middle School-Highlands.

DONATIONS: Dr. Ricca thanked the following for their generous donations:

Lynn Israel for \$100 for the Dorothy Ann Peters Memorial Scholarship

Daniel Cultice for \$1,500 for the David R. Cultice Memorial Fund

Steven Stark for \$1,503 for the Richard Liebson Journalism Scholarship

Robert Kurtz for \$15,000 for the Margaret L. Kurtz Memorial Scholarship

OTHER ACTION: The Board extended requests for proposals to offer Universal Pre-Kindergarten full and half-day services, to accommodate over 300 students.

The Board authorized an agreement with The University at Albany to provide White Plains High School students with online courses for the next three school years at no cost to the District.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

September 8: Special Meeting, Education House, 5:30 P.M.

September 12: Regular Meeting, Education House, 7:30 P.M.

Editor: Michele Schoenfeld