Re-Cap!

April 6, 2022
Woodmere Education Center

A summary of the Board of Education Meeting

Board Members: Debra Sheinin, President; Cheryl May, Vice President; Mitchell A. Greebel, Judy Menashe, Francois Tenenbaum, Shari L. Amitrano, Jonathan D. Altus

NOTE:

The April 6 Board of Education meeting was recorded as part of a pilot. The link to the video recording can be found HERE.

SPECIAL MEETING

The Board of Education unanimously adopted the 2022-23 proposed budget in the amount of $130,586,214 to be presented to the District voters on May 17, 2022. More information about the proposed 2022-23 budget can be found HERE.

WORK MEETING

The work meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM.

Internal Claims Auditor, Ms. Shari Diamond of Cerini and Associates, LLP, provided an update on activity for the first six months of the school year.

The treasurer's report was presented by Mrs. Donnelly. There were no questions.

Mr. Hogan introduced Ms. Fennessy, who provided an update on mathematics. She reviewed curriculum at the elementary and secondary levels, extra help availability, and student achievements. A member of the BOE asked about the student who recited the 3,141 digits of Pi, which was covered by the Nassau Herald. Another BOE member asked about publicity for the math clubs and teams. Questions were also asked about math facts drills, Quantway math, and the use of One Note. Ms. Fennessy announced that a Math Honor Society would be implemented in the 2022-23 school year. The Tri-States Consortium will be visiting in May. The next generation of math p-8 will be implemented in September 2022, followed by algebra, geometry, and algebra II. Ms. Fennessy's presentation can be found HERE.

Ms. Fennessy and Ms. Hochhauser presented the updated Response to Intervention (RtI) plan. The plan outlines the District's strategies to provide additional support for K-5 students who are having difficulties in mathematics and reading. They thanked all of the staff members who contributed their time to the development of this plan. A Board member asked if RtI is mandated for math. It is not. A Board member asked what happens if a student needs services beyond Tier 2 and 3? The team will explore data on student progress to determine if a recommendation to the CSE is necessary. A Board member asked if the plan includes writing. Tier 2 and Tier 3 instruction

focused on reading, but some instruction in writing occurs in connection about the texts they read. Recently, curriculum work related to grammar was completed for grades K-2 to strengthen this instruction in Tier 1. The RtI Plan can be found HERE.

Ms. Hochhauser provided the English Language Arts update. She shared highlights from FECC, HES, OES, and WMS, who all use Teachers College Reading and Writing Workshop. The Teachers College Units of Study in Phonics were introduced in grades K-2 prior to the pandemic. Ms. Hochhauser shared information about WMS, which uses an adapted version of the reading and writing workshop. She shared highlights of their #GetBooked initiative including the authors that visited virtually and in-person. Hewlett High School offers a wide variety of AP and honors courses, as well as a full theater program. Ms. Hochhauser shared information on the collegial circle promoting cultural sensitivity. Author James Murray visited all schools in March. A Board member asked about teaching cursive. A Board member asked about student weaknesses in ELA. Mrs. Hochhauser shared that there are some weaknesses in grammar and spelling, which she continues to address. TC Phonics was recently introduced to the curriculum. A Board member asked about the number of students in AP Capstone Research. The number is significantly lower than the number of students in the Seminar class but that occurs in most districts. A Board member asked about the HWPL. Ms. Hochhauser shared that the librarians come to the buildings to visit. Ms. Hochhauser's presentation can be found HERE.

Questions from the Public on Math, RtI, and ELA:

Mrs. Reyman asked about the number of students in Tier 3. Ms. Hochhauser acknowledged that there has been a post-pandemic increase in students receiving services.

She asked if teachers are trained in "Words Their Way." All teachers in grades 3-5 received additional training in this program this year in order to become familiar with the digital component.

She requested additional information about decoding and decodable texts. Additional decodable texts from SPIRE, Fly Leaf, and Half Pint were purchased this year.

Mrs. Kravtsova asked about how to have an item added to the BOE agenda.

Mrs. Donnelly presented the Business Office Reports: Budget Status Report, Revenue Status Report, Preliminary Fund Balance Report, and Extraclassroom report.

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the Schedule of Contracts. Additional contracts will be added prior to the 4/26 meeting.

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the Schedule of Bids. Several bids are opening in the coming days and the analysis will be provided for the 4/26 meeting.

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the following Business Office Resolutions: Acceptance of Property Tax Report Card; Acceptance of the Single Audit; Cooperative Bidding through Educational Data Services.

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the addendum to the John A. Sabu Memorial Scholarship.

Dr. Marino reviewed the Nassau BOCES Administrative Operations Budget for approval on 4/26.

Dr. Marino discussed the Nassau BOCES election of Board members for the seats currently held by Ronald Ellerbe, Fran N. Langster, and Robert Schoen.

Dr. Marino discussed the Members of the Board of Registry and Inspectors of Election for the May 17 election. It was also noted that the District is having difficulties securing poll workers this year.

Dr. Marino discussed the appointment of an Acting District Clerk for the May 17 election.

Dr. Marino discussed the Board meeting dates for the 2022-2023 school year.

Dr. Marino discussed the resolution to set the July 2023 Organization meeting date as July 5, 2023.

Mr. Hogan discussed the trip to the Robotics World Championship Competition from April 19 - 24 in Houston, Texas.

Mr. Hogan discussed the DECA International Career Development Conference from April 23-27 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mr. Hogan reviewed the following policies for final approval: #4010 Equivalence in Instructional Staff 7 Materials; #0110 Sexual Harassment; #0115 Student Bullying, Harassment, Prevention and Intervention; #5300 Code of Conduct; #5465 Child Abuse in an Educational Setting; #8115 Integrated Pest Management.

Mr. Hogan discussed the following policies for initial review: #5151 Homeless Children; #5100 Attendance; #6700 Purchasing.

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 9:25 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Tuesday, April 26, 2022, 8:00 PM, Woodmere Education Center, Regular Meeting

Wednesday, May 4, 2022, 6:00 PM, Woodmere Education Center, Annual Budget Hearing

Wednesday, May 11, 2022, 7:30 PM, Woodmere Education Center, Work Meeting

Wednesday, May 18, 2022, 8:00 PM, Woodmere Education Center, Regular Meeting

NOTE: Click HERE for the agenda and supporting documentation for the April 6 Work Meeting.