Re-Cap!

January 19, 2022
G.W. Hewlett High School

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

TOUR OF FACILITY

Mrs. Kim Parahus and Ms. Johnson DeCarlo provided a tour of Hewlett High School.

REGULAR MEETING



The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance and the Star Spangled Banner were led by HHS Concert Chorale Students: Anastasia Inglima, Anneliese Baum, Lily Cohen and Skylar Kampton under the direction of music teacher, Mr. Thomas Riley.

Interim HHS Principal, Ms. Geraldine Johnson DeCarlo welcomed the Board of Education and attendees to Hewlett High School. She highlighted some of the wonderful programs at HHS for the BOE and audience.





Dr. Andrew Fund introduced art teachers Ms. Karen Cunningham, Ms. Jennifer Csorba, and Mr. Nicholas Lacetera.

Ms. Cunningham introduced art students Charlotte Moscovici and Jordana Honomo. Each student shared her artwork with the Board of Education and explained the techniques used in their creation. Charlotte Moscovici shared her pottery project and fashion design dress, inspired by a jellyfish. Jordana Honomo shared her figure drawing and design projects, including completing a mural on the second floor of the high school.

Mr. Lacetera introduced Nathaniel Levy, who shared his photo projects with the Board of Education. He will be studying art in college in California next year.



Ms. Csorba introduced student Jake Kallenos, who shared his Architecture, Drawing, and Design project. He developed the project in three-point perspective using a shading technique. Jake will be attending college for engineering.





Dr. Marino provided the Superintendent's report. Prior to the holiday recess, he attended the Puffball Celebration at FECC and the concert chorale performance at WEC. Dr. Marino provided an update on HW 2025. A planning call was held with K12 Insight to discuss the Student Engagement and Curriculum and Instruction surveys, which are due to launch on February 7. The Alumni survey report is forthcoming. The January Superintendent's Roundtable at the Center for Adult Life Enrichment was canceled. The next roundtable is scheduled for February 8 at the Hewlett Fire Department. Dr. Marino provided an update on the Princeton Plan and Nine Period Day task forces. The kickoff meetings will be held in the beginning of February. Dr. Marino concluded his report by reminding attendees that the two-hour budget workshop will be held on Thursday, January 27.

Mr. Hogan provided the Curriculum & Instruction report. He discussed the increase in COVID-19 cases following the holiday break. His office was extremely busy reporting the cases to the DOH and scheduling students for livestreaming. He thanked Mrs. Kavanagh, Mrs. Giese, Mrs. Nasso, and Mrs. Frank for their assistance during this very challenging time. Student and staff cases are beginning to decline. He informed the Board of Education that there have been revisions to the contact tracing requirements.

Mrs. Donnelly presented the Business Office Report. Budget development is continuing. She and her staff are working with staff to refine their budgets. The first state aid run was just released and she is in the process of reviewing it. The next budget meeting will be held on January 27 at the Woodmere Education Center. The Audit Committee met and interviewed two firms that submitted proposals for external auditing services. On tonight's agenda is a recommendation to award the contract to RS Abrams & Co., Inc. Mrs. Donnelly also attended a number of events prior to the holiday break, including the HES and OES holiday events, the FECC Puffball Celebration, and the concert chorale performance at WEC. Mrs. Donnelly also shared that she has been participating in the hiring process for the HHS principal position.

Dr. Bediako provided the Human Resources report. The office continues to place new hires. Mr. Tom Hunter was hired as the Interim Director of Health, Safety, and Security. The selection process has begun for the new principal for Hewlett High School. The search has been narrowed to four candidates. Dr. Bediako and the HR staff continue to monitor the weekly testing for unvaccinated staff members.

Ms. Peterson provided the Special Education report. She attended many of the holiday events at our schools and it was great to see the students in action. The FECC New Year's Celebration event is a favorite. She thoroughly enjoyed the concert chorale performance and thanked Dr. Fund for including students with disabilities in the performance. Ms. Peterson recently prepared a presentation for the Public and Private Schools Council about services for students with disabilities in our non-public schools. She attended the SEPTA meeting and invited all to visit their Facebook page to view the agenda and the upcoming workshops for parents. Ms. Peterson has verified the District's data on students with disabilities. She is participating in the interview process for the new principal of HHS.

Elizabeth Zemlyansky, Secretary of the Student Council, provided a report. The Student Council ran a successful holiday toy drive for SIBS Place. They are planning a Valentine's Day fundraiser and hope to spread love on this day. They have pushed back the date for Battle of the Classes to try to hold the event outside.

Mrs. Shana Milillo reported on behalf of the Central Council PTA. The information can be found in the PTA newsletter at the end of this document.

Board Member Committee Reports

Mr. Greebel reported on behalf of the Special Education Committee. The Committee recommends the approval of the recommendations by both the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education.

Mrs. May reported on behalf of the Policy Committee, who recommends the approval of the three policies on the agenda.

Mrs. Amitrano reported on behalf of the Curriculum, Assessment, and Technology committee. Their first meeting was held on December 17, where the mission of the committee was discussed.

Board Member Reports

Mr. Greebel thanked Mrs. Donnelly for the audit report. He recently represented the District at the Nassau BOCES Budget Review Committee Meeting.

Opportunity for the Public to be Heard on Agenda Items:

Speaker cards were submitted by the following individuals on agenda item I.1.3, School Calendar for the 2022-2023 school year: Arib Khan, Afaf Nasher, Sahar Hussain, Haseena Mooppan, Michael Brenner.

After public comment, Mrs. Sheinin opened the discussion on the 2022-2023 calendar to the Board members. The Board of Education engaged in a discussion regarding the proposed calendar.

Minutes of the December 15, 2021 meeting were approved by a vote of 6-1.

The Consent Agenda was approved.

Item I.1.3 School Calendar was removed for a separate vote. The calendar was approved by a vote of 6-1.

Item F.1.2 Stipulation Settlement and Release will be moved for consideration at the February 16 BOE meeting.

Three policies were approved: #8130 School Safety Policy, #1000 Community Relations Goals Policy, and #1220 Relations with Community and Business Organizations for Abolishment.

Opportunity for the Public to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items:

Speaker cards were submitted by the following individuals:

Ail Virani, who asked about the state aid increase.

James Hogue, who discussed the school mask and vaccine policy.

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 9:15 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, January 27, 2022, Budget Meeting at 7:00 PM, Woodmere Education Center
Wednesday, February 9, 2022, Budget Meeting at 6:30 PM, Work Meeting at 7:30 PM, Woodmere Education Center
Wednesday, February 16, 2022, Tour of Facility at 7:30 PM, Regular Meeting at 8:00 PM, Franklin Early Childhood Center

NOTE:
Click HERE for the agenda and supporting documentation for the January 19 regular meeting.

Click HERE for the Central Council PTA Newsletter.

ADDITIONAL PHOTOS













