Re-Cap!

November 17, 2021
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

TOUR OF FACILITY

Mrs. Kim Parahus and Dr. Colleen O'Hara provided a tour of Hewlett Elementary School.

REGULAR MEETING





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

Dr. O'Hara welcomed everyone to Hewlett Elementary School.

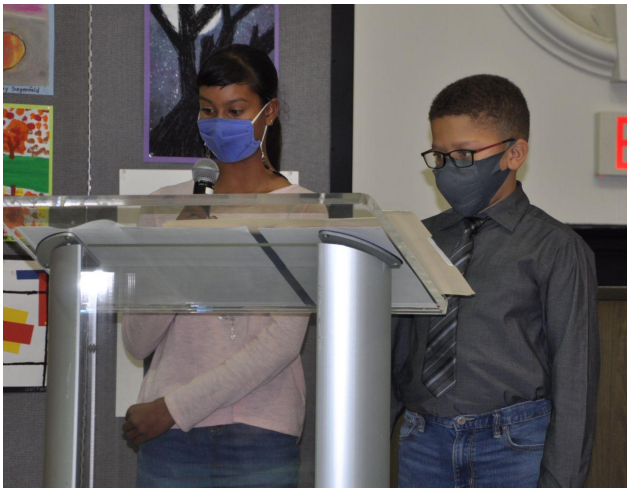
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by HES student, Neigee Pierre, who was introduced by her teacher, Ms. Rachel Carlson.

Dr. Andrew Fund introduced HES art teacher, Ms. Louise Edman, who recognized four students: Brielle Castaneda, Juliann Luchs, Giuseppe Castro, and Evelyn Lamdan, for their artwork. Dr. Fund also introduced HES music teacher, Ms. Lisa Coles, who recognized two music students, Alexander Baum and Sean Zamorano, who performed for the Board of Education.









Dr. Colleen O'Hara introduced two fifth grade students who spoke about the computer programming curriculum. The students, Ashley Dorsey and Jayden Hunter, presented the Board of Education and administration with a small piece of artwork personalized with a quick response (QR) code.

Dr. Marino provided the Superintendent's report. This past month, Dr. Marino attended the FECC Up, Up and Away assembly, both Veterans Day assemblies at HES and OES, the high school musical production of "Little Shop of Horrors" and stayed for one night at Frost Valley with the WMS sixth grade class. Dr. Marino gave an update on HW 2025. The Strategic Plan and Implementation Team held their kickoff meeting and it was well attended by 15 members of the team. On November 19, the Alumni Survey launched to classes 2014 - 2021. The Superintendent's Roundtable was held at WEC this month and the next one will be in January at the Center for Adult Life Enrichment. Dr. Marino provided an update on the construction taking place at Hewlett Elementary School, Hewlett High School, and Woodmere Middle School.

Mr. Hogan provided the Curriculum & Instruction report. He shared that the District has a good plan in place for remote learning when students are quarantined. He also reported on Superintendent's Conference Day, which was held at the beginning of the month. All staff participated in a variety of activities including: Bronx Zoo for science department, Holocaust Museum for history department, many collegial circles, and follow-up with speakers that were at the August Superintendent's Conference Day. Mr. Hogan has been completing informal observations of teachers and is very impressed with their student interaction and creativity.

Mrs. Donnelly presented the Business Office Report. Budget Development is underway for the 2022-23 school year. Task forces will be formed to review the 9-period day option at HHS and the Princeton Plan in more detail. No changes will take place before the 2022-23 school year. Mrs. Donnelly went on the facility tour of HES and felt the building was in great shape. She also attended and enjoyed the high school musical, "Little Shop of Horrors."

Dr. Bediako provided a report from the Human Resources Department. The HR department continues to fill vacancies and will advertise for the high school principal position. The BEDS data report has been completed and submitted. Negotiations are ongoing with several bargaining units. Dr. Bediako and her office continue to oversee COVID-19 testing and vaccine opportunities for staff. She has been visiting many classrooms and completing observations.

Ms. Peterson provided the Special Education report. She attended the Long Island Association of Special Education Administrators (LIASEA) Fall Conference in Montauk. There were a variety of speakers, legal updates, and wellness workshops. There was a SEPTA meeting this week and there are many wonderful things going on throughout the District. Ms. Peterson has started to observe teachers. This afternoon she attended the high school musical and enjoyed it.

Ms. Elizabeth Zemlyansky provided the HHS Student Council Report. The week before Halloween was spirit week, which included a special dress-up day each day of the week. The first kickball tournament was held on November 10. The event included 11 teams (nine students and two staff), and brought out much school spirit and support. The event raised $1,200. The student council is looking forward to holding an upcoming holiday drive, but is still deciding what type of donations they will collect.

Mrs. Alyssa Honig and Mrs. Meredith King 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.

Dr. Altus reported on behalf of the Extra-Curricular, Co-Curricular Activities and Interscholastic Athletics Committee. Teams are experiencing some challenges due to the lack of coaches. The District is also having a hard time finding lifeguards. The District will work diligently to obtain coaches and have sports programs up and running. The middle school is looking into developing intramural teams for students. Dr. Altus also stressed the importance of permits when groups or teams use our fields. Some teams are using the fields without permits and that should not be happening.

Mrs. May reported on behalf of the Policy Committee. Policy #2265 Shared Decision Making and School Based Planning is up for approval at the November 17 meeting. The next policy meeting is on November 19 and many more policies will be reviewed next month.

Mrs. Sheinin virtually attended the NYSSBA meeting. It was not as informative as prior years, but there was one speaker who discussed strength after COVID-19 and how to create a healthy and strong community and school. Mrs. Sheinin also attended the Veterans Day assemblies at HES and OES and thought they were both great. She attended the District's Health and Safety meeting. She congratulated the varsity football team on making the playoffs. She attended and enjoyed “Little Shop of Horrors,” and acknowledged the special guest musicians in the orchestra.

Mrs. May attended the Veterans Day celebrations at OES and HES. She also attended the Halloween events at both schools. It was wonderful to see the students outside enjoying themselves.

Mr. Tenenbaum reported on the November 4 Public and Private Schools Council meeting. There was a presentation on transportation. He attended both Veterans Day celebrations and it was wonderful to see the children so involved.

The minutes from the October 20 meeting were approved.

The consent agenda was approved.

Policy #2265 Shared Decision Making and School Based Planning was approved.

Public Comment:

Ms. Haseena Hooppan spoke about the inclusion of the EID holidays on the District calendar.

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:50 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Wednesday, December 8, 2021, 6:30 PM, Budget Meeting; 7:30 PM Work Meeting at Woodmere Education Center

Wednesday, December 15, 2021, 7:30 PM, Tour of Facility at Ogden Elementary School;
8:00 PM, Regular Meeting at Ogden Elementary School

NOTE:
Click HERE for the agenda and supporting documentation for the November 17 regular meeting.

Click HERE for the Central Council PTA Newsletter.

ADDITIONAL PHOTOS TO ENJOY





















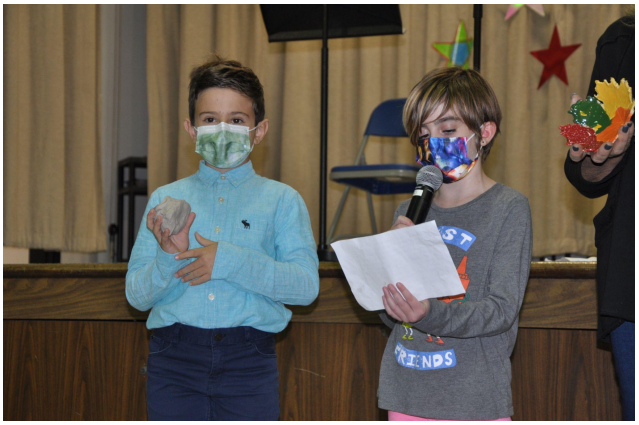



Art by Hewlett Elementary Students


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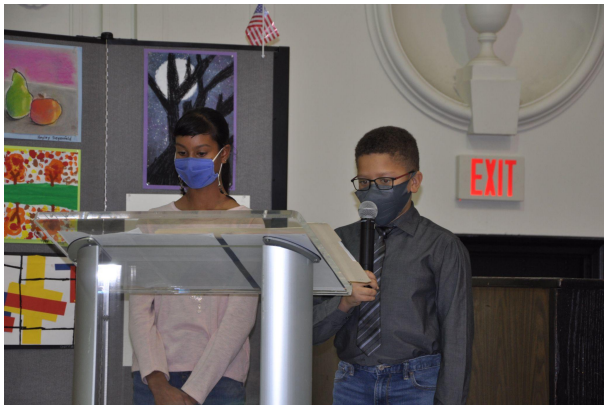

by Hewlett



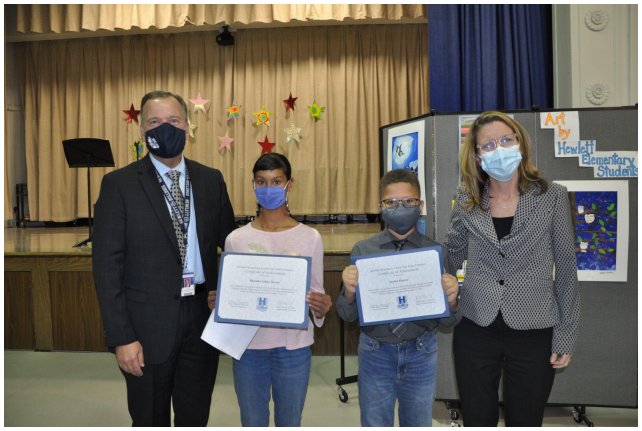







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