Re-Cap!

August 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

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- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Sheinin.
- Mrs. Sheinin explained that in lieu of an August Board of Education Work Meeting, the Board will review Financial Actions and the Miscellaneous Actions at the beginning of this meeting.
- Dr. Marino provided the Superintendent's Report. He reported on the opening of school. The custodial and facility staff are working hard to prepare the school buildings for students and staff. The four summer programs: Summer Playschool at Ogden, ENL program at WMS, Extended School Year Program at WMS, and Academic Summer School at WMS, were well attended and very successful. The 25-person School Opening Planning Team will meet on August 18. They have an extensive agenda to discuss and work through related to school opening plans. The HW 2025 State of the District survey was completed. The District will meet with K12 Insight to review the data and prepare for the upcoming school year. Dr. Marino gave a construction update. There is major construction taking place at HES and HHS. While it is challenging to complete the work during the summer, the construction manager is making sure the job is getting done.
- Mr. Hogan provided the Curriculum Report. He reported that preparations are underway for Superintendent's Conference Day, which will take place at the end of the month. The SAT/PSAT/ACT exams are scheduled as normal for the upcoming school year in District. Mr. Hogan will continue to oversee COVID-19 reporting in collaboration with the Nassau County Department of Health.
- Mrs. Donnelly provided the report from the Business Office. The Business Office staff is working diligently to complete the close of the fiscal year ending June 30. New GASB84 regulations have been implemented. Mrs. Donnelly is working to schedule a meeting of the Audit Committee, our internal and external auditors in September. RS Abrams, the external auditors, will present to the Board of Education at the October meeting. The deadline for submitting the completed audit and associated Corrective Action Plan to NYSED is October 15. This summer, the required filings and reports have been submitted.
- Dr. Marino provided the Human Resources report in Dr. Bediako's absence. Dr. Bediako continues to meet with the District Leadership Team including presidents of the six bargaining units. To date, all open positions for administrators and teachers are filled. The office is working diligently to fill all teacher assistant and teacher aide positions before the year begins. The HR department successfully completed employee data roll-over into the new school year, making all necessary contractual changes. Preparations are underway for New Employee Orientation on August 26.

- Ms. Peterson provided the Special Education report. She shared that the Extended School Year Program concluded successfully on August 13. The staff worked hard with students to maintain skills while also having fun during the six-week program. Ms. Peterson reported that the CPSE Chair position will be filled by Ms. Rose Bellia, Psychologist at FECC, and Mr. James Van Casteren will fill the special education teacher vacancy at Hewlett High School. Both positions are up for approval at this meeting. Ms. Peterson happily reported that the special education 611 and 619 grants were submitted. The grants provide federal funds to support students with disabilities. In the past, these funds have supported things such as Orton Gillingham training for teachers along with programs and materials for use with students. Ms. Peterson looks forward to the safe opening of school for students and staff.

Board Committee Reports

- Mr. Greebel reported on behalf of the Special Education Committee. The Committee recommends the approval of both the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education.
- Mrs. May stated that the School Opening Planning Team will meet on August 18. Mrs. May and Mrs. Sheinin are the Board representatives on the 25-person team. Numerous items will be discussed including: transportation, social distancing, desk barriers, quarantining and contact tracing, teaching and learning, athletics and activities, lunch rooms, and masks. Members of the Board shared their opinions in preparation for this meeting. Additional topics discussed by the Board members included: the importance of in-person learning, remote access for students in quarantine, and how sports and other activities should proceed.

The minutes from the June 16 Regular meeting, the July 1 Organization meeting, and the July 1 Regular meeting were accepted by unanimous consent.

Consent Agenda items were all approved.

Communications/Comments from the Public

- Members of the community spoke about the District's plan for the opening of school, including a possible mask mandate.
- Mrs. Sheinin thanked all for attending the meeting and for expressing their comments to the Board of Education.
- The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 6:50 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Tuesday, September 14, 2021, 7:30 PM, Work Meeting at Woodmere Education Center

Wednesday, September 22, 2021, 8:00 PM, Regular Meeting at Woodmere Education Center

NOTE:

All agendas and supporting documentation for the August 17 meeting can be found by clicking HERE