Re-Cap!

November 18, 2020

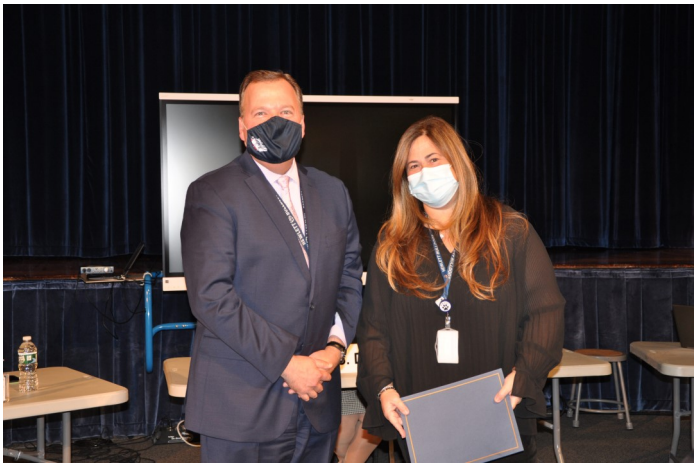
G.W. Hewlett High School

A summary of the Board of Education Meeting

Board Members: Debra Sheinin, *President*; Cheryl May, *Vice President*; Paul Critti, Melissa Gates, Mitchell A. Greebel, Judy Menashe, Daniella R. Simon

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- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Sheinin.
- Dr. Marino recognized the members of the Board of Education who have earned awards from the New York State School Boards Association. Mr. Critti earned the Board Achievement and Board Excellence Award. Mrs. Menashe and Mrs. Sheinin both earned the Board Excellence Award. Congratulations were extended to all.









- Dr. Marino recognized Mr. Critti on his retirement from the Board of Education and thanked him for his service to the Hewlett-Woodmere community. Mrs. Sheinin also thanked Mr. Critti on behalf of the Board.

- Mr. Walter Lastowski, District Director of Art and Music, joined the meeting virtually. He and Mrs. Louise Edman, art teacher at HES, recognized HES student Osher Serussi. Osher's artwork, entitled, "Snowmen at Night," was selected for the cover of NYSSBA's holiday card. Mr. Lastowski and Mrs. Edman congratulated Osher on this wonderful honor.



- The Superintendent's Report was provided by Dr. Marino. He has attended several in-person events including the FECC Up, Up, and Away Assembly, the HES Costume Celebration, OES Drive-By Trunk or Treat, and the HHS Letter of Intent Signing. Staff Chats are being held virtually at all buildings. Dr. Marino thanked all community members for working so hard to keep our schools open. The District's first school closure happened this week with WMS moving to Full Online Instruction. Dr. Marino provided an update on HW 2025. K12 Insight hosted a planning meeting with staff at the end of October to discuss the Implementation Team Kickoff Meeting. The Kickoff Meeting was held with the whole team on November 12 and the three upcoming surveys were discussed. The drafts of the three surveys are being reviewed by the team. Dr. Marino held a Superintendent's Roundtable in the WEC Yoga Room this week. The next roundtable is scheduled for January. Lastly, an update on extracurricular, co-curricular, after-school activities and athletics was provided.
- Mr. Flatley provided the Curriculum Report. He has been very busy working on COVID-19 communications with the state and the Nassau County Department of Health. He has been completing many classroom observations. He is working with Mrs. Donnelly on budget development for the 2021-2022 school year. He has completed the required APPR training. Mr. Flatley will begin working with HR on the search for his replacement. He is developing the 2021-2022 school calendar and conducting a data review of student performance.
- Mrs. Donnelly provided the report from the Business Office. The New York State Division of Budget recently released its Mid-Year Fiscal Update. They are withholding a minimum of 20 percent of school aid payments to achieve the cash flow savings anticipated in the Updated Financial Plan. Mrs. Donnelly provided an update on the Cares Act funding. The District completed the application in August, but the state revised its requirements in October. This means that the application needs to be completely revised with a new set of parameters requiring the District to reach out to all non-public schools with resident students in attendance. We will not know our final allotments until this lengthy process is completed. NYSIR, the District's insurance carrier, is offering a virtual seminar series on various elements of risk transfer. In October, Mrs. Donnelly participated in the meeting of the Nassau and Suffolk County Business Officials. Last month, the budget development process for the 2021-2022 school year began. She has completed a presentation that reviewed our budget goals and the budget development process. All budget presentations are on the District website. The next budget development meeting is on December 16.

- Ms. Peterson provided the Special Education report. Ms. Peterson continues to participate in meetings with Cohen's Pediatric Behavioral Health Clinic, the BOCES Directors and Mental Health Consortium, the South Shore Consortium, and the LIASEA. These meetings help the District stay up to date on the support available to our students and families. The Social and Emotional Learning Think Tank has restarted and Ms. Peterson is looking forward to further investigating different programs to see which best fit the needs of our students. SEPTA held a meeting this week and discussed the budget for the year, upcoming projects ,and potential fundraisers. Ms. Peterson attended the PTA Curriculum Meeting earlier in the month to discuss the SEL work being done in each building. She participated in Section 504 training with our law firm to review the nuances of supporting students with 504 plans. Ms. Peterson also participated in the Hewlett -Woodmere Public and Private School Council and the Strategic Implementation Team meetings. She is also continuing to conduct observations of teachers.
- Dr. Fale provided an update from the Human Resources office. He and his staff continue to process staff leaves, replacements and new hires due to COVID-19. He is participating in contract negotiations for two units at this time. Dr. Fale is the liaison with the District nurses and facilitated their training on the new health management system. He is working with BOCES to plan the Nassau County Diversity Fair to create greater diversity in our candidate pool. The BEDS report is coming to a close. He has been working with Baseline Health to plan ongoing COVID-19 testing for staff. Dr. Fale completed the APPR evaluator training.
- Mrs. Milillo and Mrs. Honig provided the PTA report. FECC: Fall Festival was a fun and memorable day for students. Students dressed up and had classroom parades. They also participated in an obstacle course and a pumpkin patch. Pumpkins were decorated in classrooms. "I am Me" day was another exciting day for students as they watched a hot air balloon take Dr. Smyth and Mrs. Pernick, up and away and got to play inside the balloon in the gym. The fall treats fundraiser was successful and the "fun pasta" fundraiser is taking place now. Picture day went well and online students attended, as well. They are offering an ice cream pajama party for the first class in each grade with 100% PTA membership. HES: All students were given pumpkins from the PTA. On October 30, the PTA hosted a Halloween Dance party with a DJ and decorations. Every student received a goody bag. They are currently having a Thanksgiving Bake Sale and their new spirit wear just launched. The PTA is running a food drive and all canned goods will be donated to various local charities. OES: Last month OES students enjoyed the fall celebration with Trunk or Treat, where students dressed in their vocabulary word costume. All students received a goody bag and stopped by different outdoor stations where teachers were handing out treats. Their Virtual Cupcake Wars fundraiser was a great success. Students created scarecrow and turkey cupcakes. The Annual Thanksgiving Dessert Fundraiser is stronger than ever and they are looking forward to their Thanksgiving Parade. WMS: The virtual Book Fair will be held from November 25—December 6. They are still researching ideas for a virtual holiday boutique for students and staff. Virtual clubs are going well. HHS: The PTA provided a goody bag for all staff members on conference day. The Senior Committee is currently running two fundraisers including Dolce Confections chocolates and scented candles with bulldog logos. Spirit wear has been added to their online store to support the Class of 2021.Their next PTA meeting is Monday, November 23. SEPTA: They held their first Zoom meeting on November 16. They are planning a Chocolate Works fundraiser where they will sell hot chocolate bombs, chocolate house kits, and much more. They had their first joint meeting of the year with FECC in October. All SEPTA PTA members are automatically entered into a raffle that will be drawn off-site in January. Membership is low this year and they are trying to encourage additional membership. They will host their first virtual forum with Northwell Health on Monday, November 23 from 7:00—8:00 PM.

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 reported on behalf of the Policy Committee. The committee met on October 27 and completed a final review of the Homebound Instruction policy, which is on the schedule for approval this evening. They anticipate having three additional policies prepared for approval by the next Board meeting.

Board Reports

- Mrs. Simon reported that she, Mr. Greebel, and Ms. Peterson attended the Five Towns Coalition meeting. The mission of the coalition is to reduce drug and alcohol use among teens in the neighborhood. Flyers seeking to collect expired medication are being put up around the community. They are working with stakeholders to make the community safer for children.
- The Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.
- Policy #4327 Homebound Instruction was unanimously approved.
- Mrs. Simon announced that she has resigned from the Board of Education, effective December 17. She will share more information at the December 16 meeting. Ms. Sheinin thanked Mrs. Simon for her years of service.
- The Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.
- Mr. Caesar submitted a comment thanking Mr. Critti and Mrs. Simon for their dedication to the community and for serving on the Board.
- The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:45 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

December 9, 2020, 7:30 PM Work Session at Hewlett High School

December 16, 2020, 7:00 PM Budget Development Session, Hewlett High School

December 16, 2020, 8:00 PM Board of Education Regular Meeting, Hewlett High School

NOTE:

All agendas and supporting documentation for the November 18 meeting can be found by clicking HERE.

The November Construction Update can be found HERE.