Re-Cap!

June 16, 2021

G.W. Hewlett High School

A summary of the Board of Education Meeting

Board Members: Debra Sheinin, *President*; Cheryl May, *Vice President*; Shari Amitrano, Melissa Gates, Mitchell A. Greebel, Judy Menashe, Francois Tenenbaum

- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Sheinin.
- Ms. Laura Peterson introduced Mrs. Michelle Kinhackl, HHS Guidance Counselor, who presented highlights from the job coaching program. Mrs. Kinhackl introduced two students, Alex and Matthew, who shared their experiences with the Board of Education.





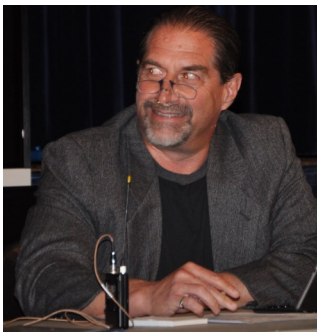
- Mrs. Michele Hochhauser announced the students who received the New York State Seal of Biliteracy:

  Elizabeth Son: Korean & Spanish
  Karaline Talty: Chinese
  Ismelda Peña: French
  Megan McBrien: French
  Paula Sominsky: Russian
  Alexander Noble: Russian
  May Cayzer: Spanish
  Alexander Niyazov: Spanish
  Sebastián Belleza Molina: Spanish
  Fabrizio Caruso: Italian





- Mrs. Hochhauser also recognized HHS student, Noa Wodnitzky, who was a runner up in the Scholastic Action Magazine's True Teen Story Contest.
- Dr. Marino recognized BOE members who earned awards from NYSSBA School Board University:
  Mitchell A. Greebel – Lifetime Achievement Award
  Judy Menashe – Board Mastery Award
  Debra Sheinin – Board Mastery Award









- Dr. Marino recognized Mrs. Melissa Gates, who is retiring from the Board of Education after nine years of service. Mrs. Gates thanked Dr. Marino for his kind words and stated that her service has been an honor and a privilege.
- Dr. Marino provided the Superintendent's Report. Many wonderful events were held throughout the past month, including Honor Society inductions, Community Awards, and Music Awards. WMS held a virtual Music Theater Workshop. Dr. Marino will be reading to the Pre-K students on the field at FECC. Staff chats were held at WMS and HHS, and with the maintenance department. The final WEC staff chat is upcoming. The final meeting of the Public and Private Schools Council was held earlier in June. The final Superintendent's Roundtable was held at the Center for Adult Life Enrichment on June 1. The two OES Moving Up Ceremonies were held on June 14. Car parades were held at all schools. Dr. Marino also provided an update on HW 2025. The State of the District Survey launched on June 2. The Making Feedback Matter workshops were held at all buildings and the Implementation Team to discuss the School Quality Survey.
- Mr. Hogan provided the Curriculum Report. He has been with the District for two weeks and is very impressed with the staff, the BOE, and the commitment to students. He thanked Dave Flatley for his extraordinary work as our COVID coordinator. He is following the SED updates regarding COVD-19 requirements. He has met with all of the P-12 Chairpersons. He is preparing for Superintendent's Conference Day in August. Mr. Hogan will be attending the NYSSBA Summer Law Conference on July 8, ESSA Level 1 Addendum Training on July 13, and APPR recertification for Principal and Teacher Evaluations on July 14.
- Mrs. Donnelly provided the report from the Business Office. Mrs. Donnelly visited all of the District schools with Mrs. Kavanagh. They were able to witness so many of the wonderful things that happen in the buildings, including a wax museum, a martial arts class, and the outdoor learning center. She thanked all of the building administration and staff for welcoming them. Mrs. Donnelly attended three of the car parades with Ms. Peterson. It was heartwarming to see all of the staff cheering or the students. Mrs. Donnelly attendee the last NASBO meeting. It was the first in person meeting in more than a year. She will be serving as the president for the upcoming school year. The Business office is preparing for the year end. The external auditors conducted a pre-audit visit. They will return in August to complete the audit.
- Ms. Peterson provided the Special Education report. Ms. Peterson shared that the Unified Basketball League is one of her favorite activities. She was thrilled to see the progress of the students from their first game to the playoff game. Coach Dubin and his team displayed incredible teamwork, grit, and sportsmanship throughout the season, making it to the championship game! Ms. Peterson spoke about the our students' participation in the Cohen Strong Bullying Ambassador program through our partnership with Northwell. Students in districts across the county created programs for their schools that encourage peer to peer mentorship. Our students created two projects. One was a workshop wherein a college freshman spoke to current juniors about the stress of their final years of high school, the college application process, and a reflection on it after the fact realizing they did not have to worry so much. The students also brought a speaker in to work with Hewlett Elementary School students and staff during Camp CARE, helping students to identify and reflect on their own strengths. Ms. Peterson reported she has met with contracted providers to review the year, issues presented, and expectations for the coming year. She also continues to meet with her staff to discuss the end of the year processes and look ahead to the fall. The Special Education Department is finalizing the Extended School Year Program staffing and needs. Ms. Peterson is excited to welcome the students back to Woodmere

Middle School to prevent regression. Ms. Peterson also continued her participation in virtual meetings with her colleagues via the South Shore Consortium and BOCES Directors' meetings, and those with Northwell.

- Mrs. Milillo and Mrs. DeCicco provided the PTA report. Please see the attached newsletter for the recent PTA events and activities.

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, who recommends the approval of the 12 policies on the agenda.
- The minutes, consent agenda, and policies were all approved.

Communications/Comments from the Public

- Mrs. May, Mr. Greebel, and Mrs. Sheinin all thanked Mrs. Gates for her hard work while on the BOE. They each spoke about her passion for the community and the children of HWPS. She understands governance and the responsibilities of a board member.
- Former board members Harold Kislik and Scott McInnes echoed the sentiments of those who spoke before them regarding Mrs. Gates. They wished Mrs. Gates well in her retirement. She worked hard to make HWPS a better place and is a shining example of leadership. They described her as a selfless leader.
- Question in the chat box: Governor's new restrictions were released today. Can we have all graduates together in one ceremony? Dr. Marino responded by stating that the District just received the guidance this afternoon, and will review it on Thursday.
- The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 9:20 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Monday, June 28, 2021, 5:00 PM, Work Meeting for the July Organizational/Regular Meeting, Woodmere Education Center

Thursday, July 1, 2021, 5:00 PM, Organization and Regular Meeting, Woodmere Education Center

Tuesday, August 17, 2021, 5:00 PM, Regular Meeting, Woodmere Education Center

NOTE:

All agendas and supporting documentation for the June 16 meeting can be found by clicking HERE.

Central Council Newsletter

June 16th 2021

FECC

FECC ran a successful outdoor book fair in which parents were allowed to attend. It was so nice to finally all be together again and see all our students and their parents.

Field day was a blast for all of the kids. The gym teachers made it extra special this year. We were disappointed to not offer parents an opportunity to be there but understandably needed to be Covid safe.

We ended the year for our graduates with a special spirit week for them including dress up days and parties. Included in this was a circus day where the students got to dress like clowns and were blown away by a juggling, unicycle-riding entertainer! It was a very fun day. We also had a graduation dance party where the students dressed in their best and a DJ helped them party the day away!

We had a successful car parade, with decorations, a DJ and a FECC-spirited cupcake give away. All the teachers came out to cheer on their students. It was an amazing day for our graduates.

Our graduation t-shirts and hats have been distributed and our yearbooks are on the way. We are planning our PTA appreciation luncheon for next week.

Finally, we are set for an outdoor graduation consisting of 2 ceremonies in which our students will get to sit on junior sized lawn chairs provided by our district. They will be given their final graduation present following the ceremony.

It's been an amazing year for FECC despite the chaos of COVID. Our students and faculty proved how strong we really are together.

HES

Field day kids were divided into 4 diff color tshirts that were gifted by PTA. All kids and staff enjoyed Mr Bill during their recess. PTA gave a bagel breakfast to the 5th graders and teachers. 5th graders and teachers had a blast at their graduation party which was held at Sunny Atlantic Beach Club with a full buffet, DJ and loads of giveaways .As a last hurrah PTA is sponsoring a 5th grade pizza lunch and Hewlee truck.

OES

Circus for 2nd grade – Students enjoyed a week of learning various circus acts and performing for their peers. The performance was recorded and shared with families to enjoy. PTA created t-shirts as part of the event and provided ice cream for the kids as a treat.

Alvin Ailey for 3rd grade – We were able to keep our annual program going this year! Students again enjoyed learning various dance moves and performing which was recorded and shared. Pta again provided ice cream as a treat after the performance.

Field Day – socially distant and still same level of fun! To end the day of fun we had ices for the 2nd – 4th graders to cool off with and 5th grade had Hewlee frozen yogurt truck.

Family Fishing – we had a beautiful day out on the water. Some learned to fish for the first time while others enjoyed spending the day with their families.

Graduation – We had 2 Hawaiian/Moana themed ceremonies. Our front lawn was transformed into a luau with tropical flowers, a tiki bar where PTA greeted parents and gave out leis and drinks in pineapple cups upon entry, a Hawaiian scenery backdrop and 2 replicas of Moana's boat with OES on one and WMS on the other. The graduating class gave several engaging performances during both ceremonies and were given well wishes by Dr. Marino and our wonderful principal Dr. Anzalone and staff. PTA co-presidents also gave a speech of encouragement to the graduating class. It was an incredible send off for our students and we wish them the best as they start their new journey at WMS.

WMS

All grades had a fantastic bowling night

8th grade Adventureland trip was a lot of fun. The teachers invited from the district had a great time and they hope it will be continued for the years to come

8th grade wave parade was very well attended by the wms staff. PTA donated extra pretzels to fire house and police station

Staff Luncheon went well and teachers really enjoyed the Greek food truck. We also were able to give out hot pretzels and have an ice cream truck come to show our appreciation to our WMS teachers

Spring sports went well and our students are all looking forward to HHS sports

The 8th grade students will enjoy an ice cream from the truck on Friday to celebrate their graduation on Monday

SEPTA

Our last SEPTA meeting of the school year took place on May 24th.

The money SEPTA donated to the HS for the hallway art project is coming along. Some students have worked on the small canvas art while other students worked on the mural on canvas which should be finished up later this week. They will be hung in the fall as the high school is scheduled for construction this summer.

The Morgan Brodwin Memorial Award of excellence awards and checks have been given to each school for presentation at graduation.

The leaders said they will be rescheduling their virtual field day/friendship games again because the supervisor of leaders was out sick.

SEPTA is excited to donate money towards a garden at Hewlett elementary. Mr. Marquardt, PE teacher at HES, planned on planting a garden for Ms. Pangallo's 8:1:2 class to connect it to a lifestyle of healthy eating. The class learned about the parts of a plant and discussed the nutritional value of eating vegetables daily. The goal was to teach the class the importance of a healthy lifestyle and to give them a skill they can use in real life. We thought it was a great opportunity for SEPTA to donate funds to support this effort since it is so hands on and we are always looking to do things like this for the schools. SEPTA donated $249 towards the purchase of the plants and supplies for the garden. Students helped plant all the vegetables and they have a daily watering schedule to take care of the garden.

HHS

At Hewlett High School, end of year events are in full swing. The staff appreciation lunch was a huge success despite the limitations we worked with. A big thank you to our luncheon committee for pulling it off. The PTA distributed ices to all students on Friday before the Memorial Day weekend. PTA gave t-shirts to the Junior class students to wear on the first day of their senior year in September. PTA provided decor and spirit items for the senior car parade. Yesterday the senior committee distributed very generous gifts to the Class of 2021 at the cap and gown pickup drive-through. The PTA senior committee is also hosting an off-site breakfast for the Class of 2021 this Thursday. Yearbooks were distributed & prom happened this year! Award and induction ceremonies took place and PTA sponsored departmental awards given to deserving senior students as we do each year. Fifty six new engraved bricks were purchased this year and will be shipped shortly to be added to the wall outside of the HHS Commons keeping our "Building Bulldogs Brick by Brick" project going strong. Wishing everyone an enjoyable and relaxing summer!!!

Testing is getting underway in the building - AP exams are being given in school and digitally at home, regents exams are optional and finals are at teacher discretion. Inductions and award ceremonies are all pre-recorded and released on the day of the event. Mr. Viegas announced that athletics are planned to be back on a regular season schedule beginning in the fall which gives us hope that our schools will look a lot more "normal" come September!