Re-Cap!

September 18, 2019
Woodmere
Education Center

A summary of the Board of Education Meeting

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

---

- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by WMS students, Harley Honig, Sydney Honig, and Michael Heyman.
- Dr. Marino recognized Board of Education members, Mrs. Judy Menashe and Mrs. Debra Sheinin, who have earned the New York State School Boards Association Board Achievement Award, Level 1.







- Dr. Fale recognized the new employees to the District.
- Mr. John Wimmer, Chairperson of Social Studies, introduced WMS social studies teacher, Mr. Vincent Lospinuso, who recognized students who participated in the National History Fair in Washington D.C. in June. The students won first place for their project, "Without Hope Life is Not Worth Living—The Life of Harvey Milk." Mr. Milk was born and raised in Woodmere and taught mathematics at Hewlett High School. The students thanked the District and the Board of Education for allowing them to participate.

- Mr. Wimmer recognized HHS students who participated in the National History Day competition, Gabby Nakkab, Ian Isseks, Kira Grossman, and Julia Klayman.



Administrator's Reports

- The Superintendent's Report was given by Dr. Marino. He began by recognizing the tragic loss of a Hewlett High School student. He recognized the District's maintenance staff for preparing all of the buildings for the first day of school. Dr. Marino has visited all schools and we are off to a great start. Some of the schools have already hosted their Back-to-School nights for parents and guardians. He attended the Patriot Day observances at both HES and OES. The District celebrated Constitution Day at several buildings. His first bus run is this week. Two Superintendent Roundtables have been held. The next one is scheduled for October 7 at the Hewlett Firehouse. Dr. Marino provided an update on HW 2025. A conference call was held with K12 Insight. The Implementation Team will meet on October 2 and the Curriculum and Instruction Survey will launch at the end of October.
- Dr. Secaur provided the Curriculum and Instruction Report. Superintendent's Conference Day was held on August 29. In total, 75 workshops were available, with 22 of them focusing on instructional technology. When this model was first implemented 24 workshops were offered, so it has grown exponentially. Feedback has been very positive. The New Teacher Induction Program that began last year is currently underway. The program provides invaluable support to first year teachers. Dr. Secaur will be presenting the District's approach to professional development at the LIASCD Conference on October 4. He provided an update on HW 2025. We are now aligning our goals around the District's strategic plan. We will continue to focus on social and emotional learning, mental health, and ensuring that all students feel supported.
- Mr. Frontario provided the Business Report. The transportation office has been very busy with the beginning of the school year. Independent Coach is the District's largest carrier. We transport 2,800 students each day and the primary goal is safety and timeliness. There are 280 bus routes to 90 private schools. There is a shortage of bus drivers, so some carriers are refusing routes. Mr. Frontario attended a NYSIR workshop on cybersecurity with Ms. Amanda Kavanagh in August. We are in the process of educating staff on this important issue. The internal auditors are conducting a risk assessment. Mr. Frontario met with the 5 Town Community Services Director regarding our before and after school programs. The external audit is complete and the report will be available for the Audit Committee on October 2.
- The Special Education Report was given by Dr. Lo Verde. Her office is very busy at the start of the school year. She welcomed all new staff to the District, particularly those new to the Special Education department. She has met with BOCES regarding health and welfare services provided to students in non-public schools and reviewed the policies and procedures. Ms. Barbara Gittlitz, a new employee in the Special Education office, will be the contact for preschool services. Dr. Lo Verde is in the process of visiting all schools.
- Dr. Fale provided the Human Resources Report. His office has hired 51 new employees this summer. The screening and recruitment process is extensive. The new staff orientation was success-

ful and provides new teachers and staff insight into District operations. Dr. Fale introduced the new Assistant Principal of Hewlett Elementary, Mr. Ross Cohen, who is an alumnus of Hewlett High School. The new Front Line substitute management system is working well. Dr. Fale is enjoying visiting the schools and seeing the excitement of a new year.

- Ms. Rachel Miller spoke on behalf of the Student Advisory Council. HHS is celebrating spirit week in advance of Homecoming. The Pep Rally will be on Friday. The parade is at 1:00 PM and the game is at 2:00 PM on Saturday. They are also starting to plan the Senior Fashion Show.
- Mr. Ric Stark spoke on behalf of the Hewlett-Woodmere Faculty Association. He met with eleven new teachers and all have joined the union. HWFA will have a booth at Arts Below Sunrise for the first time.
- Mrs. Robyn Kelstein reported for the Central Council PTA. She mentioned that it has been a very solemn beginning to the school year. The PTA extends its support to all of the buildings and offers their thoughts and prayers to the family and friends of John Sabu. FECC: Welcome signs were placed on lawns of new Pre-K students by school staff; HES: Family Bingo Night will be held on October 3; OES: Waffles and Welcome provided sense of community at the opening of school; WMS: 6th grade orientation was held in August. An author presentation will be held on September 27. Eighth grade trip will be to Coney Island Aquarium. Sixth grade trip will be to Hall of Science.; SEPTA: hosting paint night at McQuades on October 28; HHS: PTA held Senior Sunrise Breakfast. Many students came and enjoyed the event.

Board Committee Reports

- Mrs. Menashe 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.

Board Reports

- Mrs. Gates reported that she, Mr. Critti, and Mrs. Menashe attended the NYSSBA Board Officers Academy last week. The discussion centered around board governance and inter-relations. It was interesting to hear how other Boards of Education function. Mental health initiatives were also discussed.
- Mrs. Sheinin reported that she, Mr. Greebel, and Dr. Secaur attended the Saving Lives Five Towns Drug and Alcohol Coalition. This is a community-wide organization formed to bring about awareness of youth drug and alcohol use. She is looking forward to helping build the program.
- The consent agenda was approved by the Board of Education. The following three policies were approved:
  Policy #2390 Board Hearings
  Policy #2351 Quorum
  Policy #1332.1 Use of Principal's Mailboxes
- The following policy was approved for abolishment:
  Policy #6190 Public Complaints Regarding Instruction

- A member of the community addressed the Board of Education about the recent tragic passing of a student from Hewlett High School. She stressed the importance of social and emotional programs at Woodmere Middle School and Hewlett High School. An advisory class to help students develop relationships with adults was recommended. Mr. Greebel thanked the resident for her comments.

- The meeting recessed to Executive Session at 8:48 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Wednesday, October 2, 2019, 6:30 PM Budget Development Meeting, Woodmere Education Center
- Wednesday, October 2, 2019, 7:30 PM Work Meeting, Woodmere Education Center
- Wednesday, October 16, 2019, 7:30 PM, Tour of Facilities, Hewlett Elementary School
- Wednesday, October 16, 2019, 8:00 PM, Board Meeting, Hewlett Elementary School

NOTE: All agendas and supporting documentation for the September 18, 2019 Board of Education Meeting can be found by clicking HERE.

The September 2019 Construction Update can be found by clicking HERE.