Re-Cap!

December 18, 2019

Franklin Early Childhood 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

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Budget Development Meeting

- A budget development meeting preceded the Board of Education meeting. Please click HERE to view the presentation that was given by Mr. Frontario.

Regular Meeting

- Dr. Lorraine Smyth welcomed attendees to Franklin Early Childhood Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students from pre-kindergarten and kindergarten.
- Ms. Patello, FECC pre-kindergarten teacher, led the students in holiday songs. The Board of Education was presented with puffballs in honor of the 50th anniversary of the puffball tradition.









Administrator's Reports

- The Superintendent's Report was given by Dr. Marino. He shared many of the events he recently attended, including: FECC: I Am Me Kickoff; HES: Trees for Troops at Dees' Nursery; OES: He will be attending the Candy House Tradition and Holidays Around the World this week; WMS: It is "Bee" season at WMS, with the recent Spelling Bee and the Geography Bee. The Science Fair was a great success. Dr. Marino also attended the Frost Valley trip with an enthusiastic group of students and staff; HHS: Alumni Return Breakfast, Youth Leadership Forum, and the College Public Affairs class. Dr. Marino also mentioned all of the wonderful concerts he attended and thanked Mr. Lastowski and all of the student performers. The Concert Chorale gave a beautiful performance at all of the school buildings today. Dr. Marino also provided an update on HW 2025. District staff met with K12 Insight to discuss the results of the Curriculum and Instruction Survey, which will be posted on the Website soon. The Alumni Survey is now live until mid-January. Graduates from 2015-2019 are invited to participate. Dr. Marino also provided an update on the Public and Private Schools Sub-Committee. The committee met on December 3 and brainstormed ideas to unify our community. There was a good turnout of non-public school principals and parents. The next meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2020, at which time the public relations plan will be shared with the group. Dr. Marino will resume his Superintendent Roundtables on January 16, 2020 at the Center for Adult Life Enrichment. Dr. Marino stated that the nine non-public schools in the District have been asked to submit information for the Happy New Year Newsletter.

- Dr. Secaur provided the Curriculum and Instruction Report. He recently attended the wonderful performance of "Mamma Mia" at Hewlett High School, Interview Day, the HHS and FECC Thanksgiving feasts, and the HES Expert Fair. He also recently attended the Microsoft Diversity Symposium in New York City. Dr. Secaur mentioned the beautiful chorale performance at WEC today. Dr. Secaur also provided an update on the following committees: the PTA Curriculum Committee recently met and received an update on ELA. The New Teacher Induction Program met and discussed classroom management. The Professional Development Team is already discussing plans for next year's Superintendent's Conference Day. Dr. Secaur also attended the NY-ASCD Winter Meeting where he is a Board Member. Dr. Secaur wished Happy Holidays to all.
- Mr. Frontario provided the Business Report. His office continues to work on the 2020-2021 budget and mentioned that a great deal of information is on the Website. He attended an E-Rate workshop, which provided an opportunity to review the portal and the required forms. He met with Mr. Ferro, the Director of the Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library, to discuss their PILOT funds. Mr. Frontario also attended Interview Day at HHS.
- The Special Education Report was given by Dr. Lo Verde. Dr. Lo Verde recently met with David Sills, a representative from the National Alliance on Mental Health. They discussed ways in which the organization can support the District with professional development. The Mental Health First Aid program will inform teachers and other non-mental health providers about ways to identify signs of mental illness. She attended a Building Bridges meeting with Dr. Secaur to discuss the benefit of a community coalition on substance abuse. Dr. Lo Verde attended the FECC Thanksgiving Feast, which was wonderful. SEPTA has been taking their meetings on the road visiting each school to generate interest in SEPTA.
- Dr. Fale provided the Human Resources Report. He recently attended several events in the buildings and commented on the high quality of the student performances. He also recently attended the 2019-2020 Nassau County Bar Association School Law Conference with Mr. Greebel. Two of the topics discussed include the changes to teacher certification requirements for special education teachers and the changes to vaccination requirements. He has met with all principals to discuss probationary staff and the granting of tenure.

- Mrs. Robyn Kelstein reported for the Central Council PTA. FECC: They sold out their "Franklin goes to Frozen" movie event! The event was a lot of fun and the kids had a great time. Both the book fair and holiday boutiques were a huge success! They are looking forward to celebrating the 50th anniversary of the puffball and hosting a New Year's celebration decked out with decorations and a DJ. HES: The students at HES enjoyed their visit from Nature Nick and the many different animals. Both the book fair and holiday toy drive were very successful. They are excited about the Winter Wonderland dance taking place during recess with a DJ and giveaways. OES: The fifth grade bake sale held during parent/teacher conferences was very successful. They also had a wonderful book fair and holiday boutique. There are many exciting events coming up in the new year including volleyball night and a mindfulness event for families. WMS: The sixth grade students had a wonderful time at Frost Valley and Long Island Adventure. The winter sports season has begun and music students have participated in festive winter concerts. HHS: The staff and student volleyball game was a great event and kickoff to the Thanksgiving weekend. The senior committee held a holiday shopping fundraiser and a portion of the proceeds are being donated to the Class of 2020. After discussions at the October PTA meeting, detention procedures have been revised to include communication with parents. Following the new year, the community is invited to attend the evening PTA meeting that will include a vaping presentation, and the Extreme Magic show at the end of January. SEPTA: A joint PTA meeting with Ogden was held. Meetings with each school principal are continuing to see how SEPTA can better support

each building. The HHS and WMS Lifeskills classes are gearing up for a trip to Applebees, courtesy of SEPTA. Mrs. Kelstein wished everyone a wonderful holiday recess.

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.
- Mrs. Simon reported on behalf of the Communications Committee. The committee met on December 4 and reviewed the final Realtor Brochure that has been sent to all realtors in the area to provide to clients. The committee is also working on the Happy New Year Newsletter. This year, the non-public schools located in District 14 have been invited to participate. The upcoming Pre-K registration promotion will include post cards and flyers. The School Community Relations department is researching a new video platform called Microsoft Stream.

Board Reports

- Mrs. Sheinin reported on the Five Towns Saving Lives Coalition. Recently, the coalition, along with the Rockville Centre Coalition, attended the hearing banning the sale of flavored juules. She also reported that the CVS in Hewlett now has a medication drop box.

- The consent agenda and policy #2120 School Board Elections were approved by the Board of Education.
- There was an opportunity for the public to be heard on non-agenda items. Ms. Rosenfeld expressed concerns regarding a security matter at HES. Mr. Greebel recommended that she schedule a meeting with Dr. Secaur.

- The meeting recessed to Executive Session at 8:50 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Wednesday, January 15, 2020, 7:30 PM Work Meeting, Woodmere Education Center
- Wednesday, January 22, 2020, 7:30 PM Tour of Facilities, George W. Hewlett High School
- Wednesday, January 22, 2020, 2019, 8:00 PM Board Meeting, George W. Hewlett High School
- Thursday, January 30, 2020, 7:00 PM, Budget Development Meeting, Woodmere Education Center

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

The December Construction Update can be found by clicking HERE.