Re-Cap!

June 13, 2018

Woodmere Education Center

A summary of the Board of Education Meeting

Board Members: Scott McInnes, *President*; Cheryl May, *Vice President*; Jonathan Altus, M.D., Melissa Gates, Mitchell A. Greebel, Daniella R. Simon, Stephen B. Witt

Regular Meeting



- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by WMS student, Christine Hogue.
- Mrs. Michele Hochhauser, P-12 Chairperson of English Language Arts, recognized the following students for their accomplishments in various writing contests.

Nassau Reading Council's Young Authors Contest

- Meryl Jean Baptiste (KGN)
- Evelyn Lamdan (KGN)
- Maxwell Montero (KGN)
- Clarissa Royer (5)



Long Island Language Arts Council Gambone Writing Contest

- Madelyn Joelle Anglade (4)
- Christine Hogue (7)
- Abigail Khaytman (7)

Freeport Arts Council Poetry Contest

- Alicia Hsu (9)
- Brianna Cabrera (9)
- Sasha Teplish (9)







- Mr. John Wimmer, P-12 Chairperson of Social Studies, recognized WMS student Anneliese Baum for her accomplishments in the National Geographic Bee.



- Mr. Wimmer also recognized WMS students who participated in the History Bee: Leeya Azemoun, Brian Chen, Peter Getsin, Alex Kesin, Arib Khan (not in attendance), Yaseen Maqsudi, Ibrahim Rasheed, John Sabu, and Ben Sherman.



- Mr. David Rifkind introduced students from the History Club. The students spoke about their experiences this year and their plans for the future. Two students will be traveling to Berlin, Germany for an international competition this summer.





- Mr. David Viegas, District Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics, recognized Matthew DeCicco, Nicholas Morgan, Isabella Vardaro, and Molly Williams (not present), who were named Outstanding Physical Education Students of the Year from the Nassau Zone of the New York State Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. The students exemplified and demonstrated an understanding of the NYS Learning Standards for Health and Physical Education.
- In addition, Mr. Viegas recognized the accomplishments of the following Spring athletes:
    - Boys Lacrosse (not present) - Max May, All County, Gavin Adler, All County, Alex Vardaro, All County and All American, Matt Weiss, All County Honorable Mention.
    - Boys Track & Field - David Durdaller, Division Champion and All County 3000m Steeplechase, David Goldhirsh, Division Champion and 4 x 800 relay, Jonah Yochai, Division and Nassau County Champion Pole Vault, Aiden Blumenstein, All Division and All County Pole Vault.
    - Girls Track & Field - Emma Blumenstein, County Champion 100M Hurdles
    - Girls Softball - Valarie Liao Green, All County
    - Girls Lacrosse - Margo Verschleiser, All County









- Mr. Viegas also recognized coaches Abby Samlin (Boys Tennis) and Stephen Honerkamp (Girls Track & Field) for being selected as Nassau County Coach of the Year, respectively. Mr. Honerkamp was also named Newsday Long Island Coach of the Year.
- Dr. Marino recognized Board of Education members Jonathan Altus and Stephen B. Witt, who are retiring as of June 30, 2018. Dr. Marino introduced B.A. Schoen, NYSSBA Area 11 Director, who congratulated the Board Members and thanked them for their years of service. Mr. Adam Altus spoke on behalf of his father, and recent HHS graduate Mr. Zachary Bromfeld spoke fondly about Mr. Witt.









- Dr. Marino recognized Mrs. Barbara McNiff, who is retiring as the Executive Director of Human Resources on June 30, 2018. He thanked Mrs. McNiff for her 39 years of dedicated service to the students, parents, staff, and community of Hewlett-Woodmere.



Administrator Reports

- Superintendent's Report was given by Dr. Ralph Marino. Recent events attended include Field Day and Volunteer Breakfast at FECC; the Grand-Friend Biography project, Prosthetic Hand Project, and Victory Games for the Physically Challenged at HES; the Field Day Luau and Staff Recognition Luncheon at OES; the WMS Literacy Lab on cell phone policy and the 8th grade performance at Citi Field; the government class interdisciplinary presentation, Sports Night, YLF year-end meeting, and Life Skills Plant Sale at HHS. Dr. Marino completed his final round of staff chats at FECC, HES, WMS, and WEC, and his final bus run to HES. He also recently attended concerts by students from HES, OES, WMS, and HHS, and the National, Thespian, and Tri-M honor society inductions. Dr. Marino provided an update on the HW 2025 initiative. The District's Strategic Plan will be presented to the Board of Education at the June 27 meeting. Graduation ceremonies for all schools will be held next week.
- Dr. Secaur provided the Curriculum Report. His office is in the process of concluding their end of year activities and he is looking forward to next week's graduation ceremonies at all schools. Dr. Secaur reported that teachers and teacher assistants are currently signing up for Superintendent's Conference Day that will be held at the end of August. In total, there are 71 workshops to choose from and 35 of those involve instructional technology. Dr. Secaur was recently elected to the NYASCD Board of Directors. He will be assisting in the planning the state conference. He plans to devote time this summer to analyzing student achievement data.
- Mr. Louis Frontario provided the Business Department Report. The business office is currently wrapping up this year's financial reports. The Audit Committee met with the new claims auditor, Cerini and Associates. Their appointment will be effective July 1, 2018. The District's internal auditor is planning work for the 18-19 school year.
- Mrs. Barbara McNiff provided an update from Human Resources. She is finalizing the hiring of the Assistant Principal for Hewlett Elementary School. The appointment of the Interim Executive Director of Human Resources is recommended for approval this evening. There have been a few last minute retirees, but she does not anticipate the need for much hiring over the summer.
- Dr. Debra Lo Verde provided a report from Special Education. She recently attended a Transition Fair with Lynbrook. The keynote speaker was from BOCES, who spoke about life after high school. She also recently attended the Friendship Games, a local event involving neighboring school districts, and the Victory Games, which included students from all over Nassau County. Both events provided a wonderful time and a great environment for the students.
- Student Advisory Council President Ian Acriche introduced the new Executive Board for 2018-2019. HHS recently held a blood drive, where 40 pints of blood were collected. Sports Night was great fun, and the juniors won.
- PTA council co-presidents Mrs. Debi Sheinin and Mrs. Susette Preziosi offered their congratulations to Dr. Altus, Mr. Witt, and Mrs. McNiff. The PTA is wrapping up the school year. All new officers are in place for next year. The PTA thanks the Board and administration for their support.

Board Member 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. Gates reported on behalf of the Communications Committee. The committee recently met, reviewed a number of items with Mrs. Giese, and thanked her for her very hard work and efforts.

Board Member Reports

- Mrs. Gates attended a symposium about Future of Education, 2030.

Action Taken by Board of Education

- The BOE approved the minutes of the Special Meeting on May 15, the Regular meeting on May 16, and the Special meeting on May 22, 2018. All minutes are available on the District website.

- The BOE approved the Consent Agenda, with the exception of item I. 1.12 Resolution to suspend provisions of District Policies. This item is being removed for consideration from the agenda.

- The BOE approved eight policies which were up for approval, 12 policies which were approved for abolishment, and five annual review policies.

- The BOE adjourned to Executive Session at 9:40 PM.

Opportunity for the Public to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items

- Mr. Francois Tenenbaum asked the following questions of the Board of Education:

  1. Can the Board of Education consider a motion to prohibit altering the District calendar for non-secular reasons (i.e. holidays). Mr. McInnes explained that the District calendar is created each year and individuals have the right to request holidays. The law already prohibits the addition of days off for non-secular reasons.

  2. Can the Board of Education consider reaching out to the families living in the District who do not utilize the public schools for the purposes of stimulating Pre-K enrollment. Mr. McInnes explained that the District already communicates with all families in the District.

  3. Can the District establish a recycling policy and provide paper recycling bins District-wide. Mr. McInnes referred Mr. Tenenbaum to Mrs. Parahus for information.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

June 27, 2018, 4:45 PM: Public Hearing on the Code of Conduct Policy. 5:00 PM: Work Meeting for Organization and Regular Meeting, WEC

July 12, 2018, 5:00 PM: Organization and Regular Meeting, WEC

NOTE:

All agendas and supporting documentation for the June 13, 2018 meeting can be found by clicking HERE!