



Re-Cap!

A summary of the Board of Education Meeting

Board Members: Debra Sheinin, President; Cheryl May, Vice President; Judy Menashe, Francois Tenenbaum, Shari L. Amitrano, Jonathan D. Altus, Chana Jeter

December 20, 2023

Prior to the meeting, the Board of Education conducted their annual Tour of Facility of George W. Hewlett High School, led by Director of School Facilities and Operations, Ms. Kim Parahus.

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by HHS Student Council officers, Melanie Shvartsberg and Julia Zorluoglu.

Dr. Greenberg welcomed the Board of Education and members of the community to the high school. She thanked all in attendance and extended warm wishes for happy holidays and a happy new year.

The HHS String Quartet, under the direction of Mr. Pasqua, performed the National Anthem.



Dr. Fund, Director of Art and Music, invited art teachers Mr. Alli, Ms. Csorba, and Ms. Cunningham, to recognize art students who participated in the New York State School Boards Association Art Exhibit and Long Island Art Guild.

New York State School Boards Association Participants: Daniel Polikar, Raphael Levi, Daniel Nolasco, Winston Lin, Sarah Oliveros, Shia Buie, Jessica Gavrielov, Becky Feygin, Olivia Ziarno.

Art Guild Participants: Becky Feygin, Damaris Villatoro Rodas, Charles Zeledon Mendoza, Olivia Ziarno.



Dr. Fund invited HHS music students to the podium to be recognized for their participation in NYSSMA All-State, NMEA All-County, the Long Island String Festival Association, and American Choral Directors Association Competition.



All-State participants: Ariel River, Barbara Hogue, Daniel Nidetch, Leila Emmanuel, Lucas Giordano, Nicole Kuznetsov.

All-County participants: Althea Abique, Corey Adomako, Tyler Belleau, Max Fried, Alexa LaPaglia, Claudia Lee, Orya Nahoom, Shaan Patni, Samuel Sava, Sophia Sepe, Victoria Son, Ari Vanunu, Samantha Wright, Shane Zamidar, Victoria Brodsky, Conor Corless,

Genesis Cortez, Skai Bleu Easterling, Leila Emmanuel, Barbara Hogue, Aaron Isakov, Nicole Kuznetsov, Sienna LaPaglia, Krista Lee, Frank Minerva, Isabela Nolasco, Francesco Tarantino, Nathalie Vargas, Rachel Chen, Dawn Davidson, Nicholas Gaffoor, Lucas Giordano, Suzanne Hogue, Daniel Nidetch, and Ariel River.





LISFA participants: Lucas Giordano, Krista Lee, Victoria Son, and Shaan Patni.



American Choral Directors Association participants: Syd Osder, Yvette Borohov, Leila Emmanuel, Anne-Daniele Narcisse, Genesis Cortez, and Barbara Hogue.

Dr. Greenberg recognized the following HHS students who achieved success in the American Mathematics 10 and American Mathematics 12 Competition: Carlisle Tomas, Sean Zamidar, Ariel Vilensky, Joseph Kogan, Shane Zamidar, Alexandre Tourneux, Ryan Bernstein, Aleksy Fradlis, Ryan Hung, Mark Kleban.

Mr. Virgilio, Chairperson, Business Education, and Mr. Pitelli, Stock Market Club Advisor, recognized Joshua Sepe, HHS junior who won the Fall 2023 New York State Stock Market Game.



Board President, Mrs. Sheinin, congratulated all the student award winners and thanked everyone in attendance. Mrs. Sheinin wished happy and safe holidays to all.

Dr. Marino provided the Superintendent's Report. He congratulated all the student award winners and wished happy holidays to all. He attended many special building events including the Expert Fair at HES, the Holiday Lights festival at OES, and a session of the Combat Hate presentation at WMS. Dr. Marino held staff chats at FECC, HES, and WMS. Winter concerts are underway and the chorale performed holiday tunes for all of WEC. The 125th Anniversary Committee is awaiting a proposal from a carnival company for Arts Below Sunrise on May 19, 2024. David Friedman of HWBA is coordinating the effort with the carnival company. The third budget development session took place on December 13. Dr. Marino reiterated that all budget presentations can be found online on the budget section of the website. Dr. Marino provided an update on HW 2025. A planning meeting was held with K12 Insight on December 13. The State of the District Survey will launch for staff, students, parents and guardians on January 5. The Senior Exit Survey will launch in May for students and parents. A Superintendent's Roundtable took place on November 28 at Woodmere Fire Department and the next one is scheduled for January 11 at the Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library.

Melanie Shvartsberg and Julia Zorluoglu reported on behalf of the Student Advisory Council. They reported on the holiday toy drive, where they collected new, unwrapped toys to be donated to SIBS Place. The week of December 18 was Holiday Spirit Week at the high school. Planning is underway for the Battle of the Classes, which will take place in March 2024.

Ms. Bachar reported on behalf of the District's Employee Organization. Ms. Bachar congratulated all students and their families and wished everyone happy holidays and a happy new year.

Mrs. Michelle Morgan provided a report on behalf of the Central Council PTA. The Central Council Newsletter from December can be found [HERE](#).

BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Menashe reported on behalf of the Special Education Committee who recommended for approval the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education.

Mrs. Jeter reported on behalf of the Communications Committee. The committee met on December 7 and discussed the very exciting pilot program of Open Houses in January. In addition, the committee discussed upcoming surveys, and the District website.

Mrs. Jeter reported on her attendance at the Nassau BOCES Budget Review Orientation meeting for the 2024-2025 school year which took place on December 14.

Dr. Altus reported on behalf of the Extracurricular Activities, Co-Curricular Activities, and Interscholastic Athletic Committee. The committee met on November 28 and discussed the implementation of middle school basketball and volleyball. Dr. Altus thanked the Board, the administration, and the Athletic department for making this happen. The committee also discussed athletic uniforms and ensuring that we have appropriate sizes for all athletes. The soccer fields at HES and OES were another topic of discussion.

Mrs. Amitrano reported on behalf of the Curriculum and Technology committee. The committee met on November 17 and discussed the work that the leadership team is doing, including newsletters, TILT updates, and art and music updates. Also discussed was adding world language at the elementary school level and adding an additional language, Hebrew, at the middle school level.

Mrs. May reported on behalf of the Policy committee. The committee has met several times and has many policies currently under review.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. Tenenbaum attended the Christmas Tree lighting and the lighting of the new Menorah at Hewlett Veterans Memorial Plaza.

Mr. Tenenbaum and Mrs. Jeter attended the DHL Operation Holiday Cheer/Trees for Troops event on December 4. Students from Hewlett Elementary School assist in loading trees and holiday trimmings to troops overseas.

Mr. Tenenbaum attended a session of Combat Hate at WMS. While it was informative to remind students about the impact of their digital footprint, the presentation was a disappointment and did not address antisemitism, which was the original purpose of the presentation.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD (AGENDA ITEMS)

There were no public comments on agenda items.

ROUTINE RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

The minutes were accepted from the Regular BOE Meeting on November 15, 2023.

The Consent Agenda was approved, excluding items 8.3 Transfer of Appropriation and 9.3 Resolution: Final Exam and Regents Weighting for 2023-2024 school year. These items were voted on separately.

Item 8.3 Transfers of Appropriation - Mr. Tenenbaum wanted to be sure that we have obtained the best price for the best quality tracksuits. Mrs. Sheinin indicated that Mr. Viegas has assured the Board that the tracksuits are high quality and reasonably priced. Item was unanimously approved.

Item 9.3 Resolution: Final Exam and Regents Exam Weighting for 2023-2024 school year. Dr. Altus wants to ensure that students are not being penalized, but rather, should be rewarded for doing well on final exams. A discussion followed between members of the Board of Education. Item was approved by a vote of 5 - 2.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

There were no public comments on non-agenda items.

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:30 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Wednesday, January 10, 6:30 PM, Budget Meeting, Woodmere Education Center

Wednesday, January 10, 7:00 PM, Work Meeting, Woodmere Education Center

Wednesday, January 17, 7:00 PM, Tour of Facility, Hewlett Elementary School

Wednesday, January 17, 7:30 PM, Regular Meeting, Hewlett Elementary School

NOTE: Click [HERE](#) for the agenda and supporting documentation for the December 20 Regular Meeting.