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

May 8, 2024

Public Hearing

Mrs. May served as Acting President. She led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Public Hearing began at 6:30 PM. Mrs. Donnelly presented on the scope of work related to the Facilities Repair Reserve. There were no questions. The presentation can be found HERE.

Annual Budget Hearing

The Annual Budget Hearing began at 6:45 PM. Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the three components of the proposed 2024-2025 budget. The board extended thanks to Mrs. Donnelly and her staff for a great job this budget season.

Work Meeting

The work meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Mrs. May read the Meeting Protocol aloud.

Reports and Presentations

Mrs. Michele Hochhauser, P-12 Chairperson of English Language Arts, presented the ELA and Reading Update. Mrs. Hochhauser highlighted the New York State Next Generation ELA Learning Standards and Tri-State P-5 Literacy Review for all buildings. The Board extended thanks to Mrs. Hochhauser for her thorough presentation. Members of the Board brought up Artificial Intelligence (AI). A question was raised about the number of reading teachers who are certified in Wilson. There is a lot of excitement surrounding the writing lab starting at WMS next year. The presentation can be found here.

Dr. Andrew Fund, P-12 Chairperson of Art and Music, presented an Art, Woodshop, and Music Curriculum update. Mrs. May and other Board members thanked Dr. Fund for the wonderful job he does and for his entertaining presentation. Dr. Fund thanked the Board for their continued support. The presentation can be found here.

Mrs. May shared the news that Alex Vardaro, ‘20, was drafted by the Boston Cannons in the second round of the Professional Lacrosse League draft.

Financial Resolutions

A SEQRA resolution for summer project work will be added to the May 15 agenda for approval.

Financial Reports

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the following reports: Treasurer’s Report, Budget Status, Revenue Status, and Preliminary Fund Balance.

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the following Financial Actions: Warrants, Schedule of Contracts including renewals for the upcoming school year and transportation contracts, Schedule of Bids, Established Scholarship Renewals, Requests to Amend Scholarship Awards, and Budget Timeline for the 2025-26 budget. The Board requested that the budget process begin in November instead of October and then move to January. The schedule will be amended for approval on the May 15 agenda.

Curriculum and Miscellaneous Actions

Dr. Marino reviewed the following miscellaneous items: Professional Development Plan, Conference and Travel Schedule, and the NYSSBA Resolution Kit 2024. The Board discussed resubmitting two proposed Resolutions from the 2023 school year. In addition, they will consider submitting a new Resolution. This will be revisited at the June 5 Work Meeting.

Dr. Marino reviewed the following policies:

> Policy #2210, Annual Organizational Meeting, Policy #4526.1, Internet Safety, and Policy #5695, Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices, are under Initial Review.
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> Policy #5100, Attendance, Policy #5300, Code of Conduct, and Policy #6240, Investments, are up for Annual Review.

Board members discussed the ability to translate certain phrases in Policy #4526.1 to other languages. There were also discussions about students with a chronic illness in reference to Policy #5100, building level coordinators in reference to Policy #5300, and adding to “II. Objectives” in reference to Policy #6240. Policy #6240 will go back to the Policy committee for review.

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

M. Morgan, Valley Stream, spoke about e-bikes on school property.

Mrs. Sheinin thanked Mrs. May for running very efficient meetings this evening.

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:55 PM.

Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, May 15, 7:30 PM, Regular Meeting, Woodmere Education Center

Thursday, May 16, 11:00 AM, Budget Q&A, Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library

Tuesday, May 21, 7:00 AM - 10:00 PM, Budget Vote and School Board Elections, Woodmere Education Center

NOTE: Click HERE for the agenda and supporting documentation for the May 8 Public Hearing, Annual Budget Hearing, and Work Meeting.