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

June 5, 2024

Public Hearing

Sam Fadlis, WMS student and jazz band member, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Public Hearing began at 6:15 PM. Dr. Marino presented the Code of Conduct policy. The policy is scheduled for approval at the Regular Meeting on June 12.

Work Meeting

The work meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Mrs. Sheinin thanked the WMS Jazz Band for the lively entertainment they provided during the Employee Recognition Ceremony. She congratulated the District employees who were honored for their years of service.

Reports and Presentations

Ms. Laura Peterson, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Student Support Services, presented a Social Emotional Learning update. The presentation can be found HERE. The District has completed year one of the Second Step implementation. Ms. Peterson shared a status update on the program, including thoughts and recommendations from teachers. She also shared that the high school students will be participating in the Sources of Strength program. Mrs. Sheinin thanked Ms. Peterson for her presentation.

Dr. Ralph Marino, Jr., Superintendent of Schools, presented an End-of-Year Review of Data Points for District Goals. The presentation can be found HERE. Last June, data points were established to measure the District goals. This presentation provided an update to the January data points. Dr. Marino responded to several Board Member questions regarding the presentation. Mrs. Sheinin thanked Dr. Marino for his very informative presentation.

Financial Resolutions

Mrs. Donnelly reported on the following Resolutions for approval on June 12:

- Actions Related to District Reserve Accounts
- Authorizing the Discretionary Reserve Accounts and the Voter Authorized Reserve Account

Financial Reports

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the following reports: Budget Status, Revenue Status, Extraclassroom, Use of Cellular Phones & Electronic Equipment, Warrants & Summary of Findings of the Claims Auditor, Treasurer's Report, and Preliminary Fund Balance Report.

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the following Financial Actions: Schedule of Contracts, Schedule of Bids/RFP, Non-Resident Tuition Rates, and Applications for Club Charters. The Schedule of Bids will include a recent bid opening for Science Labs. Our architect and construction manager will review the documents and provide an analysis. A Board Member asked a question about glatt kosher options on the food bids. Mrs. Donnelly will check with Michelle Rosenthal about possible kosher vendors.

Mrs. Donnelly reviewed the two proposals received for District insurance. An independent insurance consultant reviewed the two proposals and NYSIR was the only proposal that provides coverage for all of the lines of insurance requested in the RFP. The recommendation is to continue to use NYSIR as the District's insurance provider. Members of the Board asked questions about Utica National, and if a meeting could be scheduled with both vendors to allow Board Members an opportunity to ask questions. Mrs. Donnelly will make a note for her successor to work on the Board's request.

Curriculum and Miscellaneous Actions

Dr. Marino reviewed the Schedule of Conference and Travel and the Schedule of Field Trips.

Dr. Marino shared that the 2024-2025 District Wide Safety Plan is scheduled for approval on June 12.

The Resolution to accept the final results of the May 21 ballot, including absentee, early mail, and write-in votes, was reviewed and scheduled for approval on June 12.

The Board of Education reviewed the NYSSBA Proposed Resolutions. They will submit three resolutions for consideration:

- Opposition to Local Zoning Ordinances
- Elimination of Regents Exams
- Amendment to current Civil Service System

Ms. Peterson reviewed the proposed changes to the Special Education Department, which includes adding two Assistant Directors of Special Education. The Board discussed the possibility of adding one position now and evaluating the addition of a second one in the fall when the 2025-26 budget process begins.

Dr. Marino reviewed the following policies, which are recommended for approval on June 12:

Policy #2210: Annual Organizational Meeting
Policy #4526.1: Internet Safety
Policy #5100: Attendance
Policy #5300: Code of Conduct
Policy #5695: Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices
Policy #6420: Online Banking Services

Policy #5152, Admission of Non-Resident Students, and Policy #6240, Investment Policy, are under Initial Review. Policy #4710, Grading Systems, will now be sent to the Policy Feedback Committee.

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

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

Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, June 12, 7:30 PM, Regular Meeting, Woodmere Education Center

Wednesday, June 26, 5:00 PM, Work Meeting, Woodmere Education Center

Monday, July 1, 5:00 PM, Organization and Regular Meeting, Woodmere Education Center

NOTE: Click HERE for the agenda and supporting documentation for the June 5 Public Hearing and Work Meeting.