



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 12, 2024

REGULAR MEETING

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

Mrs. Sheinin introduced HHS Student Council representative, Francesca Castro, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Hochauer, P-12 English Language Arts Chairperson, presented awards to student winners of the Nassau Reading Council Young Authors Contest, LILAC Gambone Writing Contest, school spelling bees, and an Outstanding Achievement Award on behalf of National Junior Honor Society.



- **Nassau Reading Council Young Authors Contest:** Kaylee Kung (FECC), Mallory Johnson (FECC), Aishvariia Velijjeva (HES), Ellie Sapir (WMS)
- **LILAC Gambone Writing Contest:** Kyle Legaspi (OES), Ziggy Martine (HES)
- **Spelling Bee Winners:** OES - Jacob Turjman, Mya Murell; HES - James Wong, Matthew Gonzales Zumba; WMS - Jacqueline Hsi, Tevel Bober Tsafrir
- **NJHS Outstanding Achievement:** Libby Baigel (WMS)





Dr. Yi, P-12 Social Studies Chairperson, presented awards to Woodmere Middle School students.

- **National History Bee Participants:** Steve Zamidar, Jacob Gendlin, Josh Racer, Jack Reich, Leo Chen, Ben Lamdan, Deep Aryal
- **History Day Award winners:** Sophia Yakubov, Sophie Tsogline



Dr. Greenberg, HHS Principal, introduced Dr. Terry, P-12 Science Chairperson, who introduced Dr. Bissoondial, to present awards to Hewlett High School Science students.

- **New York State Science Congress finalists:** Benjamin Zelikoff, Deniz Artan, Darsh Chavre

Dr. Yi, P-12 Social Studies Chairperson, returned to the podium to recognize Hewlett High School students.



- **Student Building Bridges Award:** Gabrielle Liechtung, Ryan Weinman, Daniel Tkach
- **Seal of Civic Readiness Recipients:** Sahara Ahmad, Jessamine Duverne, Bianca Gulotta, Jonathan Jeter, Simon Kupchik, Lola Scroppo, Daniel Tkach, Ryan Weinman



Dr. Montellese, P-12 Chairperson of World Language and ENL, presented medals and certificates to the Seal of Biliteracy recipients.

Seal of Biliteracy Recipients: Christian Gomes-Lopez, Daniel Tkach, Fatima Hernandez Torrez, Genesis Cortez, Giovanni Castro, Isabella Olieveros, Jenna Bogdanov, Lieth Demis, Mia Partesano, Nyla Gershfeld, Queenie Chen, and Ryan Hung.





Mr. Virgilio, Business Department Chairperson, and Mr. Pitelli, Stock Market Club advisor, recognized Joshua Sepe for winning the Stock Market Game for the third consecutive time.

Dr. Greenberg introduced Ms. Torrenson to recognize members of Team Bionica of the high school Robotics club who qualified for the World Championships.

FIRST Tech Challenge World Championship

Qualifiers: Sidrah Ashrafi, Rachel Chen, Natalie Zellner, Nicole Kuznetsov, Ella Findling, Emily Smukler, Mila Profiloski, Deniz Artan, Valeria Paez

Martinez, Aviv Paz, Maree Drayling, Joanna Chen, Moyosore Dixon, Isabela Nolasco, Aarya Raina, and Farah Shih.

Dr. Marino recognized members of the Board of Education who received awards from the New York State School Board Excellence Recognition Program.

- **Level 3 Board Mastery Award:** Mr. Francois Tenenbaum
- **Level 2 Lifetime Achievement Award:** Mrs. Chana Jeter and Mrs. Shari Amitrano
- **Level 4 Lifetime Achievement Award:** Mrs. Judy Menashe



Mrs. Cheryl May, BOE Vice President, and Dr. Ralph Marino, recognized retiring Board Member, Dr. Jonathan D. Altus, for his combined nine years of service to the students and community of Hewlett-Woodmere Public Schools.



Mrs. Sheinin thanked and congratulated Dr. Altus. She also congratulated all the student award winners and their dedicated teachers.

Dr. Marino provided the Superintendent's Report. He extended congratulations to the many student award winners. Dr. Marino attended all the wonderful spring concerts and honor society inductions, as well as the Community Recognition Awards and Athletic Awards. Dr. Marino thanked all of the District staff members for preparing for the end of the school year. An update on the capital project work can be found [HERE](#) in the Summer 2024 Construction Update. Dr. Marino congratulated Mrs. Donnelly and Ms. Peterson, both of whom are leaving the District to pursue other opportunities. He thanked them for their hard work over the past four years. He also welcomed and congratulated Mrs. Nicola Lynch, incoming Principal of Ogden Elementary School. The Senior Exit Survey launched in early May and Dr. Marino looks forward to receiving and interpreting the data. The next Superintendent's Roundtable is scheduled for June 17 at the Hewlett Fire Department.

Mrs. Sheinin reiterated Dr. Marino's thanks to Mrs. Donnelly and Ms. Peterson for their service to the District throughout the past four years. She wished them well in their future endeavors. Mrs. Sheinin also welcomed the new Ogden Elementary School Principal, Mrs. Lynch.

Francesca Castro provided a report on behalf of the Student Advisory Council. She spoke about several successful events that took place at the high school this year, including the Pep Rally, Battle of the Classes, and two blood drives. She thanked the high school administration for their collaboration and communication. The Student Council is looking forward to next school year!

Mr. Stark, President of HWFA, congratulated the student award winners. He also thanked Dr. Altus for his time serving on the Board and for his love of the community.

Mrs. Sheinin thanked Mr. Stark for his many years of teaching service and congratulated him on his upcoming retirement.

Mrs. Michelle Morgan and Mrs. Bonnie Kurtz provided a report on behalf of the Central Council PTA. The Central Council Newsletter from June 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.

Dr. Altus reported on behalf of the Extra-Curricular Activities, Co-Curricular Activities, and Interscholastic Athletics Committee. The committee met on June 3 and discussed several important topics including the timing of the turf installation at HHS, the soccer field, the gym floor, return of uniforms, and warm up suits.

Mr. Tenenbaum reported on behalf of the Public and Private Schools Council. The Council met on May 28 at Stella K. Abraham High School for Girls. The meeting included a tour of their facilities.

Mrs. Amitrano reported on behalf of the Curriculum, Assessment, and Technology Committee. The committee met on May 29 and discussed overnight field trips and reviewed the excellent work being done by the P-12 department chairs. The committee looks forward to working with Dr. Anzalone, the new Assistant Superintendent for Teaching, Learning, and Technology.

Mrs. May reported on behalf of the Policy Committee. The Policy Committee is very busy at this time of year. There are six policies on the current agenda for approval.

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 Board Meeting on May 15, 2024.

The Consent Agenda was approved, with the exception of items #9.5 and #9.6, which were voted on separately.

- **Item #9.5, NYSSBA Proposed Resolutions:** Local Zoning Ordinances, Amendment to Current Civil Service System, and Elimination of Regents Exam testing at Hewlett High School. There was no discussion on the first two resolutions, but the Board members further discussed the resolution proposing to eliminate Regents Exams Testing at the high school. This item was approved.
- **Item #9.6, NYSED Board of Regents Mixed Competition Proposal Letter.** The Board members further discussed the proposed letter, some citing the lack of specificity. This item was approved.

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

Ella Newman and Ava Morgan spoke about AP Physics.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

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 12 Regular Meeting.