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,
Chana Jeter, Meredith King

December 18, 2024

Prior to the meeting, the Board of Education conducted a tour of Woodmere Middle School, led by Mrs. Kim Parahus.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ATHLETIC REPAIR RESERVE USE FOR 2024-2025

Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Personnel, Mr. Charles Carollo, presented information relating to repairs to the Woodmere Middle School Athletic Field. Click here for the presentation. The Resolution authorizing the expenditure was scheduled for approval later in the evening.



REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Mrs. Debra Sheinin. Mr. John Andruszkiewicz, Principal, Woodmere Middle School, introduced 8th grade student Natalie Hesney, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.



The WMS Jazz Band, under the direction of music teacher Mr. Jonathan Holford, performed the Star Spangled Banner and several other tunes. The band members included: Luke Adomako, Abby Atias, Alex Baum, Elisabeth Brailovsky, Asiel Casteneda Duarte, Guieseppe Castro, Ella-Marie Cayo, Grayson Chen, Ethan Fain, Sam Fradlis, Romy Fruman, Jesse Garzona-Figueroa, Matt Ginzburg, Jacob Goldberg, Ethan Goren, David Hanono, Krysten Joosten, Jacob Katsman, Jayden Kong, Aviva Kravets, Andrew Levin, Kanstansin Malafeyeu, Mikel Myaskovsky, Nicholas Nieves, Matilde Rivera-Gonzalez, Ellie Sapir, Dylan Singh-Dorsey, Matthew Yefremashvili, and Eoin Zamorano.



Mr. Andruszkiewicz welcomed the members of the Board of Education to the building. He spoke about the excitement in Woodmere Middle School this year, and highlighted several building events. WMS is looking forward to a great year ahead in 2025. The Board of Education was presented with gifts hand made by WMS technology students. Technology teacher Douglas LaChance spoke of the process involved in creating the cutting boards. Mr. Andruszkiewicz thanked the members of the Board of Education and the administration for their ongoing support of all HWPS students and wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday season.



Awards and Recognition

Dr. Andrew Fund, Director of Art and Music, recognized art and music students for their achievements in All County, Long Island String Festival (LISF), and New York State School Boards Association Conference (NYSSBA):



All-County: Alexander Baum, Gorran Chen, Samuel Fradlis, Romy Fruman, Matthew Ginzburg, Jacob Goldberg, Jayden Kong, Michael Konny, Annika Koroveshi, Samuel Racer, Daman Rameshwar,

Dylan Singh-Dorsey, Kira Warshawski, Elexis Weisner, Matthew Yefremashvili, Jordan Yodowitz, and Sean Zamorano.
LISFA: Michael Konny, Samuel Racer and Dylan Singh-Dorsey
Art teachers Deirdre Chambers and Linda Mizel recognized these students for their artwork:
NYSSBA: Xiana Herranz-Longa, Leyah Jordan, Leah Mokretsov and Elinor Zaurov

Board President, Mrs. Sheinin, congratulated Mrs. Kim Parahus on her upcoming retirement from the position of Director of School Facilities and Operations after 12 years of dedicated service. Mrs. Parahus' expertise includes construction projects and school safety and security. The entire Board wished Mrs. Parahus well in her future endeavors. Mrs. Sheinin thanked WMS Principal Mr. Andruszkiewicz and all the students from WMS for the warm welcome and the wonderful performances. Happy Holidays were wished to all from the entire Board of Education.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Marino thanked the Woodmere Middle School staff for the warm welcome and for the wonderful gifts. He acknowledged all the students recognized during the meeting. Dr. Marino congratulated Mrs. Parahus and thanked her for more than 40 years of service in the industry. He noted the many construction projects and upgrades that have been completed during her 12 years at HWPS.

Dr. Marino attended many wonderful events in our school buildings, including the Thanksgiving feast, the winter concerts, Franklin's famous Puffball celebration, Hewlett Elementary's participation in Trees for Troops, Ogden Elementary's Festival of Lights, Career Day at WMS, and Alumni Return Day at Hewlett High School. Earlier in the day, the HHS Concert Chorale performed at WEC, the District schools, and throughout the community.

Dr. Marino reminded the community of the next budget presentation on Wednesday, January 8, at 6:30 PM. The next Superintendent's Roundtable is Thursday, January 16, at Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library. The WMS 9-period day is on schedule for implementation in September 2025.

Dr. Marino provided a construction update, which included the WMS athletic field renovation, the HHS science lab renovation, and the HHS auditorium renovation and roof replacement.

HW 2025 focus groups met earlier in the month to discuss communications, the community, and experiences related to District/school perceptions.

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT

Ariana Ciampone, Senior Class Secretary, reported on the amazing happenings in the high school. The toy drive was very successful with more than 100 toys collected for SIBS Place. Battle of the Classes will be held on February 28. More information will be shared in the coming weeks. There are many more fantastic events to



come in 2025. Ariana thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity to speak at the meeting.

EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS REPORT

Ms. Joann Brown, president of HWFA, thanked the WMS administration for hosting the meeting and congratulated Dr. Fund and Mr. Holford and all the talented students. HWFA wished a happy holiday season to all.



PTA REPORT

Central Council PTA Co-President Sarit Kritzman reported on all the wonderful events happening in our school buildings (link below). Central Council PTA wished a happy holiday season to all.



BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Special Education Committee**: Mrs. Jeter 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.
- **Policy Committee**: Mrs. May reported on behalf of the Policy Committee who recommends for approval Policy #4321.12, Use of Timeout and Physical Restraint.
- **Capital Improvement Committee**: Mr. Tenenbaum reported on behalf of the Capital Improvement Committee which met on 11/22 and 12/16 to review the FECC kitchen project, the HS concession stand and new tennis courts project, as well as to finalize the lab's furniture section (i.e. color & finishes).
- **Legislative Committee**: Mr. Tenenbaum reported on behalf of the Legislative committee who met with Assemblywoman-elect Griffin on 12/2 and State Senator Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick on 12/13 to discuss the Regionalization plan, Foundation Aid,

antisemitism, and the electric school bus mandate. Also discussed was the unique situation of HWPS, which has close to 3,000 children enrolled in our buildings, but provides transportation and other services to nearly twice as many children in the community, which must be accounted for when calculating state aid. They inquired about historical preservation grants to help the District maintain architecturally significant landmark buildings.

- **Curriculum, Assessment, and Technology Committee**: Mrs. King reported on behalf of the Curriculum, Assessment, and Technology committee. The committee met on December 5 and discussed security and education of students on Bloomberg Terminals, NWEA and how it is used for our teachers in the classroom, and participation in the math fair for high school students.
- **Activities and Athletics Committee**: Mrs. King reported on behalf of the Extra-Curricular, Co-Curricular, and Interscholastic Athletics committee. The committee met on December 11 and discussed draining issues during heavy rainfall at the middle school, and anticipated signage at all school buildings to include property rules and guidelines as well as a security phone number.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD (AGENDA ITEMS)

There were no public comments on agenda items.

ROUTINE ACTIONS

Acceptance of minutes of the regular Board of Education meeting dated November 20, 2024.

Routine Recommended Actions: Consent agenda approved, including items E.2 through I.4. Agenda item I.5, BOE Letter on Foundation Aid, was moved to the January 8 work meeting for discussion.

Policies approved:

4321.12, Use of Timeout and Physical Restraints

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

There were no public comments on non-agenda items.
The meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 8:10 PM.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Wednesday, January 8, 2025, Woodmere Education Center:
Budget Session at 6:30 PM
Work Meeting at 7:00 PM

Wednesday, January 15 2025, Hewlett High School:
Tour of Facility, 7:00 PM
Regular Meeting, 7:30 PM

NOTE:

Click HERE for the agenda and supporting documentation for the December 18 regular meeting.

Click HERE for the Central Council PTA Newsletter.