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

May 7, 2025

Special Meeting

At 6:30 PM, Board of Education Vice-President, Mrs. Cheryl May called the special meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following agenda items were approved:

1. Resolution and Agreement dated 4/24/2025 between the Philadelphia Indemnity Insurance Company and Hewlett-Woodmere Public Schools.
2. Consultant Services Contract dated 5/7/2025 between Kidz Educational Services and Hewlett-Woodmere Public Schools.
3. Personnel Action Report appointing the Interim Director of School Facilities and Operations, effective May 6, 2025.

Annual Budget Hearing

At 6:45 PM, Mr. Charles Carollo, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Personnel, shared a presentation at the Annual Budget Hearing. See the end of this re-cap for a link to the presentation. Mr. Carollo reminded the Board and the audience of the budget timeline, which began in November 2024. He spoke about the items on the ballot, the proposed budget amount, and proposition 2 and 3. The school budget vote is Tuesday, May 20, from 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM at Woodmere Education Center.

Public Hearing: District-Wide School Safety Plan

Dr. Marino presented the plan, which will be posted to the District website for 30 days to allow for public commentary. View the plan here. The plan is scheduled for approval on Wednesday, June 11.

Work Meeting - Reports, Presentations, and Agenda Items

Links to all presentations are at the end of this re-cap.

1. **Mathematics Update:** Ms. Kimberly Thompson, P-12 Math Chairperson, provided the

Board of Education with a comprehensive update on the District's mathematics program. Her presentation included an overview of the New York State Next Generation Learning Standards, the double acceleration pathway and high school course offerings, building-level updates, student participation in math competitions, District-wide math celebrations and resources, and ongoing communication efforts related to mathematics. The Board thanked Ms. Thompson for her informative presentation. During the discussion, Board members asked several questions. Topics included the differences between College PreCalculus and AP PreCalculus, college and AP course offerings available through the District's partnership with Molloy University, and how college credits from these courses are accepted by various universities. Additional questions focused on the number of students participating in the double accelerated program and the opt-out rates for state-mandated assessments. Ms. Thompson concluded by encouraging Board members to attend the upcoming building-level math celebrations.

2. **Science Update**: Dr. Brian Terry, P-12 Science Chairperson, provided the Board of Education with a detailed update on the District's science programs. His presentation addressed the New York State Science Learning Standards and the steps being taken to ensure the District is fully prepared for their implementation. Additional topics included the use of virtual resources to support instruction, as well as program highlights across the elementary, middle school, and high school levels. Dr. Terry also discussed the District's Science Research initiatives and science symposiums, STEAM programming, communication efforts, and the use and development of science laboratories at both the middle and high school levels. The Board of Education expressed appreciation to Dr. Terry for his informative and comprehensive presentation. During the discussion, Board members raised questions regarding the new science curriculum and upcoming state exams, specific high school courses such as AP Biology, Honors Biology, and AP Chemistry, as well as the Robotics Fellowship program. The Board also inquired about plans for the redesign and updates to science rooms at Hewlett High School and Woodmere Middle School.

3. **Art & Music Update:** Dr. Andrew Fund, Director of Art & Music Education, presented an update to the Board of Education highlighting key aspects of the District's visual and performing arts programs. He discussed the implementation of the National Core Arts Standards, which emphasize creating, performing, responding, and connecting, and shared highlights of Hewlett-Woodmere student artwork and music programs across all grade levels. Dr. Fund also reviewed recent and upcoming concerts and shows that showcase student talent throughout the district. The Board of Education thanked Dr. Fund for his informative presentation and posed several questions. Topics included the overall value of art and music education and its impact on students' futures, the recent trip to Disney World and whether similar cultural trips might be considered in the future, Cabaret Night, and the status of progress on renovations to the high school auditorium. Board members also expressed their appreciation for the concerts and performances held throughout the school year and shared their excitement for the upcoming end-of-year events.

Financial Reports

Mr. Carollo reviewed the following financial reports:

- Treasurer's Report
- Warrants
- Budget Status, Revenue Status, Preliminary Fund Balance, and Extraclassroom Reports
- Schedule of Contracts: Additional contracts will be added for approval on May 14, 2025
- Schedule of Bids
- Surplus Equipment
- Budget Timeline for 2026–27:
    - The Board reviewed and discussed the draft timeline
    - Agreed to begin budget development in November
    - A special meeting will be scheduled in early May 2026 for the Annual Budget Hearing

Miscellaneous Actions

Mr. Carollo discussed the District's current insurance coverage and future needs. Following a recent meeting with Salerno Brokerage Corporation, the District's insurance broker, he advised holding off on any changes from NYSIR for at least another year. (Charlie to review)

Dr. Anzalone provided an overview of two upcoming student competitions: the HS GENIUS Olympiad, scheduled to take place in Rochester, NY, in June 2025, and the National History Bowl, set for May 2025 in Orlando, FL. Additionally, she presented the 2025–2026 Professional Development Plan, which is slated for approval on May 14.

Dr. Marino presented the NYSSBA 2025 Resolution Kit. Resolutions and proposed bylaw amendments are due on July 18, 2025. The Board of Education discussed several potential resolutions. More information will be provided at the June work meeting.

Policy Actions

The following Policy Actions were presented by Dr. Marino:
4526.1 Internet Safety Policy
5100 Attendance
5300 Code of Conduct: discussion about e-bikes and e-scooters
6240 Investment Policy
6700 Purchasing Policy
8135 Instructional Technology Systems: Disaster Recovery Plan
0110 Sexual Harassment
1336 Fee Policy
2160 School Board Officer, Members, and Employee Ethics
8113 Extreme Heat Condition Days: discussion about NYS laws

Opportunity for the Public to be Heard, Non-Agenda Items

Ms. Sarit Kritzman, Woodmere, spoke about AP and College classes leading to an Associates Degree.

Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, May 14, 2025
7:30 PM - Regular Meeting, Woodmere Education Center

Tuesday, May 20, 2025, Woodmere Education Center
Special Meeting to Accept Results of the Ballot

NOTE:
Click HERE for the agenda and supporting documentation for the May 7 Work Meeting.
Click HERE for the Mathematics Update
Click HERE for the Science Update
Click HERE for the Art & Music Update