



THE BOARD REPORTS

Highlights of the White Plains Board of Education Meeting

BOARD MEMBERS: Rosemarie Eller, President; Cayne Letizia, Vice President; Sheryl Brady, Jessica Buck, Valerie Daniele, Craig Mondschein, Charlie Norris

September 8, 2025

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL: Board Members reported on the bus tour of facilities they took before school opening to see the building improvements made over the summer. They also commented on the staff opening day at which great energy and excitement was evident. **Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph Ricca** thanked everyone for working together to make this a strong new year. He said there is always room for improvement and the number one area at this time is with regard to transportation. Dr. Ricca shared that District personnel are working with the service provider to address shortcomings and improve service immediately.

HALL OF FAME: **Hall of Fame Steering Committee Member Amy Geiger** announced the four alumni who will be inducted into the White Plains High School Hall of Fame on October 23rd: **Carl Austin**, Class of '58, leading commercial real estate developer and consultant, **Susan Altman**, '64, innovative Social Studies Teacher at the High School for 30 years, **Jonette Mines**, '78, community leader and President of the Juneteenth Heritage Committee, and **Daniel Slepian**, '88, award-winning television news producer and journalist. Mrs. Geiger invited everyone to the ceremony, one of the highlights of the school year.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Ricca introduced **Student Board Member Liaisons Charis Choi** and **Afrozah Hossain** and welcomed them back for another year. They reported on the many activities in the schools. Dr. Ricca mentioned upcoming events including Dads/Special People Take Your Child to School Day, the WPCSD Strategic Planning update in October, the Friends Welcome Back Night and their Visit Your Brick Event.

AUDIT COMMITTEE **Board Member Craig Mondschein** said the District begins the school year in an excellent fiscal position and welcomed community members **Dr. Randy Stein** and **Olton Vela** to the Audit Committee for the 2025-2026 school year.

PERSONNEL: The Board appointed five teachers to probationary positions: **Jesse Drury** will teach Business Education at the High School; **Kiara Ortiz** will teach Special Education at George Washington School; **Marymilt Duran** will be a School Psychologist at the Middle School-Highlands; **Michelle Alperin** will be a Math Specialist at Post Road School; and **Jocelyn Matera** will teach Special Education at Middle School-Highlands.

DONATIONS: Dr. Ricca thanked the following organizations for their generous donations:
Wells Fargo Home Mortgage for 25 backpacks filled with school supplies for the elementary students
Century Country Club for 150-200 school supply kits for primary and secondary students

Editor: Michele Schoenfeld