



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

October 6, 2025

BOARD RECOGNITION: In honor of School Board Recognition Week, **Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph Ricca** thanked the Board and said these are critical positions, requiring hours of work apart from the Board Members' own professional work. He introduced **Dr. Kimberly Crawford, representing the Administrators and Supervisors Association**, and **Kara Lyons, President of the White Plains Teachers Association**, who spoke about the Board members' unwavering support, steady leadership and commitment to excellence. They expressed their appreciation to the Board Members.

BOARD COMMENT: Board Members spoke of their retreat earlier this evening, at which they set goals for the current year and noted that volunteerism will be a major priority. They mentioned the successful Boys' Soccer Team, PTA Council's opening meeting, the potential loss of funding from the government shutdown, the Friends of Public Education welcome back event, and the attendance by **Board Member Sheryl Brady** at a meeting of the Council of Urban Boards of Education in California.

In Committee Reports, the Board welcomed **Dr. Karen Tesik, new Assistant Superintendent for Special Education & Pupil Services**, to the Special Education Committee and the Curriculum Committee reported that it received preliminary data on Regents and other assessments.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: **Dr. Ricca** began the update on Transportation by noting that although there will always be room for continuous improvement, he was grateful for the partnership between Durha Student Services to address the areas in need of service improvement. **Dr. Ann Vaccaro-Teich, Assistant Superintendent for Business**, introduced four executives from **Durham Bus Services: John Ziegler, Sean Martin, Britt Liotta and John Elliott, Jr.** They spoke of their progress and the improvement expected and said their goal is to become part of this community.

Reporting on the External Auditor's Annual Financial Statement for the year ended June 30, 2025, **Chris Angotta of Nawrocki Smith, LLP**, commended the District on its timely and accurate closing. There were no significant recommendations and prior recommendations have been fully implemented. **Board Member Craig Mondschein**, a member of the Audit Committee, congratulated Dr. Vaccaro-Teich and her department on their excellent work.

Dr. Ricca introduced **Student Board Member Liaisons Charis Choi and Afrozah Hossain** who presented a report on activities in the schools.

Dr. Ricca also mentioned the updated Strategic Plan for 2025-26, and the resolution on Gun Storage Safety, both on tonight's agenda.

PERSONNEL: The Board accepted the resignation for the purpose of retirement of **Yun Jing Chow**, Food Service Helper at the Highlands Middle School. Tenure was awarded to five Teaching Assistants: **Elizabeth Interligi and Juan Miranda**, both at White Plains High School, **Jamile Ennabi**, Ridgeway School, **Audrey Brown**, Highlands Middle School, and **Liam Broderick**, Mamaroneck Avenue School.

Probationary appointments were given to three new teachers: **Douglas Thron**, Special Education at Church Street School, **Angelia Slinsky**, Elementary Education at Church Street, and **Hillary Mazzella-Morales**, Special Education at George Washington School.

DONATIONS: Dr. Ricca thanked the following organizations for their generous donations:

Robert Lent, on behalf of the Elks, for *A Student's Dictionary & Animal Gazetteer* for all third grade students

White Plains High School Class of 1984 for two six-foot benches for the High School in honor of Harry Jefferson and Tom Eaton

Ashley Nutt for a variety of school supplies

The Friends of White Plains Public Schools for two grants:

\$18,000 for Beyond Broadway Dance program in all five elementary schools

\$2,000 for the AP History classes trip to the Edward Kennedy Institute for the Today's Vote Program

Jeremy Abramson, Vice President of The Premier Collection, in conjunction with Subaru Loves to Learn for an \$18,000 grant to Eastview Middle School

Editor: Michele Schoenfeld