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 10, 2025

Budget Development Session #2

Assistant Superintendent for Business, Mr. Charles Carollo, presented (presentation is linked at the end of the re-cap). The Board of Education members asked questions about the Proposed 2026-2027 Capital Projects: HES athletic fields and HHS pavement. Additional questions were asked about NYSHIP Health Insurance Premiums. Budget Development Session #3 is January 14 at 6:30 PM.

Special Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Mrs. Debra Sheinin. The Personnel Action Report was approved. Resolution and Memorandum of Agreement, Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent was approved. Mrs. Sheinin congratulated Mrs. Pugliese on her appointment effective January 26, 2026.

Work Meeting

The work meeting was called to order by Mrs. Sheinin at 7:00 PM.

Reports and Presentations: (All presentations are linked at the end of this re-cap.)

Capital Improvements & Construction Update

Mr. Robert Caliendo, Executive Vice President of School Construction Consultants, and Interim Director of Facilities and Operations, Allan Wakefield provided an update on ongoing capital improvements and construction projects. Items discussed included the HHS auditorium renovation, tennis courts, parking lot and concession stand, high school and middle school science rooms, the FECC kitchen and cafeteria, and HES boilers. Board of Education members asked questions about the auditorium balcony glass railing and whether it is a code requirement. Masonry work delays were attributed to weather regulations and established protocols. It was also noted that the District's branding guidelines were followed when selecting paint colors. Regarding the HHS science labs, Dr. Brian Terry stated he would verify that the pull

down cord reels over the desks are functioning properly. The WMS science rooms were reported as complete, and an additional dishwasher shelf was installed in the FECC kitchen and cafeteria.

HHS 2026 - 2027 Course Guide Revisions, Science follow-up

Dr. Brian Terry, Chairperson of Science P–12, presented updated information to the Board of Education. A detailed discussion followed regarding Physics Honors and Regents courses, and Dr. Terry indicated he would survey teachers to assess feasibility. The introductory Matter and Energy course was also discussed, and Board members requested a comparison of science offerings with those in other districts. Updates to the course catalog will be presented at the January work meeting.

Student Participation/Academic Achievement Report

Dr. Al Bauer, Interim Principal, and Mrs. Mary Harrison, Chairperson of Guidance, presented information to the Board of Education, with department chairpersons in attendance to provide context and respond to questions. Board members asked about class size, student outcomes, and teacher consistency, followed by an in depth discussion with Ms. Kimberly Thompson, Chairperson of Mathematics P–12, regarding several mathematics courses. Additional topics included the ELA Regents, Earth Science at WMS, increased reading demands on state assessments, and overall student proficiency. It was noted that all social studies AP exams were administered digitally last year, and Board members asked whether the data included students with IEPs. The Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation was reviewed in comparison with other districts, including discussion on strategies to increase student participation. Science department AP scores were also reviewed, with discussion noting a decline among top performing students. Mrs. Sheinin thanked Dr. Bauer, Mrs. Harrison, and the chairpersons for their expertise and contributions.

Five Year Reserve Fund Management Plan

Assistant Superintendent for Business, Mr. Charles Carollo, presented the Five Year Reserve Fund Management Plan to the Board of Education. Board members asked questions regarding reserve funding, estimated expenditures, and the legality of transferring funds between reserve accounts. Mr. Carollo indicated he would review the applicable restrictions and provide clarification.

Financial Reports

Mr. Carollo reviewed the following financial reports:

- Treasurer’s Report
- Warrants & Summary of Findings of the Claims Auditor
- Budget Status/Revenue Status Reports
- Use of Cellular Phones & Electronic Equipment

Financial Actions

Mr. Carollo presented the following financial actions:

- Schedule of Contracts: Additional contracts may be added
- Schedule of Bids
- Schedule of Gifts
- Surplus Equipment
- Application for Club Charters

Conference and Travel Schedule

Dr. Anzalone informed the Board of Education that she will not attend the Women in Leadership Conference in January.

Proposed Changes to Aquatic Staff Titles

Executive Director of Communications, Community Services, Registration & Grants, Barbara Giese discussed the proposed 2025–26 rate schedule, which reflects a more competitive structure and is recommended for approval at the December 17 meeting.

Policy Actions

The following Policy Actions were presented by Dr. Anzalone for initial review:

- **Policy #1500**: Public Use of School Facilities - revised language to be updated
- **Policy #4526:** Network and Technology Acceptable Use
- **Policy #6700:** Purchasing

Dr. Anzalone presented the following Policy Actions for Final Review:

- **Policy #2245**: Ex-Officio Student Member of the Board
- **Policy #4531**: Field Trips and Excursions- minor revisions made to the Assistant Superintendent title
- **Policy #5152:** Admission of Non-Resident Students - this will go back to the Policy Committee for rewording

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 9:55 PM.

Opportunity for the Public to be Heard, Agenda Items

None

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

None

Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, December 17, 2025, Franklin Early Childhood Center
7:00 PM - Building Tour
7:30 PM - Regular Meeting

Wednesday, January 14, 2026, Woodmere Education Center
6:30 PM - Budget Session #3
7:00 PM - Work Meeting

Wednesday, January 21, 2026, Woodmere Middle School
7:00 PM - Building Tour
7:30 PM - Regular Meeting

NOTE:
Click HERE for the agenda and supporting documentation for the December 10 Work Meeting.
Click HERE for the Budget Development Session #2 Presentation.
Click HERE for the Capital Improvements/Construction Update.
Click HERE for the 2026-2027 HHS Course Guide Revisions Presentation.
Click HERE for the Student Participation/Academic Achievement Report
Click HERE for Five Year Reserve Fund Management Plan.