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

June 17, 2026

REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Board President Debra Sheinin. Logan Sheflin and Alyssa Sheinin led the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the pledge, a video presentation highlighting the senior class and the many creative opportunities that contribute to the District's Portrait of a Hewlett High School Graduate was shown. The video was produced by Anthony Santanastaso, Director of Bands, and Mary Harrison, Chairperson of Guidance.









RECOGNITIONS

Mary Harrison, Chairperson of Guidance, recognized Community Chest Members of the South Shore Chapter, including Mr. Gluck, Mrs. Epstein, Sheryl Bouzaglou, Board Members, and President Cal Nathan, for their generosity and continued support of Hewlett-Woodmere students.



History and Social Studies

Dr. Jennie Yi, Chairperson P-12 Social Studies, introduced Mrs. Durney and Mr. Lospinuso, who recognized student achievements including:

- History Bee LI Regional Champion: Lerone Aroubas (WMS)
- History Fair: Sophia Baigel, Deepshikha Prajapati, Samuel Racer
- History Bee participants: Ellie Sapir, Nicholas Nieves, Avi Chalouh, Samuel Racer, Zara Pooran, Aris Beadeau (WMS students)





Seal of Civic Readiness

Mrs. Durney recognized Seal of Civic Readiness students, including HHS seniors Victoria Baron, Daniel Baum, Ryan Bernstein, Darren Chen, Sophia Chimounova, Maree Drayling, Seanna Ellis, Isabel Ginsberg, Ryan Ginsburg, Sophia Hanono, Aidan Khan, Layla Michel, Jiyannah Perez, Noan Sheerit, Olivia Singh, Esther Sionov, Rebecca Sult, Jacob Yamen, and Lowen Zuckerman.



She also recognized the students who are actively engaged in pursuing the Seal of Civic Readiness, including Harley Moritz, Romy Fruman, Mischa Zhang, Sophia Abramovich, Zahra Hussain, Emilie Joseph, Kayla Simon, Harmann Singh, Elenor Pinkhasov, and Raphael Levi.



Seal of Biliteracy

Mrs. Janet Escher, 6–12 World Language Chairperson, recognized Seal of Biliteracy students, including Darren Chen, Andrew Rodriguez Coronell, Shivani Persaud, Ahtziri Lux Chun, Natalie Silver, Isabel Ginsberg, Rebecca Sult, Ari Vanunu, Ashley Giron Velasquez, Lowen Zuckerman, Maxwell Shilman, Daniel Ayzenberg, Ryan Bernstein, Yarin Nir, Yehonathan Wodnitzky, Roi Wodnitzky, Deniz Artan, Patryk Ziemkiewicz, Shazil Baig, Nathanaelle Milard, Livia Pyatetsky, Leonard Caragay, Seanna Ellis, Jiyannah Perez, Noam Sheerit, Jacques Giordani, Eilon Bober-Tsafrir, Emiliya Iani, and other HHS seniors.





Athletics Recognitions

Mr. David Viegas, Athletic Director, recognized outstanding student-athletes including:

- Tyler Hopkins: Division Champion High Jump, County Champion Triple Jump, 4th in State Championship, All-State Honors
- Emily Piotrowski: County Champion 4x100 relay, school record holder, All-Division Triple Jump

- Grace Kennedy: County Champion 4x100 relay
- Jada Lawrence: County Champion 400 hurdles, school record contributions, standout sophomore season
- Maree Drayling: County Champion Pole Vault (5th county title)
- Valeria Paez Martinez: Multiple County Championships, multiple school records, undefeated season
- Nylah Phillips: Multiple County Championships, multiple school records, Track and Field State Champion





English Language Arts / Writing Recognitions

Dr. Linda O'Grady recognized:

- AP Capstone Diploma Recipients: multiple HHS seniors including Daniel Ayzenberg, Ryan Bernstein, Darren Chen, Layla Michel, and others
- Kenneth F. Gambone Writing Contest: Anthonia Ayandeji (1st Place), Alyssa Brumell (3rd Place)
- Long Island Arts Council Poetry Writing Review: Raphael Levi (2nd Place), Daniella Kotlyar (3rd Place)





Student BOE Recognition

Board President Mrs. Sheinin recognized Aidan Khan and Jacob Yamen for their service as

Ex-Officio Student Board Members. The Oath of Office was administered to incoming Ex-Officio Student Board Members Alexa LaPaglia and Liev Hecht for the 2026–2027 school year.





PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITIONS

- Mr. Anthony Santanastaso was recognized as a 2027 Music Educator Award Quarterfinalist
- Mr. David Friedman received the Town of Hempstead “Make a Difference Award”
- Board Excellence Recognition Program Awards:

  Mrs. Meredith King: Board of Excellence Award

  Mrs. Shari L. Amitrano: Board Mastery Award

  Mrs. Debra Sheinin: Board Lifetime Achievement Award







SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Anzalone shared highlights from the close of the school year, recognizing the many accomplishments of students, staff, and the school community. She attended PTA Staff Appreciation luncheons, Field Days, Battle of the Classes, the Tri-M Induction Ceremony and Senior Music Awards, the All-District Science Symposium, STEM Symposium, Honor Society induction ceremonies, Athletics Awards Night, Ex-Officio interviews, Community Recognition Awards, the Valedictorian and Salutatorian Breakfast honoring Shane Zamidar and Darren Chen, the Grade 8 Awards Ceremony, the SAC/PAC/TAC meetings, Hewlett High School Prom, the Senior BBQ, the Employee Recognition Ceremony, and Central Council PTA meeting. Dr. Anzalone also reported on several Board of Education committee meetings, including Curriculum, Communications, Policy, Extracurricular Activities, Co-Curricular Activities, and Interscholastic Athletics, and Special Education.

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT

Student representatives Giuliana Oliviero and Esther Sionov thanked the Board of Education and Student Council advisors for their support before providing updates on Battle of the Classes, Student Council Board elections for the 2026-2027 school year, the Portrait of a Student Council initiative, the Senior Send Off, Senior Prom, Senior BBQ, and other end of year student activities and celebrations.





EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS REPORT

Kaitlin Coder, Leslie Rose, Brenna Leighton, and Beth Wagner of HWFA thanked the PTAs for their Staff Appreciation luncheons and shared updates from the Central Council PTA meeting and the Employee Recognition Ceremony. They also wished the seniors well as they prepared for graduation and congratulated students on their civic and academic achievements.



PTA REPORT

Central Council PTA Co-Presidents Pam Darby and Dr. Kritzman shared updates on end-of-year activities, budget planning, and the transition to a new executive team, noting that this was their final report as co-presidents. They congratulated award recipients and incoming Central Council

leaders. Dr. Kritzman also expressed her gratitude to Dr. Anzalone, the Board of Education, teachers, staff, and co-president Pam Darby for their support during her tenure, and highlighted the upcoming Soirée.



BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mrs. Menashe reported on behalf of the Special Education Committee, which recommends approval of the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education (CSE) and the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE).
- Mrs. May reported on behalf of the Policy Committee, which recommends approval of:
  -Policy 1500, *Public Use of School Facilities*
  -Policy 4526.1, *Internet Safety Policy*
- Mrs. May reported on behalf of the Extracurricular Activities, Co-Curricular Activities & Interscholastic Athletics Committee that discussions will continue regarding school clubs.
- Mr. Tenenbaum reported on behalf of the Curriculum, Assessment & Technology Committee, providing an update on the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) implementation plan and timeline, as well as the District's new director positions and the primary and secondary goals associated with each role.
- Mrs. Jeter reported on behalf of the Communications Committee, discussing attendance and community participation at District events, including the budget vote and honor society ceremonies, and exploring strategies to increase engagement.

BOARD OF EDUCATION NON-COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD, AGENDA ITEMS

None

ROUTINE ACTIONS

Minutes of the May 20, 2026 Regular Meeting were accepted and approved.

The Board approved instructional, personnel, financial, and miscellaneous consent agenda items, including CSE and CPSE recommendations, personnel appointments, substitute and summer staffing, financial resolutions and contracts, conference and travel requests, the 2026-2027

Professional Development Plan, the District-Wide School Safety Plan, and NYSSBA Annual Convention attendance.

The Board separately approved Community Education and Services Staffing (4-0, with two abstentions) and approved the wording of the 2026-2027 Strategic Plan, with colors to be determined at a later date.

Policies approved:

- **Policy 1500**: Public Use of School Facilities
- **Policy 4526.1**: Internet Safety Policy

Board President Debra Sheinin administered the Oath of Office to incoming Ex-Officio Student Board Members Liev Hecht and Alexa LaPaglia for the 2026-2027 school year.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD, NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Wednesday, July 1, Woodmere Education Center
Special/Work Meeting, 5:00 PM

Wednesday, July 8, Woodmere Education Center
Regular/Organizational Meeting, 5:00 PM

NOTE:

Click HERE for the agenda and supporting documentation for the June 17 meeting.
Click HERE for the June Central Council PTA Newsletter.