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

August 19, 2026

REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 PM by Board of Education President Debra Sheinin, who also led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

Mrs. Sheinin led a review of the work meeting agenda items, prior to approval by the Board of Education.

The Board reviewed the agenda items from its work meeting before approving the evening's business. Several personnel and Board service matters were set aside for discussion in the Executive Session and were later brought back for separate votes.

The Board also reviewed a range of financial and operational matters, including budget and revenue reports, contracts and bids, gifts, surplus equipment, club charters, Nassau BOCES agreements, school lunch pricing for 2026-2027 and Board service appointments.

Additional District business included review of the 2026-2027 organizational chart, authorization to destroy official ballots from the May 2025 election and final review of Policy #5100: Attendance.

The Board also discussed options for Tours of Facilities for the 2026-2027 school year, with additional discussion and options to be considered.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Dr. Dina M. Anzalone welcomed everyone and highlighted the success of the District's five summer programs: Summer Playschool, Extended School Year, ENL, Art & Music and Summer School.

Dr. Anzalone also recognized the District's New Employee Orientation, which took place earlier that day, and thanked Dr. Lorraine Smyth and her team for coordinating the program. Staff will continue preparations for the new school year with Staff



Welcome Back and Superintendent's Conference Day on August 26.

She also shared highlights from the recent District Leadership Team (DLT) Retreat, which included a visit to the Lt. Michael P. Murphy Museum.



Dr. Anzalone referenced her recent Herald article, *"Preparing our Students for A World that Doesn't Exist,"* and an upcoming Newsday article focusing on artificial intelligence and Career and Technical Education (CTE).

Dr. Anzalone also acknowledged the recent passing of former Hewlett-Woodmere Superintendent Dr. Bert Nelson, recognizing his legacy and lasting impact on the District. A new Dr. Bert Nelson Fund for Good Deeds Scholarship is being established in his honor.

She welcomed newly appointed assistant principals and recognized Mrs. Reina Hall in her new role as Principal of Ogden Elementary School.

Finally, construction and facilities updates were shared on several projects throughout the District, including the FECC bathroom, Maintenance Building, Woodmere Middle School Athletic Complex and Hewlett Elementary School gym.

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT

Student Advisory Council Executive Treasurer Alexa LaPaglia shared her enthusiasm for the upcoming school year and expressed appreciation to the Board and Student Council.



The Student Council is planning a variety of activities designed to make the school year engaging and inclusive, including Spirit Week, Homecoming and events connected to the nation's 250th anniversary.

The Council is also working to involve students from every grade, expand its mission, increase overall student participation and strengthen the student body's voice.

Working closely with Dr. Bauer, the Council has generated numerous ideas focused on building stronger connections and bringing the Hewlett-Woodmere community together.

EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS REPORT

Kaitlin Coder, co-president of the Hewlett-Woodmere Faculty Association (HWFA), welcomed attendees and provided updates on recent union and District activities.

She expressed appreciation to teachers and staff who supported summer programs, interview committees and coaching, as well as the custodial, clerical and administrative teams who have been working throughout the summer to prepare for the new school year.



Ms. Coder also welcomed new employees during orientation and highlighted participation in an APPR workshop.

She shared information from a recent week in Albany with NYSUT, which focused on mentorship opportunities for elementary, middle and high school students. Plans are underway to discuss these ideas with the District administration.

BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Special Education Committee: Mrs. Judy Menashe reported on behalf of the Special Education Committee. The committee recommends for approval the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education.

Policy Committee: Mrs. Cheryl May reported that the Policy Committee recommended Policy #5100, Attendance, for final approval.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Francois Tenenbaum reported on his participation in a July 22 virtual meeting organized by the Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association with Congresswoman Gillen. Topics discussed included IDEA funding, salt deductions, private school vouchers and the high tax burden facing Long Island families, particularly in school districts where little tax revenue comes from businesses.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD (AGENDA ITEMS)

None

ROUTINE ACTIONS

The Board approved the minutes from the July 1 Special Meeting, July 8 Organizational Meeting, July 8 Regular Meeting and July 20 Special Meeting.

The Board also approved the Consent Agenda, covering a range of instructional, personnel, financial and organizational matters.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

None

POLICY ACTIONS

The Board approved the final review and approval of **Policy #5100: Attendance**.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, Woodmere Education Center
Work Meeting, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, September 16, 2026, Woodmere Education Center
Regular Meeting, 7:30 PM

The meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 5:40 PM.

NOTE:

Click HERE for the agenda and supporting documentation for the August 19 meeting.