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

Regular Meeting - October 14, 2026

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Dina M. Anzalone called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and introduced Hewlett Elementary School students Madelyn King and Molly Jeter, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.



In recognition of New York State School Board Recognition Week, Dr. Anzalone thanked the Board of Education for its dedication, hard work, and continued support of the District.

Franklin Early Childhood Center Principal Dr. Nicole Montellese introduced kindergarten students who performed "The Franklin Song." Assistant Principal Ms. Pernick and Director of Art and Music Dr. Andrew Fund accompanied the performance, with
Dr. Fund on keyboards. The students also presented the Board with a special banner.



Dr. Fund then introduced Hewlett High School seniors James Brilli, Carslile Tomas, Jayden Vargas, and Samuel Fradlis, who performed their own rendition of "The Franklin Song." Dr. Fund thanked the Board for its continued support of music education, highlighting the growth of students from kindergarten through Grade 12.

HES Principal Heather Sosnovsky introduced students Maria Anna Castro, Sophie Kopp, Madelyn King, Leah Toledo, Molly Jeter, and Dilan Singh. Leah Toledo thanked the Board on behalf of the students, who shared a poem celebrating the Board's commitment to helping students grow, providing enriching programs, improving school facilities, and supporting the school community. Students displayed posters and presented Board members with cards, custom handmade crayons, and coloring books created by Mr. Sosleger's Grade 5 art class. Mrs. Sosnovsky expressed appreciation for the Board's hard work and dedication to making a positive difference for District students.





OES Principal Reina Hall and Assistant Principal Lauren Biscardi introduced students Meera Singh, Gabriella Rosenbaum, Liam Rodriguez, Daniel Alter, and Zachary Rubin. Each student thanked the Board for its service. They also presented Board members with a framed picture featuring student photos arranged to spell "THANK YOU," created with help from Mrs. Ryan, Mrs. Rodrick, and Ms. Zack. Each Board member received a personal pie as an additional gesture of appreciation.

WMS Principal John Andruszkiewicz thanked the Board for its support and introduced Torie Hopkins, who expressed appreciation for the many opportunities provided to Woodmere Middle School students on behalf of the school's student leadership and service groups. Mr. Andruszkiewicz also recognized Isaam Ahmed, Sebastian Berg, Owen Colletti, Jasmine Gao, Jack Kris, Kyle Legaspi, Fabian Perez, and Chao Wang for going above and beyond to welcome new student William Shan. The students served as translators and helped William feel comfortable in his new school community. School Counselor Ms. Feitel, joined the group and shared how proud she was of their kindness and support.





Dr. Al Bauer introduced the senior jazz band, which performed for the Board and expressed appreciation for its continued support. The performance concluded with a special request from Board President Debra Sheinin: "New York, New York." The talented student musicians received a standing ovation for their performance. Dr. Bauer also recognized Ex-Officio Student Board of Education members Liev Hecht and Alexa LaPaglia.

Mrs. Sheinin thanked the students for their outstanding performance and expressed appreciation to all students and staff who contributed to the School Board Recognition Week presentations.





Superintendent's Report

Dr. Anzalone recognized the Woodmere Middle School students for their kindness and shared updates on District activities and events. She reported attending PTA meetings at Franklin Early Childhood Center, Hewlett Elementary School, Ogden Elementary School, and the Central Council PTA, as well as all four school pep rallies and the parent-hosted football dinner. She also highlighted recent athletic events, school activities, the Superintendent's Legislative Committee meeting, and the District's athletics social media meeting promoting DawgHouse Live. Dr. Anzalone discussed recent communications regarding Regents exams on transcripts, new school signage addressing trespassing, and how to access the Board meeting portal.



Additionally, Dr. Anzalone shared that she visited Marymount High School in New York City with Dr. Fund and Mr. Santanastaso to explore audiovisual equipment that could enhance Hewlett High School productions. She encouraged the community to attend FestiFall, the District's first community event hosted by Franklin Early Childhood Center, Hewlett Elementary School, and Ogden Elementary School.

Student Advisory Council Report



Student Council representative Rebecca Taft thanked the Board and administration for their continued support. She reflected on the successful pep rally and expressed disappointment over the cancellation of Homecoming events. Taft shared plans for the October 30 Halloween festivities, including Freaky Friday, Senior Night, Trunk or Treat, and carnival treats for sale. She also discussed a football raffle and the "Kick a Field Goal" challenge, which would give students a chance to win free prom tickets. In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, students were encouraged to wear pink on Wednesdays. Taft also encouraged participation in the upcoming Spirit Week.

Employee Organization Report



Mrs. Leighton, the sixth-grade Hewlett-Woodmere Faculty Association vice president at Woodmere Middle School, encouraged the community to follow DawgHouse Live on Instagram and wished the Board a happy School Board Recognition Week. She thanked the PTA for providing staff breakfasts and reported that the Unity Day T-shirt fundraiser raised $2,500. She also shared that the annual scholarship fundraiser was successful and noted that 51 students participated in the Jones Beach walk, raising more than $2,000.

PTA Central Council Report



Central Council PTA Presidents Etereya Savin and Kristina Aronshtein thanked the Board for its dedication in recognition of School Board Recognition Week and shared highlights from across the District. Updates included successful school events and fundraisers, the elementary schools' Pumpkin Patch activities, Woodmere Middle School's recent student experiences and assemblies, and Hewlett High School's athletic and school community highlights. They also shared updates from SEPTA and upcoming District events and programs. For additional details, please refer to the October PTA Report linked at the bottom of this re-cap.

Ex-Officio Student Board Member Report



Liev Hecht reported on his participation in the New York State School Boards Association welcome webinar on September 30. The session included student Board members from across New York State and former student representatives who shared advice on effective student representation. He highlighted the importance of listening to different perspectives, asking questions, coming prepared, finding common ground, and ensuring that all student voices are heard. He plans to apply what he learned to his role in the District.

Board of Education - Committee Reports

Special Education Committee: Mrs. Menashe reported on behalf of the Special Education Committee, which recommended approval of the recommendations from the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education.

Policy Committee: Mrs. May reported on the committee's recommendations for approval of Policies #1500, Public Use of School Facilities; #4327, Homebound Instruction; and #6700, Purchasing.

Finance, Audit & Resource Alignment Committee: Mrs. May shared that the committee established goals and reviewed audit reports, along with the format for future status reports and auditors.

Community Partnerships & Communications Committee: Mrs. Jeter reported on committee goals and discussions involving program promotion, budget, civic responsibility, community engagement, alumni recruitment, communication initiatives, nonpublic school ParentSquare communication, a mural, a “hot topic” book, and the possibility of creating a podcast.

Teaching, Learning & Innovation Committee: Mrs. King reported that the committee established goals and discussed curriculum, strength alignment, student placement evaluation, and the use of artificial intelligence.

Student Experience, Arts & Athletics Committee: Mrs. King shared discussions about grass fields and related issues, interest in establishing a girls’ flag football team, and new community service opportunities for student-athletes to earn an additional cord recognizing civic responsibility, leadership, and well-rounded student involvement.

Board of Education - Miscellaneous Reports

New York State School Boards Association: Mr. Tenenbaum reported attending the association’s annual resolution meeting on September 23.

Routine Actions

The Board approved the minutes from the September 16, 2026, Regular Meeting, and the September 23, 2026, Special Meeting. The Board also approved the consent agenda, which included personnel actions, substitute and permanent pool staffing schedules, classified stipends for the 2026–2027 school year, coaching and supervision schedules, and Community Education staffing.

Financial Actions

The Board approved the following financial actions:

- Treasurer’s Report
- Schedule of Contracts
- Schedule of Gifts
- Applications for Club Charters
- Board Service Personnel Schedule of Annual Appointments

Policy Actions

Policy Actions - The Board approved the following policies:

- **Policy #1500:** Public Use of School Facilities
- **Policy #4327:** Homebound Instruction
- **Policy #6700:** Purchasing

Curriculum/Miscellaneous Actions

The Board approved the adoption of a new Earth and Space Science textbook for Grades 9 and 10, along with conference and travel requests and field trips.

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

None

The meeting was adjourned to executive session at 8:36 PM.

NOTE:
Click HERE for the agenda and supporting documentation for the October 14 meeting.
Click HERE for the October 2026 Central Council PTA Newsletter.

Upcoming Board Meetings

November 4
BUDGET SESSION, 6:30 PM, WEC
WORK MEETING, 7:00 PM, WEC

November 18
REGULAR MEETING, 7:30 PM
OGDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL