

The **SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING** of the Board of Education West Hempstead Union Free School District was called to order in the High School Video Conference Room on March 13, 2012 at 7:34 p.m. Ms. Di Miceli and Mr. Schindler arrived at 7:35 p.m.

PRESENT: Mr. Ejnes, who presided, and six other members of the Board: Ms. Di Miceli, Ms. Lotito, Mr. Mariano, Ms. Rilling, Mr. Schindler and Mr. Trocchia. Also present were Mr. Hogan, Ms. Peluso, Mr. Cunningham, Ms. Girolamo and members of the staff and community.

Under **ROUTINE MATTERS** action was taken as follows:

Docket #1-255: This docket was withdrawn.

Mr. Ejnes then opened the Budget Workshop portion of the evening.

Mr. Ejnes explained to the audience that the Board will cover instructional items of the budget. After each code section the Board will ask any questions they have and then residents will have their turn.

Mr. Ejnes then turned the meeting over to Mr. Hogan who explained that this portion of the budget is the most important part and that it is “who we are.” He informed the public that at this time no programs are being cut. Mr. Hogan reiterated that the budget being presented was still in draft form. He turned the meeting over to Mr. Cunningham who explained there were changes to the budget since the last Budget Workshop on March 6th that leaves the budgeted amount the same as before; Board Equipment and Professional Meetings appropriations were reduced based on new vendor

quotes; Signs and Scoreboards appropriation was corrected to reflect the cost of new marquee identified in the Board's building inspection; contracted Public Relations Consultant was removed from the budget because Nassau BOCES will supply the service; curriculum revision budget was increased to reflect curriculum projects to support the renewal of District curriculum and the integration of Common Core Standards, and the unemployment allocation was decreased. He will conclude the meeting with a more in-depth look at the transportation plan and revenue side of the budget.

Under **CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET ITEMS** – Staff and community members were given copies of the Proposed 2012 - 2013 Budget items. They were invited to ask questions on any items as the Board and Administration discussed the various items listed in these reports. It was explained that this evening's discussion would be on the instructional portion of the Proposed Budget.

Ms. Peluso then began her PowerPoint presentation on the instructional portion of the budget that addresses the goals of the Strategic Plan of the District. She began with enrollment numbers from 2008 to the present and projected 2012-13 numbers.

Instructional account codes to be covered would be the 2000s – Administration and Improvement; 2100s – Regular School Program; 2200s – Special Apportionment Programs; 2300s – Teaching other Special Schools; 2600s – Instructional Media and 2800s – Pupil Services.

Under the 2000s – Administration and Improvement - These codes are dedicated to Curriculum Development and Supervision and General Education Administration (non-teaching) for grades K – 12. 2010 codes are dedicated to the implementation of Common Core Standards and APPR, which are driving the increased costs in this area, a

projected increase in BOCES Staff Development of \$73,000, and appropriation of \$10,000 for Professional Development provided by District staff. This section also includes two+ clerical positions and all curricular initiatives, Professional Development, student data, state and federal reporting, personnel record keeping and hiring. The 2020s section – Supervision of Regular Schools includes salary for the building administrators and office staff for five schools and material and supplies for the operation of the five school offices.

Under 2100s – Regular School Program – Includes all appropriations associated with daily General Education Instruction including instructional salaries, contracted instructional services, equipment, textbooks, materials and supplies. Chestnut Street’s staff will remain unchanged with 7.83 FTE general education teachers; Cornwell Avenue and George Washington’s staff will remain unchanged and 44.67 FTE general education teachers; Middle School has 32.5 FTE for regular classroom instruction and the High School has 56.3 FTE with a projected staffing change of a +1 reading teacher. All schools will have regular classroom instruction, physical education, art, music, library, reading instruction and ESL. Other changes include the reduction of one High School Guidance Counselor, an increase of \$82,101 for BOCES Data Warehouse allocation and restoring EBALR reserve through \$250,000 allocation in Section A2110.135.

Under 2200s – Special Apportionment Programs, Special Education and Occupational Education – Teacher, teaching assistant and aide positions are being evaluated as CSE’s take place. Staffing will be based on need. The budget currently includes appropriations for 42.6 FTE Special Education/reading/speech-language positions. These teachers serve our five public schools, HANC and St. Thomas.

Under 2300s – Other Special Schools – Summer School. The net cost of operating 2011's Summer School was \$56,000. West Hempstead students took 322 summer school courses. Also covered was the expansion of the summer school program through grant funded opportunities.

Under 2600s – Instructional Media – Includes appropriations for school libraries, the Office of Director of Technology, computer aided instruction, computer equipment, supplies, software and computer repair. Also covered were appropriations for four librarians, library materials for five public schools, HANC and St. Thomas, increased appropriations in A/V material and supplies for replacement interactive projector bulbs, and increased appropriation in computer assisted instruction codes for contracted equipment maintenance. The greater reliance on our computer network requires increased maintenance work.

Under 2800s – Pupil Services – Includes appropriations for student attendance, guidance, health services, psychology services, social work services, co-curricular activities and interscholastic activities. Also covered were six psychologists, two social workers and seven nurses, who serve the five public schools, HANC and St. Thomas. The number of clubs, sports and other co-curricular activities will remain unchanged.

5500s – Transportation – Mr. Cunningham updated the Board on Transportation questions from the March 6th meeting, which included the contracted transportation budget, categories, expense, budget vs. total expense, cost analysis and conclusions leading to the suggested 2012-13 contracted transportation budget. He also presented a refreshed projected revenue budget with changes from the last budget meeting.

The Board asked questions after each section and residents were also permitted to ask questions at the conclusion of each section covered and at the end of the meeting.

At the end of the meeting Mr. Ejnes polled the Board to see if they felt the need to use the Contingency Budget Workshop date of March 27th. The consensus of the Board was to have this meeting to firm up any questions they may have on the budget.

At 10:50 p.m. the Budget Workshop was adjourned.

Kathryn Girolamo, District Clerk