

The **REGULAR MONTHLY 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 April 21, 2009 at 7:40 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Ms. Lotito, who presided, and six other members of the Board: Mr. Brita, Mr. Ejnes, Mr. Kaye, Mr. Mariano, Ms. Rilling and Mr. Whelpley. Also present were Mr. Hogan, Ms. Peluso, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Sheahan, Ms. Bryant, Ms. Castonguay, and members of the staff and community.

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

**Docket #8-279:** The **MINUTES** of the Regular Business Meeting held on March 17, 2009, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, were presented, and upon motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, that the reading of the Minutes of said meeting be dispensed with and that they be adopted as received.

**Docket #8-280:** The **MINUTES** of the Budget – Instructional and Special Business Meeting held on March 24, 2009, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, were presented, and upon motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Ejnes, and carried by seven, that the reading of the Minutes of said meeting be dispensed with and that they be adopted as received.

**Docket #8-281:** The **MINUTES** of the Special Business/Policy Meeting held on March 31, 2009, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, were presented, and upon motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by

seven, that the reading of the Minutes of said meeting be dispensed with and that they be adopted as received.

**Docket #8-282:** The **TREASURER'S REPORT** for February 2009 having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, was presented, and upon motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Schedule of Claims & Warrants Nos. 20 – 48, appropriation status report and revenue status report were placed on the table for discussion and then filed.

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Under **REPORT OF COMMITTEES** – Mr. Kaye gave a brief legislative report stating that Albany is still working on the budget. He said that as part of the plan to bail out the MTA, school districts might have to pay  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 1% payroll tax, which for West Hempstead would amount to about \$64,000. Nassau BOCES would have to pay up to \$400,000, which would be charged to their component school districts. In essence, it would be another "well" for the State to draw from and school districts are fighting this action. Mr. Kaye stated that school districts need to rethink ways in which to educate our children. He encouraged everyone to go to the NYSSBA's website for updates. Ms. Theresa Walz, PTA Co-President, encouraged everyone to attend the joint meeting of PTA, PTSA and SEPTA on Wednesday, April 22nd in the Middle School Cafeteria. Mrs. Peluso will be discussing the new K-12 Character Education Program and Dr. Laura Lustbader, Supervisor of Programs for Youth and Family Literacy Programs at Nassau BOCES, is scheduled to be the guest speaker. Ms. Walz announced that "Hip Pickles" visited Cornwell Avenue on April 21st and will visit George Washington School on April 22nd. "Hip Pickles" is a character education group that promotes anti-bullying. This past month the PTA celebrated Staff Appreciation Day and spring photos were taken. Ms. Risa Monroe (PTSA)

also encouraged everyone to attend the joint meeting on April 22nd and announced that tickets to Comedy Night on April 29th at the Pompei Restaurant were going fast.

Under **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** – Mr. Hogan first turned the meeting over to Ms. Bernadette Delphine, Director of Guidance.

Ms. Delphine gave an excellent overview of the district guidance program. She stressed that the Guidance Department was committed to the success of each student. She discussed the framework of the Guidance Program from Kindergarten through grade 12. She stated that a comprehensive Guidance Program starts in grade 6. She focused on the High School process and what leads up to the college applications. Ms. Delphine gave a summary of what resources the Guidance Department has to offer and spoke about how involved the staff was by staying informed on the latest information, meeting with college admissions staff, and visiting many colleges. Ms. Delphine also gave a month-by-month review of what the Guidance Department does. Guidance Counselors Donna Seeberger and Linda Ragin then demonstrated an on-line program called "Choices" wherein students are given a password in grade 9 and are able to research colleges and programs, build on this information, and apply to colleges. They are able to get an immediate response from universities. Parents and counselors are able to view same.

Mr. Hogan then proceeded with the Superintendent's Report covering the Budget. He stated that there was a 0% budget-to-budget increase and a 3.99% tax levy. He said this was because the deficit reduction was restored through stimulus funding. School districts are technically getting the same aid as 2008-2009, but we still lost \$800,000 in Foundation Aid. If we had that, the tax levy would have been in the area of 1%. We also lost interest revenue in 2008-2009 as an impact of the economic downfall. Last year we were able to return \$2,000,000; this year we only have \$1,000,000 to return. We are also concerned that in the 2009-2010 school year another \$900,000 in Foundation Aid will not be coming to us. Mr. Hogan said that hard

decisions were made. Without impacting programs, an administrator was excessed, along with several teachers and teaching assistants. He encouraged everyone to get the word out to vote. Mr. Hogan then went on to announce the joint PTA/PTSA/SEPTA meeting scheduled for the following evening, community Sports Day scheduled for this Saturday from 10:00 a.m. till noon, the Achievement Dinner on Thursday and the Strategic Planning Meeting on April 27th at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School Cafeteria. He stated that the School Report Cards will be made public tomorrow and that the results were good.

Ms. Lotito then opened the meeting for residents to address the Board.

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Under **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION** action took place as follows:

**Docket #8-283:** Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, Appointments, Resignations, etc. were made, accepted, granted and approved as follows:

**Topic: Per Diem Substitute Appointments**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>
Amato, Cindy	\$90.00/day
Kurthy Diana	\$90.00/day
Marcus, Elisa	\$90.00/day
Moses, Krystal	\$90.00/day
Shortis, Matthew	\$90.00/day
Wasti, Uzma	\$90.00/day

**Topic: Substitute Monitor Appointment(s)**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>
DiClemente, Maryann	\$10.11/hour

**Topic: Appointment of PEEC Chaperones and Approval of Comp Days**

- Blaise, Sandra
- Blyskal, Terrance
- Caruthers, Matthew
- Eisen, Jeffrey
- Geiger, Erin
- Gould, Dina
- Hafner, Barbara
- Kemnitzer, Thomas
- Kolb, Thomas

Leitch, Timothy  
 Mille, Darlene  
 Minchick, Richard  
 Parker-Hall, Suzanne  
 Terwilliger, Karen

**Topic: Appointments for Regents Review Classes**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Effective</u></b>
Benson, Melissa	Integrated Geometry	\$63.75/hr.	5/21, 5/27, 6/2, 6/9
Benson, Melissa	Math B	\$63.75/hr.	5/28, 6/1, 6/4, 6/10
Daempfle, Tobias	Living Environment (alternate)	\$63.75/hr.	5/26, 6/1, 6/10
D'Andrea, Michelle	Integrated Algebra	\$63.75/hr.	5/28, 6/4, 6/8, 6/11
D'Andrea, Michelle	Integrated Geometry	\$63.75/hr.	5/21, 5/27, 6/2, 6/9
Diehlmann, Mary	Integrated Algebra	\$63.75/hr.	5/28, 6/4, 6/8, 6/11
Dooley, Kellyann	Global History	\$63.75/hr.	6/3, 6/8, 6/11
Gould, Dina	Living Environment	\$63.75/hr.	5/26, 6/1, 6/10
Hanna, Chad	Global History	\$63.75/hr.	6/3, 6/8, 6/11
Kayaian, Dana	Earth Science	\$63.75/hr.	5/26, 6/1, 6/10
Knoernschild, Kimberly	Integrated Algebra	\$63.75/hr.	5/28, 6/4, 6/8, 6/11
Knoernschild, Kimberly	Integrated Geometry	\$63.75/hr.	5/21, 5/27, 6/2, 6/9
Kurzban, Sandra	Integrated Geometry	\$63.75/hr.	5/21, 5/27, 6/2, 6/9
Lambo, Michelle	U.S. History	\$63.75/hr.	6/3, 6/8, 6/11
Lent, Theresa	U.S. History	\$63.75/hr.	6/3, 6/8, 6/11
Livi, Jessica	Integrated Algebra	\$63.75/hr.	5/28, 6/4, 6/8, 6/11
Marder, Pamela	Integrated Algebra	\$63.75/hr.	5/28, 6/4, 6/8, 6/11
Mejia, Natasha	Spanish 3	\$63.75/hr.	5/18, 5/20
Nappi, Gina	Global History	\$63.75/hr.	6/3, 6/8, 6/11
Okpych, Chris	Living Environment	\$63.75/hr.	5/26, 6/1, 6/10
Pusateri, Virginia	Living Environment	\$63.75/hr.	5/26, 6/1, 6/10
Rowland, Cathieann	Math B	\$63.75/hr.	5/28, 6/1, 6/4, 6/10
Saul, Susan	Earth Science	\$63.75/hr.	5/26, 6/1, 6/10
Senia, Christopher	Math B	\$63.75/hr.	5/28, 6/1, 6/4, 6/10
Testa, Neil	U.S. History	\$63.75/hr.	6/3, 6/8, 6/11
Ritrovato, Laura	Italian 3	\$63.75/hr.	5/18, 5/20
Weiss, Jeremy	Integrated Geometry	\$63.75/hr.	5/21, 5/27, 6/2, 6/9
Ypsilantis, James	Earth Science	\$63.75/hr.	5/26, 6/1, 6/10
Zuluaga, Rosemarie	Living Environment	\$63.75/hr.	5/26, 6/1, 6/10

**Topic: Resignation Request(s) for Purpose of Retirement**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Effective</u></b>
DelVecchio, Catherine	School Nurse St. Thomas	\$63,760	8/31/09

**Topic: Resignation Request(s)**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Effective</u></b>
Keramis, Jeanne	Part-time School Monitor Chestnut Street	3/20/09

**Topic: Leave(s) of Absence**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>To</u></b>
Devlin, Rosemarie	Clerk Typist	1/12/09	1/12/10

**Docket #8-284:** Motion failed.

**Docket #8-285:** Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Mr. Kaye, and carried by seven, the Board approved the abolishment of positions.

**Docket #8-286:** Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Ejnes, and carried by seven, the Board approved tenure appointments as follows:

**Topic: Tenure Appointment**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Tenure Area</u></b>	<b><u>Effective</u></b>
Peluso, Ann	Assistant Superintendent	7/24/09
Murray, Marcia	Assistant Principal	8/28/09
Stone, Linda	Foreign Language/Business Chairperson	8/29/09
Beriloff, Kristen	School Psychologist	9/1/09
Carre, Dominic	Physical Education/Health	9/1/09
Cutrone, Diane	Special Education	9/1/09
Hovanec, Michael	Physical Education/Health	9/1/09
Livi, Jessica	Mathematics	9/1/09
Messana, Alison	Elementary	9/1/09
Molinari, Melissa	Elementary	9/1/09
Parillo, Diana	Mathematics	9/1/09
Pappas, Joseph	Elementary	9/1/09
Testa, Neil	Social Studies	9/1/09
Haag, Christopher	Teaching Assistant	9/1/09

**Docket #8-287:** Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Ejnes and carried by seven, the Board approved the Amendment to Docket #8-255.

**Docket #8-288:** Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, the Board approved the Health and Welfare Services Agreements with several schools.

**Docket #8-289:** Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Mr. Kaye, and carried by seven, the Board approved the Annual Visual Inspections, Five-year Capital Facilities Plan and Facilities Reports Cards.

**Docket #8-290:** Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Mariano and carried by seven, the Board approved the Calendar of Board of Education Meetings for the 2009-10 school year.

**Docket #8-291:** Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted to furnish the Garden City Public Schools with the necessary medical clearance(s), insurance and hold harmless agreement for a student to participate on the Garden City High School Gymnastic Team.

**Docket #8-292:** Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, and seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the West Hempstead Union Free School District Budget for the 2009 - 2010 school year in the amount of \$52,607,660 be approved, and hereby adopted by this Board and authorized the placement of a proposition on the voting machines and the raising of such taxes as necessary to provide for said budget.

**Docket #8-293:** Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Brita and carried by seven, the Board accepted gifts of \$124.41 from Target and sweat suits for the boys' baseball team.

**Docket #8-294:** Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, that pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 853, Laws of 1976, as amended, the Committees on Special Education and Pre-School Education recommend to the Board of Education placement, change of placement, and transfers of students, identified by number only, in the school indicated.

The **REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS**, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, was presented, and action items therein were considered as follows:

**Docket #8-295:** Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Kaye, and carried by seven, the Board approved the budgetary transfers.

**Docket #8-296:** Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Board of Education approve the Property Tax Report

Card for 2009 - 2010 based on the following information:

	<b><u>Budgeted</u></b> <b><u>2008 – 2009</u></b>	<b><u>Budgeted</u></b> <b><u>2009 – 2010</u></b>	<b><u>Percent</u></b> <b><u>2009 – 2010</u></b>	<b><u>Change</u></b>
Total Spending	\$52,607,660		\$52,607,660	0.00
Total Estimated Tax Levy	\$35,460,058		\$36,875,773	3.99
Public School Enrollment	2,272		2,197(-3.30)	
Consumer Price Index			3.80	
		<b><u>Actual</u></b> <b><u>2008 – 2009</u></b>	<b><u>Estimated</u></b> <b><u>2009 – 2010</u></b>	
Reserved Fund Balance		\$3,886,145	\$2,998,900	
Appropriated Fund Balance		\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000	
Unreserved, Unappropriated Fund Balance		\$2,104,306	\$1,104,306	
Unreserved, Unappropriated Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget		4.00%	2.10%	

**Docket #8-297:** Upon the motion of Mr. Ejnes, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, the Board accepted the Federal Single Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008.

**Docket #8-298:** Upon the motion of Mr. Kaye, seconded by Mr. Ejnes and carried by seven, the Board approved the contract – Pupil Transportation Consultant.

**Docket #8-299:** Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Ejnes and carried by seven, the Board approved the bid for Physical Education Supplies, Equipment and Uniforms 2009 - 2010.

**Docket #8-300:** Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Ejnes and carried by seven, the Board approved the bid for Health Supplies 2009 - 2010.

**Docket #8-301:** Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Ejnes and carried by seven, the Board approved the bid for Musical Equipment, Audio and Supplies 2009 - 2010.

**Docket #8-302:** Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Ejnes and carried by seven, the Board approved the bid for Printed Music 2009 - 2010.

**Docket #8-303:** Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, the Board approved the contract with Textbook Central.

Under **OLD BUSINESS** action was taken as follows: No motion took place.

Under **NEW BUSINESS** action was taken as follows:

**Docket #8-304:** Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, the Board approved the BOCES tentative budget for the 2009 – 2010 school year in the amount of seventeen million nine hundred eighty four thousand six hundred dollars (\$17,984,600).

**Docket #8-305:** Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Mr. Ejnes, and carried by seven, the Board elected by unanimous vote the following three candidates for the vacancies on the Board of Cooperative Services: Susan Bergtraum, Michael Weinick and Iris Wolfson.

**Docket #8-306:** Upon the motion of Mr. Ejnes, seconded by Mr. Whelpley, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the District incur the expense of Board members and Administration to attend the New York State School Boards Association's "BOCES at the Crossroads" workshop on May 1-2, 2009.

Under **BOARD PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR** – Mr. Brita wished to discuss the Open/Closed Campus Administrative Regulations. He felt that students who failed two classes shouldn't be permitted the privilege of leaving campus. He urged that the regulations be changed to zero failures. The possibility of having two eligibility policies was discussed - one for open/closed campus and one for sports, etc. Mr. Hogan will meet with the principals, administrators, coaches, etc. and make recommendations to the Board.

Mr. Mariano apologized and stated that he was swayed by the mood of the room. If he had to do it all over again, he would vote against having an open campus.

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Ms. Lotito again opened the meeting for residents to address the Board.

At 9:40 p.m., upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board adjourned the Business Meeting to Executive Session, which ended at 11:00 p.m.

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Theresa Bryant, Deputy District Clerk