

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 November 20, 2007 at 7:33 p.m.

PRESENT: Ms. Lotito, who presided, and five other members of the Board: Mr. Brita, Mr. Kaye, Mr. Mariano, Ms. Rilling and Mr. Whelpley. Mr. Trocchia and Ms. Castonguay arrived at 7:50 p.m., with Mr. Trocchia assuming the chair. Also present were Mr. Hogan, Ms. Peluso, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Guercio, Mr. Sheahan, Ms. Girolamo, and members of the staff and community.

Before the Board of Education meeting began, the Audit Committee met and approved its charter. This was motioned by Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Brita. The vote was 6-0. Mr. Trocchia was absent from this vote.

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

Docket #7-121: The **MINUTES** of the Regular Business/Policy Meeting held on October 16, 2007, 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 #7-122: The **MINUTES** of the Audit Committee Meeting held on October 23, 2007, 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.

At this point of the meeting, Nancy Sigmund, Director of Math and Computer Science, began her presentation on the math curriculum in the district. Covered topics included mathematics assessments test designs, Standard 3: Mathematics, key ideas, sample math problems for grades k-12 and current updates. Questions from the Board and residents were answered.

Docket #7-123: The **TREASURER'S REPORT** for September 2007 having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, were presented, and upon motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Schedule of Claims & Warrants Nos. 6 – 26, appropriation status report and revenue status report were placed on the table for discussion and then filed.

Mr. Alan Yu, representative from Coughlin Foundotos Cullen & Danowski, LLP, the district's external auditing firm, gave his report on the district's Audit Report as of June 2007. He explained what auditor's responsibilities are: reviewing financial statements, testing and evidential testing, giving a clean opinion (highest level of assurance) and reviewing internal controls, then gives their recommendations for improvement. The district is fiscally sound.

Under **REPORT OF COMMITTEES** – Student Representative, Ailin Lian, covered the upcoming winter concert, the Marching Band Festival, Key Club's collection of food for the needy during Thanksgiving season, visits from Carolyn McCarthy and Bobby Petrichelli, the girls' basketball team playing at Madison Square Garden and the Student Council's successful Halloween party for the children in the district.

Mr. Mariano gave a brief report on the recent Health and Safety Committee meeting that was very productive and went well. Principals of the buildings were also in attendance and

spoke about their emergency procedures at each school. The committee is discussing having monthly or bi-monthly meetings.

Mr. Whelpley spoke on his recent fiscal oversight workshop that he attended along with Mr. Kaye. Covered topics of the workshop included fraud, waste and fiscal fitness. Mr. Brita added that elected officials do not need to attend meetings like these, but Board officials do.

Mr. Trocchia discussed his and Mr. Kaye's attendance at County Executive Tom Suozzi's meeting to update school board members and PTAs on county efforts regarding school business functions on November 14th. The purpose of the function is to try and consolidate 20% of school district budgets, which include insurance, IT infrastructure and other district costs. Forty-one districts turned out for the meeting. Mr. Kaye handed out an update to that meeting. Ms. Lotito inquired as to the feasibility of consolidating various services such as sanitation, library, fire districts and the business functions of school districts.

Also under **REPORT OF COMMITTEES** – Upon the motion of Mr. Trocchia, seconded by Ms. Lotito and carried by seven, the following reports were received and placed on file:

- 7-124a** Cornwell Avenue School Building Inspection Report
- 7-124b** George Washington Building Inspection Report
- 7-124c** Middle School Building Inspection Report
- 7-124d** High School Building Inspection Report
- 7-124e** Chestnut Street Building Inspection Report
- 7-124f** Marian Delaney Building Inspection Report

Ms. Lotito and Mr. Trocchia thanked everyone involved in the clean up efforts of the George Washington School before the first day of school. Mr. Kaye inquired about two new boilers at the George Washington School. Ms. Lotito also questioned obtaining a fire proof safe to hold testing papers.

Under **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT** – Mr. Hogan thanked Ms. Sigmund for her presentation on the math program. The rest of his report covered the girls’ varsity tennis and volleyball teams on their Conference Championships; Congresswoman McCarthy’s visit; SS assessment at Cornwell Avenue and George Washington schools; Superintendent’s Conference Day; Safety Committee and early dismissal drill; update on the website and community listserv; Chestnut’s Book Character Day, the AAA Puppet Show on Safety; Cornwell Avenue’s Grade 5 Multi Cultural Presentation; George Washington’s Literacy Recognition by Assemblyman Alfano and their student council collecting items for our troops; Middle School’s Aladdin presentation; the High School’s exhibited art work in Tarrytown at the NYS Art Teachers conference; half-day classes and parent-teacher conferences on November 21st; the girls’ basketball team playing at Madison Square Garden and then wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Trocchia then opened the meeting for residents to address the Board.

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

At 8:52 p.m., upon the motion of Mr. Trocchia, seconded by Ms. Lotito, the Board broke to Executive Session to discuss Docket #7-125 and reconvened at 9:15 p.m.

Docket #7-125: Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, Appointments, Resignations, etc. were made, accepted, granted and approved as amended:

Topic: Probationary Appointment(s)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Tenure Area</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>End of Probation</u>
Bachas, Koula	ESL	English to Speakers of Other Languages	\$70,116 6 MA + 30 (pro-rated)	11/13/07	11/13/09

Topic: Part-time Appointment(s)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Schiavo, Debra	English to Speakers of Other Languages	\$70,162 (pro-rated) 8 MS	11/13/07 – 6/27/08

Topic: Appointment of Regular Daily Substitute(s)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Carroll, Maureen	\$95.00/day	11/26/07 – 6/27/08 MS
Yarrow, Sandi	\$95.00/day	11/21/07 – 6/27/08 GW

Topic: Annual Appointment(s)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Period</u>
Keating, Marisa	Substitute Monitor	\$10.11/hr.	11/21/07– 6/27/08
McIntyre, Sean	One-to-One Monitor	\$13.83/hr.	11/13/07 – 6/27/08
Mejia, Jose	Substitute Cleaner	\$11.36/hr.	11/21/07 – 6/27/08

Topic: Appointment of Mentors

<u>Mentor</u>	<u>Subject Area</u>
DeStafano, Theresa	Elementary

Topic: Appointment of Mentor Rescinded

<u>Mentor</u>	<u>Subject Area</u>
D'Esposito, Christine	Elementary

Topic: Resignation Request(s)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Galicia, Christine	Teaching Assistant High School	11/9/07
Prendergast, Mary	Regular Daily Substitute George Washington	10/18/07

Topic: Leave(s) of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Brusca, Anne	Teaching Assistant HS Library	3/3/08	4/2/08

Topic: Appointments for Academic Intervention Program

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Period</u>
Cavaliere, Ailene	ELA 4 th Grade - CA	\$61.82/hr.	7 sessions
DiMaio, Christopher	ELA Teacher 8 th Grade	\$61.82/hr.	8 sessions
Etienne, Patricia	ELA Teacher 3 rd Grade - GW	\$61.82/hr.	7 sessions
Ferreiro, Jennifer	ELA Teacher 5 th Grade - GW	\$61.82/hr.	7 sessions
Hafner, Barbara	ELA Teacher 6 th Grade	\$61.82/hr.	4 sessions
Hume, James	ELA Teacher 5 th Grade - CA	\$61.82/hr.	7 sessions
Luciere, Melissa	ELA Teacher 4 th Grade – GW	\$61.82/hr.	7 sessions
Messana, Alison	ELA Teacher 6 th Grade	\$61.82/hr.	4 sessions
Parker-Hall, Suzanne	ELA Teacher 7 th Grade	\$61.82/hr.	8 sessions
Walker, Candice	ESL Teacher Grades 6,7,8	\$61.82/hr.	2 sessions

Docket #7-126: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by six,

Mr. Mariano abstained, a resolution was adopted that Extra Pay for Extra Responsibility be

approved as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Bosch, Keith	Boys' JV Baseball Coach	\$4,388.00
Brown, Adam	Girls' Varsity Assistant Track Coach	\$4,388.00
Carre, Dominic	Boys' Varsity Assistant Lacrosse Coach	\$4,388.00
Christenson, Al	Boys' Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach	\$4,388.00
Colangelo, Charles	Boys' Tennis Coach	\$4,873.00
Dailey, Linda	Badminton Coach	\$4,180.00
Doyle, Timothy	Boys' Varsity Track Coach	\$6,273.00
Gewirtz, Robert	Boys' Varsity Assistant Track Coach	\$4,388.00
Hovanec, Michael	Girls' JV Softball Coach	\$4,388.00
Howley, Michael	Girls' JV Basketball Coach	\$4,388.00
Hutt, Tracy	Girls' Varsity Lacrosse Coach	\$6,273.00
Lambo, Michelle	Girls' Varsity Assistant Softball Coach	\$4,388.00
Mariano, Stephen	Boys' JV Volleyball Coach	\$4,388.00
O'Connor, Jaime	Girls' Varsity Assistant Lacrosse Coach	\$4,388.00
Primeggia, Edward	Girls' Varsity Track Coach	\$6,273.00
Quinlan, Marc	Boys' Varsity Lacrosse Coach	\$6,273.00
Valentino, Michael	Boys' Varsity Baseball Coach	\$6,273.00
VanKovics, Chris	Girls' Varsity Softball Coach	\$6,273.00
Wilson, Andrew	Boys' Varsity Volleyball Coach	\$6,273.00

Docket #7-127: Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Mr. Whelpley, and carried by seven, the Board approved the amendment to Docket #6-194 as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Tenure Area</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>End of Probation</u>
Parente, Lisa	Speech/Language GW	Speech and Language Disabilities	\$54,570 2MA	9/1/07	9/1/10

Docket #7-128: Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Ms. Lotito, and carried by seven, the Board approved the amendment to Docket #7-6 as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Tenure Area</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>End of Probation</u>
Bosch, Keith	Physical Education HS/Chestnut St.	Physical Education/ Health K-12	\$51,972 1MA	9/1/07	9/1/10

Docket #7-129: Upon the motion of Mr. Mariano, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, the Board approved the amendment to Docket #7-74 as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Knoernschild, Kimberly	\$16.55/hour (part-time)	9/7/07 – 6/27/08 (HS)

Docket #7-130: Upon the motion of Mr. Mariano, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, the Board approved the Memorandum of Agreement with the West Hempstead Office Staff Association of United Public Service Employees Union from July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2010.

Docket #7-131: Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, the Board approved the amended probationary period for Dr. Allison Mueller.

Docket #7-132: Upon the motion of Mr. Mariano, seconded by Ms. Lotito, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Senior Citizen Exemption, in accordance with Chapter 512 of the laws of 2003, amends Section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law and raises the maximum income for which fifty percent exemption may be granted from \$26,000 to \$27,000.

The sliding scale benefits are still available to taxpayers, so the maximum benefits available, if all options in the law are selected, are described by the following table:

<u>Income</u>	<u>Percent Exemption</u>
Less than \$27,000	50%
At least \$27,001 but less than \$28,000	45%
At least \$28,000 but less than \$29,000	40%
At least \$29,000 but less than \$30,000	35%
At least \$30,000 but less than \$30,900	30%
At least \$30,900 but less than \$31,800	25%
At least \$31,800 but less than \$32,700	20%
At least \$32,700 but less than \$33,600	15%
At least \$33,600 but less than \$34,500	10%
At least \$34,500 but less than \$35,400	5%

This exemption will take effect for assessment rolls with taxable status dates occurring on or after January 2, 2008, and will apply to the 2008-2009 school tax bills.

Docket #7-133: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Whelpley, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Exemption for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income, in accordance with Chapter 462 of the laws of 2003, amends Section 459-c of the Real Property Tax Law and raises the maximum income for which a fifty percent exemption may be granted from \$26,000 to \$27,000. The sliding scale benefits are still available to taxpayers, so the maximum benefits available, if all options in the law are selected, are described by the following table:

<u>Income</u>	<u>Percent Exemption</u>
Less than \$27,000	50%
At least \$27,001 but less than \$28,000	45%
At least \$28,000 but less than \$29,000	40%
At least \$29,000 but less than \$30,000	35%
At least \$30,000 but less than \$30,900	30%
At least \$30,900 but less than \$31,800	25%
At least \$31,800 but less than \$32,700	20%
At least \$32,700 but less than \$33,600	15%
At least \$33,600 but less than \$34,500	10%
At least \$34,500 but less than \$35,400	5%

This exemption will take effect for assessment rolls with taxable status dates occurring on or after January 2, 2008, and will apply to the 2008-2009 school tax bills.

Docket #7-134: Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Board of Education, West Hempstead Union Free School District, approved the Individual Services Contract(s) for Professional Development.

Docket #7-135: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Board of Education, West Hempstead Union Free School District, approved the Consultant Services Contract for Speech and Language Services.

Docket #7-136: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Board of Education, West Hempstead Union Free School District, approved the Consultant Services Contract for Nursing Services.

Docket #7-137: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Board of Education, West Hempstead Union Free School District, approved the Consultant Services Contract for Home Tutoring.

Docket #7-138: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Board of Education, West Hempstead Union Free School District, approved the Consultant Services Contract for Occupational Therapy Services.

Docket #7-139: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Board of Education, West Hempstead Union Free School District, approved the Consultant Services Contract for Alternative Learning Program.

Docket #7-140: Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Mr. Whelpley, and carried by seven, the Board approved the amendment to Docket #7-109 that replaces the contract between the district and the Rockville Centre Union Free School District for providing specialized instructional services to a student.

Docket #7-141: Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board approved the formation of a District Strategic Planning Council.

Docket #7-142: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board approved the formation of a **Chestnut Street** Space Utilization Committee.

Docket #7-143: Upon the motion of Mr. Kaye, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, the Board approved the Amendment to Stipulation of Settlement and General Release regarding an intensive one-on-one reading program.

Docket #7-144: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Mr. Whelpley, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Board of Education join the New York State School Boards Association in supporting legislation to amend pertinent sections of the Education Law.

Docket #7-145: Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board accepted the donation of golf balls from Veterans Transportation.

Docket #7-146: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, 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 #7-147: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, the Board approved the destruction of certain records by the Records Management Officer.

Docket #7-148: Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, the Board accepted the Independent Auditor's Report, prepared by Coughlin Foundotos Cullen & Danowski, LLP, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007.

Docket #7-149: Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, the Board approved the transfer of money.

Docket #7-150: Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Ms. Lotito, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Board accept the Use of Facilities as follows:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Day/Time</u>	<u>Room/ Field</u>
HIGH SCHOOL		
YIWH	12/02/07-06/22/08 Sunday – 6:00-9:00 p.m. Basketball	Gym
GEORGE WASHINGTON		
WH Water District	12/11/07 3:30-9:00 p.m. Water District Election	Hallway on the 1 st Floor Main Entrance
<u>REVISED:</u>		
MIDDLE SCHOOL		
YIWH	Cancel 12/01/07 & 02/23/08 Change from 01/12/08 to 01/05/08 7:00-10:00 p.m. Gym Program	Gym
HIGH SCHOOL		
WH Lions Club	12/01/07 Change time from 11:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.-1:00 a.m. Play & Dinner	Auditorium & Cafeteria

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

There was no old business to be addressed.

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

Docket #7-151: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Kaye, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the District incur the expense of those Board Members and administrators to attend Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association's conference featuring Alfie Kohn and “The Deadly Effects of Tougher Standards” on January 29, 2008.

Docket #7-152: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Kaye, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the District incur the expense of those Board members and administrators who wish to attend the 2007 Annual School Law Conference on December 3, 2007.

Docket #7-153: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy Use of Electronic Mail to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Docket #7-154: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy 2450 – Safety in School Buildings and on Grounds to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Docket #7-155: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy 2460 – Smoking on School Property to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Docket #7-156: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy 3160 – Transfer of Funds Between Categories to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Docket #7-157: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy 3290 – Disposition of Furniture and Equipment No Longer of Use for District Purposes to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Docket #7-158: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy 3533 – Insurance to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Docket #7-159: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy 5150 – Extra Classroom Activity Funds to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Docket #7-160: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy 9231 – District Clerk to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Docket #7-161: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy Petty Cash Funds and Cash in School Buildings to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Docket #7-162: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy Revenue and Cash Management to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Docket #7-163: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy Accounting of Fixed Assets to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Docket #7-164: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy Financial Accountability: Allegations of Fraud to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Docket #7-165: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy Audit Committees to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Docket #7-166: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy Establishing Extra-Classroom/Student Activity Organizations to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Docket #7-167: Upon the motion of Mr. Mariano, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, the Board motioned Policy Student Cell Phone Use to be discussed at the December 11th Policy Meeting.

Under **BOARD PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR** action was taken as follows:

Regarding the Audit Committee Charter - Ms. Lotito requested that the Board reach out to the community and ask any residents with expertise in accounting and finances to join that

committee. Mr. Brita commented that the agendas use a massive amount of paper and could the district look into going paperless. He also mentioned there is a grant available for that purpose. Ms. Lotito also commented on an article that she read regarding school Board members and technology.

Mr. Mariano asked when the Board will be discussing Open Campus again. The Board decided the date of January 8, 2008, to have a work session to discuss that topic.

Mr. Trocchia again opened the meeting for residents to address the Board.

At 10:09 p.m., upon the motion of Mr. Trocchia, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, the Board adjourned to Executive Session, which ended at 11:20 p.m.

Kathryn Girolamo, District Clerk