

The **AUDIT COMMITTEE** opened the meeting at 7:35 p.m., for the acceptance of the district's Corrective Action Plan, in response to the External Audit dated June 30, 2007, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting. The plan was presented, and upon motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Mr. Whelpley, and carried by seven, the Audit Committee accepted the recommendations. The Audit Committee then adjourned.

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 January 15, 2008 at 7:38 p.m.

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

Before the Board of Education meeting began, Mr. Trocchia presented Ms. Lotito with a Developmental Achievement Citation from the New York State School Boards Association for her leadership development opportunities that totaled 40 credits. Ms. Lotito earned the credits for participating in developmental events or activities.

The Technology Educational Presentation then began with Nancy Sigmund, Director of Math and Computer Science, addressing the Board on the district's technology program. Ms. Sigmund covered the topics of computers, computer labs, printers, instructional programs, L.C.D. projectors, student data and wireless laptops, and future plans for the classrooms. Ms. Parillo, a math teacher in the Middle School, gave a visual lesson on the use of a

Promethean (Interactive White Boards) and how they are useful and encouraging in the learning process for students. Video conferencing can also be done with these boards with the addition of a camera and software.

Mr. Cunningham thanked Mr. Everett of Logical Choice Technologies, for his help on setting up the board for the presentation. Ms. Lotito inquired as to what the cost is for each Promethean (\$5,000) and Mr. Hogan reported he would like to purchase two more for the library at the High School and the Video Conference Room. Mr. Brita asked if they crash like regular computers, and it was answered they run like any other computer. Mr. Trocchia asked if a student does homework at home, can that also be placed on the white board the next day. Again the answer was affirmative.

The next portion of the meeting consisted of a presentation from the FLES Committee (Foreign Language in the Elementary School). Ms. Peluso informed the Board that the Committee consisted of 22 members, who met and set goals for the program. Ms. Stone, Director of Business and Foreign Language, reported that five different schools in Nassau County were visited by our teachers on the committee. The schools allowed members to observe FLES classes. Ms. Stone explained the advantages including math/language arts improvement, thinking skills sharpened and the interactions between pupil and teacher are enhanced. Other members of the committee added other bonuses: development of love for all cultures; better ability to learn other languages; playful and motivating; charts, posters and puppets aid in foreign language and how FLES will help in teaching other foreign languages in the future. Mr. Cali, Principal of Cornwell Avenue, spoke on two proposals to the Board regarding cost, time in the classroom and teachers. Ms. Stone ended the presentation stating that all subjects begin in the

elementary schools, so why not foreign language? Students gain confidence, joy and the ability to communicate with a broader range of people.

Ms. Lotito inquired if the committee heard of Echo Immersion, which is used in St. Thomas school and Sag Harbor School District. Mr. Whelpley asked if Spanish was the main language taught in other districts. Mr. Kaye asked if 60 minutes a week was enough to teach this way. Mr. Brita's questioned what happens after 5th grade to foreign language. Ms. Stone responded that a foreign language survey course is offered in grade 6.

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

Docket #7-183: The **MINUTES** of the Regular Business/Policy Meeting held on December 18, 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 amended.

Docket #7-184: The **MINUTES** of the Work Session held on January 8, 2008, 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, that the reading of the Minutes of said meeting be dispensed with and that they be adopted as received.

Docket #7-185: The **TREASURER'S REPORT** for November 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. 9 – 33, appropriation status report and revenue status report were placed on the table for discussion and then filed.

Under **REPORT OF COMMITTEES** – Josephine DeMarco, Co-President of the PTA, reported on the PTA's pajama party and the kickoff of Parents as Reading Partners.

Mr. Cunningham reported on the Chestnut Street Space Utilization Committee meeting and their recent tour of the building and the brain storming that followed. The next meeting takes place on January 28th. Possible usage of the vacant space to be discussed at the next meeting include an alternative high school, community center or a pre-kindergarten.

Mr. Brita and Mr. Kaye covered the Legislation topic, which included Governor Spitzer's State of the State address in which he reaffirmed his commitment to extra funding for schools even with the state's projected \$4 billion deficit; Spitzer also announced that a property tax cap will be an area of consideration in 2008; Mr. Brita expected that there would be some exceptions to caps on property taxes if enacted; schools will still receive \$2 billion statewide as aid from lottery revenues, although any additional revenue will be directed towards the state's higher education system. Mr. Kaye added the tax cap is a big issue on Long Island. Artificial cap is not good for growth in a school district. The state needs to end the mandates. A commission set up by Governor Spitzer and headed by Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi will be looking into the feasibility of a property tax cap in New York State.

Under **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** – Mr. Hogan wished a happy new year to all; Island Park parents' orientation on January 10th and 8th grade orientation on January 29th; ELA assessments at George Washington, Cornwell Avenue and the Middle School; High School mid-terms; Chestnut Space Utilization Committee and their recommendations; District Strategic Planning Council beginning work in February; Geography Bees at Cornwell Avenue; kindergarten orientation on January 30th and the girls' varsity basketball team playing at Madison Square Garden, defeating Mineola.

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

Under **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION** action took

place as follows:

Docket #7-186: Upon the motion of Mr. Kaye, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven,

Appointments, Resignations, etc. were made, accepted, granted and approved as amended:

Topic: Appointment of Teaching Assistant

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Aull, Tracy	Special Education Chestnut Street	\$16.55/hr. Step 1	1/2/08 – 1/2/11

Topic: Adult Education Appointments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Number of Sessions</u>
Brown, Adam	Stepaerobics Instructor	\$50.00/hr.	Six, one-hour sessions 2/6/08 – 3/19/08
Carre, Dominic	Yoga Instructor	\$50.00/hr.	Six, one-hour sessions 2/6/08 – 3/19/08
Hill, Diane	Adult Education Registrar	\$39.21/hr.	1/23/08 – two-hours
Paschitti, Lisa	Microcoft Word Instructor	\$50.00/hr.	Six, two-hour sessions 2/6/08 – 3/19/08
Taylor, Marie	Financial Planning Instructor	\$50.00/hr.	Two, two-hour sessions 2/6/08 – 3/19/08

Topic: Appointments for Math Academic Intervention Program

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Period</u>
Etienne, Patricia	Grade 4 CA	\$61.82/hr.	8 sessions
Ferreiro, Jennifer	Grade 5 GW	\$61.82/hr.	8 sessions
Keilty, Barbara	Grade 5 CA	\$61.82/hr.	8 sessions
Livi, Jessica	Grades 7 and 8 MS	\$61.82/hr.	8 sessions
Marder, Pam	Grade 6 MS	\$61.82/hr.	4 sessions
Messana, Alison	Grade 6 MS	\$61.82/hr.	4 sessions
Molinari, Melissa	Grade 4 GW	\$61.82/hr.	8 sessions

Pappas, Joseph	Grade 3 GW	\$61.82/hr.	8 sessions
Parillo, Diana	Grades 7 and 8 MS	\$61.82/hr.	8 sessions
Silkes, Barbara	Grade 3 CA	\$61.82/hr.	8 sessions

Topic: Resignation(s)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Cestaro, Michael	Social Studies Teacher High School	1/25/08
Garay, Daniel	Teaching Assistant High School	12/21/07

Topic: Salary Credits

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>New Salary</u>
Beriloff, Kristen	School Psychologist Cornwell Avenue	2 MA + 45	\$6,495	\$ 61,065
Castoro, Joseph	Social Studies Teacher High School	6 MA + 15	\$2,575	\$ 67,540
Dooley, Kellyann	Social Studies Teacher High School	5 MA	\$2,473	\$ 62,366
Ferrante, Christina	Art Teacher Cornwell Avenue	6 MA + 60	\$2,575	\$ 75,267
Heckler, Wayne	Music Teacher CA, GW, MS	10 MA + 45	\$5,792	\$ 84,322
Hemberger, Carol	Science Teacher High School	23 MS + 45	\$3,709	\$104,676
Hume, James	Elementary Teacher Cornwell Avenue	5 MA	\$4,968	\$ 62,366
Lent, Theresa	Social Studies Teacher High School	20 MA + 30	\$3,709	\$100,967
Luciere, Melissa	Elementary Teacher George Washington	13 MA + 15	\$3,297	\$ 86,452
Messina, Edna	Elementary Teacher Cornwell Avenue	16 MA + 60	\$3,503	\$102,364
Rogan, Amy	English Teacher Middle School	16 MA + 60	\$3,503	\$102,364
Santoro, John	Science Teacher Cornwell Avenue	21 MA + 30	\$3,709	\$100,967
Schreiber, Karen	Guidance Counselor High School	12 MA + 15	\$3,194	\$ 83,750
Silkes, Barbara	Elementary Teacher Cornwell Avenue	14 MA + 60	\$3,400	\$ 99,353

Stern, Barbara	Librarian High School	2 MA + 15	\$2,164	\$ 56,734
Trapani, Jonathan	Music Teacher Cornwell Avenue	6 MA + 45	\$2,576	\$ 72,692
Yanni, Richard	Technology Teacher Middle School	9 MA + 15	\$2,885	\$ 75,645

Topic: Appointment of Mentor Rescinded

Mentor

Subject Area

Puccio, Victoria

Library Media Specialist

Topic: Approval of Additional FTE for Teacher

Name

Subject Area

Increase

Effective

Lovasz, Christopher

Guitar
High School

.2 FTE
\$15,706
(pro-rated)

1/28/08 – 6/27/08

Docket #7-187: Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that Extra Pay for Extra Responsibility be approved as follows:

Topic: Extra Pay for Extra Responsibility Resignation

Suchmann, Kaye

Co-Director – High School Play

Docket #7-188: Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Ms. Lotito, and carried by seven, the Board approved the Memorandum of Agreement with the West Hempstead Education Association from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

Docket #7-189: Upon the motion of Mr. Trocchia, seconded by Mr. Mariano, this docket was tabled.

Docket #7-190: Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Ms. Lotito, and carried by seven, the Board approved the amendment to the District Treasurer contract.

Docket #7-191: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Mr. Whelpley, and carried by seven, the Board approved the Corrective Action Plan 2007 - 2008.

Docket #7-192: Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, the Board approved the Comprehensive School Safety Plan.

Docket #7-193: Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Kaye, and carried by seven, the Board approved the school calendar for the 2008 – 2009 school year, as amended with the addition of the words “Election Day.”

Docket #7-194: Upon the motion of Mr. Kaye, seconded by Mr. Whelpley, and carried by seven, the Board approved the Stipulation of Settlement and General Release for a student with disabilities.

Docket #7-195: Upon the motion of Mr. Trocchia, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, the Board tabled this docket.

Docket #7-196: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Board of Education, West Hempstead Union Free School District, approve the Individual Services Contracts for Professional Development for Literacy Strategies.

Docket #7-197: Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Ms. Lotito, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Board of Education, West Hempstead Union Free School District, approve the Agreement with Karafin School.

Docket #7-198: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Kaye, 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 #7-199: Upon the motion of Mr. Kaye, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, the Board approved the budgetary transfers.

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 #7-200: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Kaye, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Board of Education, West Hempstead Union Free School District, approve the Consultant Service Contract with Dr. Richard Bernato.

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

At 9:28 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 11:00 p.m.

Kathryn Girolamo, District Clerk