

The **BUDGET 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 4, 2008 at 8:04 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, Ms. Girolamo, staff and members of the community.

Mr. Trocchia turned the meeting over to Mr. Hogan. Mr. Hogan explained this is the first of two meetings regarding the budget – non-instructional items and instructional items. He gave an overview of the budget process that begins in October with building administrators, principals and directors giving their input. All requests are based on giving a quality education for grades K-12 with the assurance that the district will maintain fiscal responsibility to the community. Mr. Hogan then turned the meeting over to Mr. Cunningham, who began a Power Point presentation on the budget.

Under **CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET ITEMS** – Staff and community members were given copies of the Proposed 2008 - 2009 Budget and Building Inspection 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 Non-Instructional portion of the Proposed Budget.

Mr. Cunningham began with the Mission Statement and then covered topics of Keeping Our Future in Mind including recent budget history, budget proposals, target appropriation analysis by category, key considerations, objectives of the 2008 – 2009 budget, the budget timetable and non-instructional account codes. His Power Point presentation included general support, auditing, legal fees and utilities, health services, transportation, community services and undistributed expenses.

Items listed in the Building Inspection Report, to be tentatively included in the Proposed Budget, are as follows:

George Washington School

Remove asbestos tiles in Rooms 111, 113 and 114	\$22,000
Replace portion of chain link fence	5,000
Install outdoor pathway from Brooklyn Avenue to portable entrance	<u>15,000</u>
	\$42,000

Cornwell Avenue School

Remove and replace asbestos tiles in music room	\$ <u>8,000</u>
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West Hempstead Middle School

Replace carpeting in library	\$ 7,200
Patch parking lot	50,000
New clock system (HS and MS)	<u>150,000</u>
	\$207,200

West Hempstead High School

Add P.A. speakers for hallways and auditorium	\$ 17,000
Upgrade stage lighting in auditorium	6,400
“Proximas” and screens in library and video conference room	4,400
Re-line gym floor	2,500
New machine weight room	4,200
Library carpeting (tiles)	<u>11,000</u>
	\$45,500

Mr. Trocchia requested that the Eagle Avenue School be added to this for the re-building of the front entrance steps and for the Chestnut Street building a budget line for the possible renovations of the empty library space.

Mr. Cunningham answered budget line questions by the Board and residents and also made note of suggestions by the Board. He will report back at the next budget meeting.

At 9:55 p.m., upon the motion of Mr. Trocchia, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Public Meeting was adjourned.

Kathryn Girolamo, District Clerk