

The **REGULAR MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING** of the Board of Education West Hempstead Union Free School District was called to order in the Chestnut Street Board Room on March 18, 2008 at 7:42 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.

The meeting began with a presentation from Mr. Ari Ioannides, a representative from BoardDocs, a company that specializes in paperless Board meetings. He explained they have been in business for five years and the program was developed for school Boards, local governments and private and public Boards to help alleviate the enormous task of assembling, printing, distributing and revising agenda items and policies. Ms. Lotito inquired as to what the cost of running the program is. The start-up cost is \$1,000. The standard BoardDocs is \$12,000 a year and BoardDocs LT is \$2,700 a year. Mr. Ioannides also informed the Board that there are grants available to help fund the program. Mr. Brita asked if a cost benefit analysis had been done, and the answer was yes, that many schools can save as much as \$25,000 a year. Mr. Kaye asked if in the Meda Search portion of the program, if our district can view and use other school district information, and, again, the answer was yes. Upgrades on the program are done once a week. Mr. Cunningham explained that instead of putting this out to bid, we can cross-contract out through BOCES. Records of the program are stored for at least ten years.

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

Docket #7-226: The **MINUTES** of the Regular Business Meeting held on February 12, 2008, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, were presented, and upon motion of Mr. Mariano, seconded by Ms. Lotito, and carried by seven, that the reading of the Minutes of said meeting be dispensed with and that they be adopted as received.

Docket #7-227: The **MINUTES** of the Special Business/Budget Meeting held on March 4, 2008, 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. 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 #7-228: The **MINUTES** of the Special Business/Budget Meeting held on March 11, 2008, 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 Ms. Lotito, and carried by seven, that the reading of the Minutes of said meeting be dispensed with and that they be adopted as received.

Docket #7-229: The **TREASURER'S REPORT** for January 2008 having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, was presented, and upon motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Schedule of Claims & Warrants Nos. 14 – 42, appropriation status report and revenue status report were placed on the table for discussion and then filed.

Mr. Trocchia presented Carole Rilling and James Mariano with Developmental Achievement Citation awards, given by the New York State School Boards Association, for their leadership development opportunities totaling 40 credits. The citation recognizes their extensive

time commitment, not only to the district, but to expanding their knowledge and skills in terms of school district governance. Mr. Trocchia thanked them for their commitment to the community and for their willingness to donate their time and efforts to the betterment of education for all students.

Under **REPORT OF COMMITTEES** – Student Council representative, Natalie Madray, gave a brief report on the happenings in the High School including the upcoming Fashion Show, Relay for Life on June 7th, the Apprentice workshop beginning on April 10th, Classnite on May 16th, Sports Day on April 12th, moot court and Foreign Language Week.

Mr. Cunningham spoke on the Wellness Committee with items covering the re-bid on the food service contract; a questionnaire on present and future concerns of the service; variety of foods can be expanded; adequate lunch period time; pricing of the meals and concerns for students with allergies. Ms. Sue Merims, who writes bid specs for lunch programs, also gave a overview of what she does to help districts prepare bids. She explained there are state requirements that must be met on bids. Due to the changing environment, the district has to expect the cost of school lunches to go up. Ms. Merims discussed with the Board their wish list for the lunch program and explained leeway in pricing lunches.

Mr. Kaye gave a legislative report covering the recent turn of events in Albany precipitated by Governor Spitzer's resignation. Crucial negotiations between the Legislature and the Governor will have to move quickly and all parties must arrive at an uncomfortable consensus on the available revenue and total expenditure numbers. On March 5th Mr. Kaye gave testimony to the Suozzi Commission, a fact-finding panel appointed by the Governor, to review and make recommendations on property tax containment. The term "tax cap" is a danger to districts and they will be forced to narrow or eliminate educational programs forced by an

artificially imposed “cap” on spending. There has been on-going discussion of “bundling” certain items in an effort to control taxes.

Ms. Rilling covered her attendance at the Health and Safety Committee meeting and commended Jeffrey Banfield on a great meeting. The committee watched an excellent video and discussed lock-down procedures, new cameras and safety issues.

Under **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT** – Mr. Hogan covered the recent Strategic Planning Committee meeting with their next meeting on April 2nd; budget numbers and adjustments; the re-scheduling of the contingency budget meeting from March 25th to April 8th; math assessments; Cornwell Avenue and George Washington schools sending home student anecdotes for parents; the continuing of the updating of the website; Chestnut’s Read Across American and Family Night; Cornwell Avenue’s Joseph Schneider competing in the National Geographic Geography Bee on April 4th; George Washington’s donation to the American Heart Association and Northport VA Hospital; Middle School’s spring sports beginning and scheduling for next year; and the High School’s Play, “All Shook Up,” a visit from Assemblyman Alfano, the Science Olympiad at Adelphi and an art exhibit at Adelphi.

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

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

Docket #7-230: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, the Board tabled this docket for later in the meeting. Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, this docket was taken off the table and approved after Docket 7-236 was accepted.

Topic: Appointment of Assistant Business Manager

<u>Name</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
O'Keefe, Annette	\$73,200 (pro-rated)	3/12/08

Topic: Substitute Appointment(s)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Carroll, Maureen	Science Teacher High School	Biology & General Science	\$51,972 1MA	3/26/08 - 4/11/08

Topic: Annual Appointment(s)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Period</u>
Periciballi, Anna	School Monitor Chestnut Street	\$13.83/hr. Step 1	3/19/08 – 6/27/08
Pistone, Donna	School Monitor Cornwell Avenue	\$13.83/hr. Step 1	3/19/08 – 6/27/08

Topic: Leave(s) of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Melara, Karla	Science teacher HS	3/26/08	4/11/08

Topic: Appointments for SAT Review Courses

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Period</u>
Casto, Jeannette	English	\$61.82/hr.	6 sessions
Cluxton, Richard	Math	\$61.82/hr.	6 sessions
Howley, Michael	English	\$61.82/hr.	6 sessions
Marder, Pamela	Math	\$61.82/hr.	6 sessions

Topic: Appointment of Mentors

<u>Mentor</u>	<u>Subject Area</u>
Lent, Theresa	Social Studies

Topic: Resignation Request(s) for Purpose of Retirement

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
D'Esposito, Christine	Computer Teacher CA/GW	\$111,396	6/30/08
DeStefano, Theresa	4 th Grade Teacher George Washington	\$ 99,960	6/30/08

Topic: Resignations

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Rodriguez, Silvia	School Monitor	2/5/08

Docket #7-231: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that Extra Pay for Extra Responsibility be approved as follows:

Topic: Extra Pay for Extra Responsibility

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Blyskal, Terrence	MS Assistant Track Coach	\$2,731.00
Castoro, Joseph	HS Boys' Assistant Varsity Lacrosse Coach	\$4,388.00

Docket #7-232: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Ms. Rilling, and carried by seven, the Board approved the amendment to Docket #7-207.

Docket #7-233: Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Ms. Lotito, and carried by seven, the Board approved the amendment to Docket #7-208.

Docket #7-234: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Kaye, and carried by seven, the Board approved the amendment to the Superintendent's Contract.

Docket #7-235: Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Ms. Lotito, and carried by seven, the Board approved the Stipulation of Settlement between the West Hempstead Union Free School District, West Hempstead Administrators Association and Mary Keating.

Docket #7-236: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, the Board approved the creation of position of Assistant Business Manager.

Docket #7-237: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Whelpley, and carried by seven, the Board approved the Contract for Receipt of Federal Part-B Flow-through Allocations.

Docket #7-238: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Mr. Kaye, and carried by seven, the Board unanimously opposed this docket.

Ms. Rilling stepped out at 9:55 p.m. and returned back at 9:58 p.m.

Docket #7-239: Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Mr. Kaye, and carried by six, the Board approved the Health and Welfare Services Agreements with South Huntington, Jericho, Garden City and Franklin Square Union Free School Districts.

Docket #7-240: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by six, the Board accepted the gifts of \$250.00 for *Glass Has Glass* project by Craft Class at the high school and books to the Chestnut Street School in memory of Alice Seligman and Peter Hoegl.

Docket #7-241: 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 #7-242: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, the Board approved the budgetary transfers.

Docket #7-243: Upon the motion of Ms. Rilling, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board approved the contract to furnish Actuarial Services for GASB-45 Analysis to Chernoff Diamond & Co. for the 2007 – 2008 school year.

Docket #7-244: Upon the motion of Mr. Trocchia, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board tabled this docket.

Docket #7-245: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Mr. Whelpley, and carried by seven, the Board approved the contract with Mountain Air Conditioning & Heating Corp. for freezer installation at the high school.

Docket #7-246: Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, seconded by Mr. Kaye, and carried by seven, the Board approved an agreement with the American Legion Cathedral Post No. 1087, as amended, on the Post's Use of Facilities form with a date change to December 31, 2008.

Docket #7-247: Upon the motion of Mr. Mariano, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, the Board approved the Use of Facilities as follows:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Day/Time</u>	<u>Room/ Field</u>
GEORGE WASHINGTON		
WH Little League	03/15/08-07/31/08 Mon-Fri – 4:30 p.m.-Dark Sat – 10:00 a.m.-Dark Sun – 12:00 p.m.-Dark Baseball/Softball	Both Fields
YIWH	03/16/08-06/21/08 Sun – 9:30-11:00 a.m. Baseball	Both Fields
CORNWELL AVENUE		
WH Little League	03/15/08-07/31/08 Tues-Fri – 4:30 p.m.-Dark Sat – 10:00 a.m.-Dark Sun – 5:00 p.m.-Dark Baseball/Softball	Both Fields
YIWH	03/15/08-08/31/08 Sun – 8:30-11:00 a.m. Softball	Both Fields
YIWH	03/16/08-06/21/08 Sun – 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Baseball	Both Fields
MIDDLE SCHOOL		
WH Civic Association	03/27/08 7:00-10:30 p.m. Meeting	Cafeteria
WH Yankees Baseball	03/01/08-08/31/08 Sun – 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Baseball	Baseball Field
ABA Sports	03/09/08-08/31/08 Sun – 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Softball	Softball Field

WH Little League	03/15/08-07/31/08 Mon-Fri – 6:30 p.m.-Dark Sat & Sun – 1:00 p.m.-Dark Baseball/Softball	Both Fields
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CHESTNUT STREET

WH Little League	03/15/08-07/31/08 Mon-Fri – 4:30 p.m.-Dark Sat – 10:00 a.m.-Dark Sun – 10:00 a.m.-Dark Baseball/Softball	Both Fields
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HIGH SCHOOL

WH Kiwanis	05/25/08 7:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Pancake Breakfast	Cafeteria & Kitchen
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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 #7-248: Upon the motion of Ms. Lotito, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that the Public Hearing date be set for May 13, 2008, and the Annual Meeting date be set for May 20, 2008.

Docket #7-249: Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, as amended, the Board appointed James Mariano, Trustee of the Board of Education, as Chairperson for the Annual Meeting of the District to be held on May 20, 2008.

Docket #7-250: Upon the motion of Mr. Whelpley, seconded by Mr. Brita, and carried by seven, the Board approved the non-binding nominations of Stephen Witt, Eric Schultz and Robert Lupinskie for election as BOCES Board Trustees effective July 1, 2008.

Docket #7-251: Upon the motion of Mr. Brita, 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 "Working Effectively with Our Critical Friends and Engendering Public Trust" workshop on April 7 or 10, 2008.

Docket #7-252: Upon the motion of Mr. Kaye, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by seven, the Board approved the increase in contractual stipend for the Internal Claims Auditor.

Under **BOARD PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR** – Ms. Lotito inquired if administration looked into her Academic Intervention Plan questions from a previous meeting. Mr. Trocchia stated this should be revisited next month because the Board was not informed as to Ms. Lotito’s request to discuss the topic.

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

At 10:20 p.m., upon the motion of Mr. Trocchia, seconded by Mr. Kaye, and carried by seven, the Board adjourned to Executive Session, which ended at 11:40 p.m.

Kathryn Girolamo, District Clerk