

The **BUDGET AND SPECIAL 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 8, 2008 at 7:42 p.m.

PRESENT: Mr. Trocchia, who presided, and five other members of the Board: Mr. Brita, Ms. Lotito, Mr. Mariano, Ms. Rilling and Mr. Whelpley. Mr. Kaye was absent. 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 who explained there are three different scenarios that the Board can consider to amend the budget: A “straight” budget that includes building renovations with a 3.76% budget-to-budget increase with a 2.94% tax levy; eliminate the clock and bell system and stage lighting dollars, adjusting the budget to 3.46% and a tax levy of 2.49%; or changing the line for the Middle School parking lot renovation from \$50,000 to \$10,000 for patch upgrade only, making the budget a 3.38% increase with a 2.38% tax levy. Mr. Hogan also discussed a phone call with Scott Cushing stating that the legislature would soon be voting on budget bills, which may result in an increase in state aid to our district.

After discussion on the above scenarios, it was unanimously agreed by the Board to leave \$6,400 for stage lighting, leave \$50,000 in the budget to repave the Middle School parking lot line and eliminate the clock and bell system monies altogether and appropriate

\$75,000 to \$150,000 allocated for instructional technology items for students. Discussion also included being mindful of the Island Park situation, open/closed campus, high taxes and general fund extra monies for future budget considerations.

At this point in the meeting, the community posed their questions to the Board.

Under **DISCUSSION** portion of the meeting, Mr. Hogan announced that the State Comptroller's Office has released its audit report on Nassau BOCES. The Nassau BOCES response to the audit may be found online, but would be sent to the Board of Education.

The Special Business Meeting – BOCES – on April 16, time has been changed to 7:30 a.m.

Upon the motion of Mr. Trocchia, seconded by Mr. Mariano, and carried by six, the meeting adjourned to Executive Session, which ended at 9:30 p.m.

Kathryn Girolamo, District Clerk