

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 March 19, 2019 at 7:37 p.m.

PRESENT: Ms. Brohm, who presided, and six other members of the Board: Mr. Cole, Ms. Greaves, Mr. Katrakazis, Mr. Magaraci, Ms. Shinsato and Mr. Trocchia. Also present were Mr. Rehman, Mr. Press, Ms. Reilly, Mr. Mestecky, Ms. Bryant, and members of the staff and community.

Ms. Brohm broke the traditional routine and wished Michelle Lambo-Moran a happy birthday with balloons, party hat and cupcakes. All sang happy birthday. She then asked Autumn Collins, Student Council Representative, to give her report. Autumn reported that Ms. Shannon and the Debate Club competed in its first Mock Trial Competition last month. Ten students from the High School represented in a court case at the Mineola Supreme Court Building. The team won its first competition round and lost in its second round to Great Neck High School. The participating students did an incredible job learning the legal terms, the specifics of the case and the facts about witnesses and evidence. Ms. Kalinowski and the Environmental Club completed a program to educate their peers during lunch periods about toxic chemicals found in personal care products. Each of the members of the Environmental Club brought in common household products found in their homes. This campaign lasted a week and both teachers and students alike have given up their products for more ecologically environmentally and clinically safe products! They are still collecting markers and cell phones for recycling, and are discussing our Earth Day plans. Autumn announced that the yearbook deadline was coming fast. \$103.29 is due by March 31st to Mr. Loizides. SADD will be hosting *Mix It Up Day* on Thursday, March 21st, which is an

international campaign that encourages students to cross social boundaries. Students have the opportunity to participate in a series of activities throughout the lunch periods in order to create new relationships with students by encouraging students to sit with a new social group in lunch, as well as engage in social exercise. Autumn announced that Child Abuse Prevention Services held several programs in our schools - *Steer Clear of Bullies* and the viewing of a program on cyber-bullying.

Mr. Rehman announced that the West Hempstead High School Athletic Department was the recipient of the *National Athletic Trainers' Association Safe Sports School Award*. This award recognizes the policies and procedures established by the Athletic Department to provide the best level of care, injury prevention and treatment. This prestigious award acknowledges secondary schools around the country that takes the crucial steps to keep their student athletes free from injuries. Out of the 3,000 plus schools in New York State, West Hempstead was among one of the elite 22 schools who have attained this award and we are one out of only four schools in Nassau County currently holding this award. Mr. Rehman presented certificates and congratulated Calogero Curcuru, our Athletic Trainer and Chris Mistretta, our Athletic Director on this outstanding achievement.

Ms. Brohm then turned the meeting over to Ryan Emmanuel Cooke, Michelle Notti, Faith Tripp, Joe Cangemi and Sean Murray who gave a presentation on ST Math and KidOYO.

James DeTommaso and Sean Murray then gave a presentation on the High School/Middle School Educational Program.

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

Docket #8-250: The **MINUTES** of the Regular Business Meeting held on February 12, 2019, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, were presented, and upon motion of Ms. Greaves, seconded by Mr. Magaraci and carried by seven, that the reading of the Minutes of said meeting be dispensed with and that they be adopted as received.

Docket #8-251: The **MINUTES** of the Budget Workshop – Non Instructional held on March 5, 2019, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, were presented, and upon motion of Ms. Greaves, seconded by Mr. Magaraci and carried by seven, that the reading of the Minutes of said meeting be dispensed with and that they be adopted as received.

Docket #8-252: The **MINUTES** of the Budget Workshop – Instructional held on March 12, 2019, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, were presented, and upon motion of Ms. Greaves, seconded by Mr. Magaraci and carried by seven, that the reading of the Minutes of said meeting be dispensed with and that they be adopted as received.

Docket #8-253: The **TREASURER’S REPORT** for the month ended January 31, 2019, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, was presented, and upon motion of Ms. Greaves, seconded by Mr. Magaraci and carried by seven, the Schedule of Claims & Warrants, Appropriation Status Report and Revenue Status Report were placed on the table for discussion and then filed.

Docket #8-254: The **CLAIMS AUDITOR’S REPORT** for the month ended February 28, 2019, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, was presented, and upon motion of Ms. Greaves, seconded by Mr. Magaraci and carried by seven, the report was placed on the table for discussion and then filed.

Under **REPORT OF COMMITTEES** action took place as follows: Laurene Baumann, PTA Co-President, announced that Spring Photos will be taken at Chestnut Street, George Washington and Cornwell Avenue on March 27th. The Spring Boutique will be held on April 16th and 17th and the next PTA meeting will be held on March 25th in the Cornwell Avenue Cafeteria.

Irene Martinez, PTSA Co-President, announced that this was the last month for all to join the PTSA for this year. She said that the PTA/PTSA/SEPTA Reflections Ceremony will be on March 21st at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School Cafeteria. The PTSA Senior Prom Fashion Show will be on March 28th and the PTSA Social will be on April 4th at the Pompei – tickets are \$45.00. She announced that the next meeting will be held on April 8th at 7:30 p.m. in the High School Video Conference Room. She reviewed the various fundraisers, (Hurricane Grill for 8th grade dance) and Ginors (Senior Fashion Show). Ms. Martinez said that she has been in touch with Harold Lutz, the Director of Traffic and Engineering in Nassau County, concerning the crossing and synchronizing of lights on Nassau Boulevard. They are working on it.

Theresa Walz, SEPTA Co-President, announced the Nature's Vision fundraiser was going well and that the March 22nd deadline has been extended. She said that the next meeting will be held on May 8th at 7:30 p.m. in the Cornwell Avenue Library. She encouraged all to attend as they will have a guest speaker talking about nutrition and being a picky eater.

Under **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** - Mr. Rehman spoke about how March was a busy and exciting month where we have numerous discussions centered around what is best for students.

Whether it be through the budget, presentations by our students or presentations by our administration team, the focus is on what is best socially, emotionally or academically.

Mr. Rehman spoke about the recent cheating scandal involving many top universities. He read a portion of an article written by Valerie Strauss and Ted Dinters "Beyond the Scandal: The damage done by our obsession with prestigious college credentials" which speaks to this issue.

For certain, this scandal's detritus is gripping. Wealthy, desperate parents charged with trampling laws in a tragic effort to advantage their child. Coaches at elite colleges charged with taking bribes. A deeply flawed standardized testing system heaping further advantage to the affluent. Celebrities.

Bizarre, brazen tactics. The myriad legal ways the rich are gaming the system. Voilà! Scintillating front-page news.

But let's look below the surface, starting with basic math. Across highly selective colleges, a few thousand admissions spots go undeservedly to the rich each year. Yes, that's appalling. But for context, some four million teenagers leave our K-12 schools annually.

While the "purchased" admissions spots shake our confidence in what has become America's modern-day caste system, these spots affect just a tiny percentage of kids. The real damage? We've let our college-acceptance feeding frenzy define the lives of our K-12 children - what they study, what skills they develop and how they view their worth. This threatens to impair their futures.

Mr. Rehman said that this is disconcerting and that the scandal also speaks to the importance of what we do here in West Hempstead. We scrutinize our needs. They are not wants. We do not spend lavishly. We do not create a budget with no sense of purpose. The budget is crafted based upon the goals and deliverables we believe will provide our students with a well-rounded education. Chances are our students will not have hundreds of thousands of dollars to pay off someone to attend top universities, but, it is our obligation from the Board to the administration, to the entire staff, to put forth our very best on a daily basis to ensure our students have the skill set to launch themselves on a course of success. For each student, this will work differently. It can be, and will be done daily. Mr. Rehman said that he was proud to be part of an organization and community which prides itself on attempting to provide the best in a fiscally responsible manner.

He thanked Mr. Mestecky for helping prepare students for Moot Court and that we should be proud of what we do daily within our schools and in our community. Our kids make it all worthwhile and

it is Mr. Rehman's belief that West Hempstead can, and will, compete with all districts in Nassau County.

Ms. Brohm then opened the meeting for residents to address the Board.

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

Docket #8-255: Upon the motion of Ms. Shinsato, seconded by Mr. Magaraci and carried by seven, Appointments, Resignations, etc. were accepted, granted and approved as follows:

Topic: Resignation Request(s) for Purpose of Retirement

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Hafner, Barbara	6 th Grade Teacher GW	\$118,900	6/30/19
Durham, Mary	Cleaner HS	\$ 59,488	7/3/19

Topic: Resignation Request(s)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Barnes, Beverly	Monitor George Washington	\$16.52/hr.	2/4/2019
Merman, Melissa	Teaching Assistant (presently on leave)	\$21.82/hr.	6/30/2019
Tantillo, Andrea	Senior Clerk Typist GW Main Office	\$44,932	3/29/2019

Topic: Civil Service Appointments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
O'Connor, Vincent	Maintainer	\$58,002 plus neg. increase Step 3	4/1/2019

Topic: Appointment of Monitors

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Anderson, Marsha	School Monitor George Washington	\$16.52/hr. Step 1	2/26/19

Topic: Per Diem Substitute Appointments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Damiani, Nicholas	Teacher	\$100.00/day
Field, Joseph	Teacher	\$100.00/day
Peluso, Eric	Teacher	\$100.00/day

Topic: Removal from Per Diem Substitute Lists

Name

Bazhdari, Robin, Correa, Alexis

Topic: Academic Intervention Classes

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Period</u>
Corrado, Jennifer	ELA/ Math Substitute	\$67.34 per hour plus neg. increase	2/1/19-3/30/19 (5-hour maximum)
Karroll, Desiree	ELA/ Math Substitute	\$67.34 per hour plus neg. increase	2/1/19-3/30/19 (5-hour maximum)
Sheridan, Aileen	Math Substitute	\$67.34 per hour plus neg. increase	2/1/19-3/30/19 (5-hour maximum)

Topic: Appointment of Mentors

The following appointment(s) shall be made for the 2018- 2019 school year at a salary of **\$657.80 (pro-rated)** plus negotiated increase:

<u>Mentor</u>	<u>Subject Area</u>
Ragin, Linda	Guidance Counselor
Spallino, Caterina	Foreign Language

Docket #8-256: Upon the motion of Mr. Katrakazis, and seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, the Board approved the Virtual Enterprise Trip.

Docket #8-257: There was no discussion.

Docket #8-258: Upon the motion of Mr. Cole, and seconded by Mr. Katrakazis and carried by seven, the Board approved the Individual Consultant Services Contract with Distinctive Educators Institute and Dr. Steven Baron.

Docket #8-259: Upon the motion of Mr. Cole, and seconded by Mr. Katrakazis and carried by seven, the Board approved Contracts for Special Education/Consultant Services for the 2018-19 School Year with Clinical Staffing Resources, Inc.; East Williston UFSD; Eden II/The Genesis School Program; Harmony Heights; LIDC Services, Inc. and Dr. Lois Schatz.

Docket #8-260: Upon the motion of Mr. Cole, and seconded by Mr. Katrakazis and carried by seven, the Board approved the Health and Welfare Services Agreements with Floral Park-Bellerose UFSD, Garden City UFSD, Hicksville School District, Malverne UFSD, North Merrick UFSD, Smithtown Central School District, Syosset Central School District and Uniondale UFSD.

Docket #8-261: Upon the motion of Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Katrakazis and carried by seven, the Board approved the Annual Meeting Date notice for the May 21, 2019 Budget Vote.

Docket #8-262: Upon the motion of Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Katrakazis and carried by seven, the Board approved Karen Brohm as the Chairperson for the Annual District Meeting, with Patrick McNeill as Alternate, on May 21, 2019.

Docket #8-263: Upon the motion of Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Katrakazis and carried by seven, the Board approved the Appointment of Election Inspectors for the Budget Vote on May 21, 2019.

Docket #8-264: Upon the motion of Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Katrakazis and carried by seven, the Board approved the Agreement with SCOPE Education Services – Summer Program 2019.

Docket #8-265: Upon the motion of Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Katrakazis and carried by seven, the Board accepted the Donations of \$250.00 from SEPTA, \$250.00 from PTSA and \$250.00 from PTA.

Docket #8-266: Upon the motion of Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Katrakazis 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**, 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 #8-267: Upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Trocchia and carried by seven, the Board approved the New Vendors.

Docket #8-268: Upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Trocchia and carried by seven, the Board approved the Budgetary Transfers.

Docket #8-269: Upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Trocchia and carried by seven, the Board accepted the Risk Assessment Report – December 2018 - Cerini & Associates.

Docket #8-270: Upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Trocchia and carried by seven, the Board approved Financial Advisory Services – CMA Contract.

Docket #8-271: Upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Trocchia and carried by seven, the Board approved the Contract with L.E.B. Electric, Ltd. for Project B - #157219-16002.

Docket #8-272: Upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Trocchia and carried by seven, the Board approved the Contract with JNS Heating Services, Inc. for Project B - #157219-16002.

Docket #8-273: Upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Trocchia and carried by seven, the Board approved the Contract with HVAC, Inc. for Project B Mechanical Work HC-2 - #157219-16002.

Docket #8-274: Upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Trocchia and carried by seven, the Board approved the Contract with HVAC, Inc. for Project B Mechanical Work HC-3 - #157219-16002.

Docket #8-275: Upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Trocchia and carried by seven, the Board approved the Contract with Boilermatic Welding Industries, Inc. for Project B - #157219-16002.

Docket #8-276: Upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Trocchia and carried by seven, the Board approved the Contract for Pupil Transportation Consultant Service.

Docket #8-277: Upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Trocchia and carried by seven, the Board approved the Charges for Health Services.

Docket #8-278: Upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Trocchia and carried by seven, the Board approved the Disposition of Equipment.

Docket #8-279: Upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Trocchia and carried by seven, the Board approved the Use of Facilities as follows:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Day/Time</u>	<u>Room/Field</u>
<u>High School</u>		
PTSA Fashion Show Ticket Sales	3/13, 3/20, 3/22 Weds & Fri 10:30 am – 1:00 pm	Cafeteria
WH Community Scholarship Clothing Drive	4/14/19 Sunday 9:00am – 2:00 pm	Front of School
<u>Middle School</u>		
WH Little League	3/4/19 - 4/29/19 Mondays 7:00pm – 10:00pm	Gym
WHEPTA Reflections Ceremony	3/21/19 Thursday 6:00pm – 9:00pm	Cafeteria
WHEPTA 6 th Grade Dance	6/14/19 Friday 5:00pm – 10:00pm	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 #8-280: Upon the motion of Mr. Katsakazis, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, the Board approved the Bid Alternates GC-1, GC-2 & GC-3 For Project B – West Hempstead District Wide Alterations General Work, Tt Project Number 157219-16002.

Under **BOARD PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

There was no discussion.

Ms. Brohm again opened the meeting for residents to address the Board.

At 8:55 p.m., upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Ms. Shinsato and carried by seven, the Board adjourned to Executive Session to discuss personnel and receive advise from counsel.

At 10:15 p.m., upon the motion of Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Magaraci and carried by seven, the Board reconvened into the Regular Business Meeting.

Docket #8-281: Upon the motion of Ms. Shinsato, seconded by Mr. Trocchia and carried by seven, the Board approved the Rescinding of Old Agreement and Acceptance of New Agreement regarding a student.

At 10:17 p.m., upon the motion of Mr. Cole, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, the Board adjourned the meeting.

Theresa Bryant, Deputy District Clerk