

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 November 17, 2020 at 7:32 p.m.

PRESENT: Ms. Brohm, who presided, and six other members of the Board: Ms. Greaves, Mr. Hoffman, Mr. Katrakazis, Mr. Magaraci, Ms. Shinsato and Mr. Trocchia. Also present were Mr. Mestecky, Mr. Fleck, Mr. Dworsak, Mr. Cangemi and Ms. Bryant. Mr. Rehman, Ms. Reilly and Mr. Press, as well as other members of the staff and community, attended virtually.

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

Docket #0-141: The **MINUTES** of the Regular Business Meeting held on October 20, 2020, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, were presented, and upon motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Katrakazis and carried by seven, that the reading of the Minutes of said meeting be dispensed with and that they be adopted as received.

Docket #0-142: The **MINUTES** of the Audit Committee Meeting held on November 10, 2020, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, were presented, and upon motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Katrakazis and carried by seven, that the reading of the Minutes of said meeting be dispensed with and that they be adopted as received.

Docket #0-143: The **TREASURER'S REPORT** for the month ended September 30, 2020, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, was presented, and upon motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Katrakazis 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 #0-144: The **CLAIMS AUDITOR'S REPORT** for the month ended October 31, 2020, having been received by each member several days prior to the date of this meeting, was presented, and upon motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Mr. Katrakazis 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:

Under **PTA, PTSA and SEPTA** – There were no reports.

Under **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:**

Isabella Matos, Student Council Rep, reported on the following:

Student Council

The members of Student Council are busy planning school-wide and district-wide activities to promote school and community spirit. Stay tuned for more details.

Yearbook

The price is currently \$92.33 and will go up after November 27th. Parent ads can also be purchased and can make perfect holiday gifts. The ads are due January 31, 2021.

Key Club

Just a reminder that the Key Club's Thanksgiving Food Drive is still going on and they are still accepting donations! If anyone would like to adopt a family and create their own food package, "Make a Meal," purchase gift cards, or give a donation, please let Mr. McEntee or Ms. Casto know. They are planning to organize and box everything this week. Boxes, laundry baskets, and reusable shopping bags are always needed if anyone would like to donate those as well. They would like to thank all those who have already reached out about donating or adopting a family and for everyone for their generous support.

GSA

This Friday, November 20th is Transgender Day of Remembrance. Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) is an annual observance that honors the memory of the transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence. To show our support for TDOR, we are asking that students and staff wear light blue or light pink. Let's show our school community that we support and accept everyone no matter what!

ENL Club

The ENL Club sold student designed, hand-made masks after school. The mask design included the WH Ram with "hello" in the different languages that represents our diverse population. The students worked very hard and were excited when they sold out of all masks. More masks will be available for sale after the Thanksgiving holiday. The members of the ENL club would like to thank everybody for their support.

Under **AUDITORS REPORT:**

Ms. Brohm introduced Alan Yu from Cullen & Danowski, the District's External Auditors. Mr. Yu gave a synopsis of the June 30, 2020 Audit Report. He noted that there were no significant weaknesses.

Under **STEM REPORT:** Mr. Cangemi gave an overview of STEM and Business Education. He reviewed the STEM Department's Mission Statement, Assessment Facts, the five-year results of the Challenge Up Program, the New Instructional Technology Program, Beyond the Classroom, Escape the Classroom, Hands-on Learning, Coding using KidOYO and Collaborative Learning. Mr. Cangemi thanked the Board and community for their support.

Under **TAX RATE PRESENTATION:** Mr. Press reviewed the following: What Makes Up the Tax Rate – School Tax Levy, Total Assessed Value of All Properties in the District and Adjusted Base Proportions. He went over Basic Tax Rate Calculations and explained that the amount of taxes paid by the homeowners whose assessed value decreased by 60% went down 33% and the amount of taxes paid by the homeowners whose assessed value stayed the same went up 33%. He spoke about the Change in Adjusted Base Proportions, the Change in Tax Rate, the Change in Average Taxable Value and the Change in Average Taxes Paid. He also reviewed other items that could impact an individual's property taxes – work done on your home, tax exemptions and STAR exemption.

Under **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Mr. Rehman spoke about the COVID virus and the importance of understanding the process that is undertaken when a COVID case is reported. He stressed that each case is analyzed and decisions are made accordingly. So far, there have been three different scenarios and three different paths were taken. The District is following all CDC regulations, Nassau County Department of Health regulations, as well as New York State

regulations. Mr. Rehman speaks daily to Dr. Buchman from the Nassau County Department of Health and reviews all cases and procedures with her. He announced that there was a new question added to the daily health app – Have you been tested for COVID during the last 10 days? Mr. Rehman wished everyone a happy, healthy and safe Thanksgiving.

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

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

Docket #0-146: Upon the motion of Mr. Katrakazis, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, Appointments, Resignations, etc. were accepted, granted and approved:

<u>Topic:</u>		Leave(s) of Absence	
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>	
Fuentes, Elizabeth	School Psychologist HS	11/16/20 - 12/18/20	
Roodman, Jessica	Math Teacher MS	10/28/20 – 2/4/21	
Madlik, AnnMarie	School Monitor GW	11/10/20 – 11/23/20	
Buesaquillo, Conception	School Monitor GW	11/30/20 – 12/23/20	

<u>Topic:</u>		Resignation Request(s)		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>	
Kaval, Kristine	School Monitor Chestnut Street	\$18.76/hr.	10/30/20	

<u>Topic:</u>		Appointment of Mentor(s)		
<u>Mentor</u>	<u>Subject Area</u>	<u>Salary</u>		
Ragusa, Kristen	Speech Teacher	\$676.04		

<u>Topic:</u>		Leave Replacement Appointments			
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>	
Riechkehoff, Krystin	School Psychologist HS	School Psychologist	\$58,176 (pro-rated)	11/16/20- 12/18/20	

<u>Topic:</u>		Per Diem Substitute Appointments		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>		
Calbi, Alexandra	Teacher	\$100.00/day		
Hills, Lexi	Teacher	\$100.00/day		

Persich, Alyssa	Teacher	\$100.00/day
Ventura, Jose	Cleaner	\$13.00/hour

Docket #0-147: Upon the motion of Mr. Katrakazis, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, a resolution was adopted that Extra Pay for Extra Responsibility be approved as follows:

HIGH SCHOOL

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Konovitch, Sarah	Grade 9 Class Advisor	\$2,353.00
Spring Intramurals 2021		
<u>One Session (10 days) = \$582.00</u>		
DeMarzo, Christopher	Boys Baseball	\$291.00 (5-days)
DiBenedetto, Nicholas	Boys Track	\$146.00 (2 ½ days)
Grey, Colin	Girls Track	\$146.00 (2 ½ days)
Hovanec, Michael	Boys Tennis	\$291.00 (5-days)
Hutt-Marshall, Tracy	Girls Badminton	\$291.00 (5-days)
Kenney, Suzanne	Girls Lacrosse	\$291.00 (5-days)
Paul, Michael	Boys Lacrosse	\$291.00 (5-days)
Van Kovics, Christian	Girls' Softball	\$291.00 (5-days)
<u>Miscellaneous</u>		
Rieckenhoff, Krystin	Class Coverage	\$30.71 per period (4 period maximum)
Andree, Catherine	Chain Crew	\$34.10 per game Monday – Friday \$41.32 per game Saturday
Canzoneri, Michael	Chain Crew	\$34.10 per game Monday – Friday \$41.32 per game Saturday
Cates, Mackenzie	Chain Crew	\$34.10 per game Monday – Friday \$41.32 per game Saturday

Topic: Curriculum Writing Appointments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Dempsey, Sheila	Career Exploration	\$175.00/day (3-day maximum)

Karis, Bridget	Career Exploration Administrator	\$175.00/day (1-day maximum)
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Docket #0-148: Upon the motion of Mr. Katrakazis, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, the Board approved the Tenure Appointment of Catherine Klein.

Docket #0-149: Amendment to Docket #9-331 Adopted on June 23, 2020.

Upon the motion of Mr. Katrakazis, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, the Board approved the amendment of the following appointments as highlighted:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Dempsey, Sheila	CSE Special Ed Teacher & Testing	7/1/20-8/31/20 (4-day maximum)	daily, hourly rate
Hutt, Tracy	CSE General Ed Teacher (K-12)	7/1/20-8/31/20 (5-day maximum)	daily, hourly rate
Mayer, Elyssa	CSE Psychologist/Chairperson & Testing	7/1/20-8/31/20 (16-day maximum)	daily, hourly, rate

Docket #0-150: Upon the motion of Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, the Board authorized that correspondence be sent to the Commissioner of Education requesting a change in the date of the annual budget vote and board of education elections from May 18, 2021 to May 11, 2021.

Docket #0-151: Upon the motion of Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, the Board approved the 2021-2022 Budget Timetable.

Docket #0-152: Upon the motion of Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, the Board approved the Corrective Action Plan for the Audit of 2019-2020.

Docket #0-153: Upon the motion of Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, the Board approved consultant services contracts with: Apptegy, Carl F. Hicks, Jr. d/b/a The Growth Group, LLc and Joan Della Valle.

Docket #0-154: Upon the motion of Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, the Board approved a contract with CORE BTS, INC. for a Cisco Collaboration Flex Plan for Education.

Docket #0-155: Upon the motion of Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, the Board approved contracts for Special Education/Consultant Services for the 2020-2021 school year with Comprehensive Resources, Inc., Deer Park UFSD, Rehabilitation Institute, Summit School (Queens) and New York Therapy Placement Services, Inc.

Docket #0-156: Upon the motion of Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, the Board approved High School and Middle School Club Charters.

Docket #0-157: Upon the motion of Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, the Board accepted the following donations: a mini grant in the amount of \$750.00 from Children's Institute for the Chestnut Street Project *Reimagine and Cultivate*; a mini grant in the amount of \$750.00 from Children's Institute for the Cornwell Avenue School Project *Reimagine and Cultivate*; protective masks from a private donor and conference tables, side chairs, conference chairs, break room table, break room chairs and reception chairs from Nationwide Office Furniture and Facility Services Network.

Docket #0-158: Upon the motion of Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Ms. Greaves 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 #0-159: Upon the motion of Mr. Trocchia, seconded by Mr. Magaraci and carried by seven, the Board accepted the recommendations to add new vendors to the District vendor list.

Docket #0-160: Upon the motion of Mr. Trocchia, seconded by Mr. Magaraci and carried by seven, the Board approved the budgetary transfers.

Docket #0-161: Upon the motion of Mr. Trocchia, seconded by Mr. Magaraci and carried by seven, the Board approved the Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020.

Docket #0-162: Upon the motion of Mr. Trocchia, seconded by Mr. Magaraci and carried by seven, the Board approved the Stalco Construction, Inc. Allowance Access Authorizations for Project B3.

Docket #0-162.5: Upon the motion of Mr. Trocchia, seconded by Mr. Magaraci and carried by seven, the Board approved Use of Facilities as follows:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Day/Time</u>	<u>Room/Field</u>
<u>High School/Middle School</u> WHPTSA	11/21/20 (11/22/20-raindate) Saturday or Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	High School front steps and parking lot

Under **OLD BUSINESS** action was taken as follows: There was no action.

Under **NEW BUSINESS** action was taken as follows:

Upon the motion of Mr. Magaraci, seconded by Ms. Shinsato and carried by seven, the following policies were motioned to discuss at the December 1, 2020 Policy Meeting:

Docket #:0-163: New Policy – Records Retention

Docket #0-164: Policy 1331 – Gratuities for School Personnel

Docket #0-165: Policy 2445 – Crisis Response

Docket #0-166: Policy 3547 – Special Transportation

Docket #0-167: Policy 4211 – Non Certified Personnel Recruitment and Selection

Docket #0-168: Policy 5114 – Request for Early Dismissal of a Student

Docket #0-169: Policy 5115 – Release of Student by building Principal in an Emergency

Docket #0-170: Policy 8345 – School Board Use of Electronic Mail

Docket #0-171: Policy 9270 – Duties of the External Auditor

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

Under BOARD PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – Mrs. Brohm announced that the Key Club Thanksgiving Food Drive was ongoing and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

At 8:39 p.m., upon the motion of Mr. Katrakazis, seconded by Mr. Hoffman and carried by seven, the Board adjourned to Executive Session to discuss personnel and receive advice of counsel.

At 9:00 p.m. upon the motion of Ms. Shinsato, seconded by Ms. Greaves and carried by seven, Executive Session adjourned.



Theresa Bryant, District Clerk