

A REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education of the West Babylon Union Free School District, of the Town of Babylon, Suffolk County, New York was held on Tuesday, February 23, 2016, in the Board Room of the Administration Building.

Those present: Trustees Lucy Campasano, John Evola, Cathy Gismervik, Diane Klein, Dennis Kranz, Jennifer Longo, Peter Scarlatos and Jennifer Wandasiewicz

Trustee Ray Downey was absent

Also present: Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent; Mrs. Christine Tona, Executive Director for Curriculum & Instruction; Mrs. Michele Psarakis, Executive Director for Finance; Mr. William C. Morrell, Attorney; Mrs. Amy E. Jones, District Clerk; and residents

The President opened the meeting at 6:12 p.m. and led those present in the salute to the flag.

Trustee Klein seconded by Trustee Wandasiewicz made a motion to enter Executive Session for WBTA contract negotiations, and legal matters at 6:13 p.m.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

The public portion resumed at 7:40 p.m.

Trustee Wandasiewicz seconded by Trustee Gismervik made a motion to approve the minutes of January 26, 2016

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

Statement of the Board and/or Superintendent:

Dr. Farrelly began the meeting by showcasing two of elementary buildings - JFK and Forest Avenue with videos from each, available on the district's website. Dr. Farrelly shared that teachers, administrators and students participated in Acceptance/ PS I love you day on Feb. 12th, district-wide. Many wore purple to support one another. At the SHS - students participated in a variety of activities designed to develop positive social emotional learning characteristics. Peer educators, a select group of students who are trained throughout the year, facilitated the day's activities. Students signed an Acceptance Day banner pledging to remain judgement free. Dr. Farrelly offered a big thank you to Dr. Neville, the HS administration, the peer educators and all of the students involved. Dr. Farrelly said that she is working on building a working relationship with the West Babylon Library. She said that as a starting point, she and Library Director Gail Pepa are working to get library cards into the hands of all our students. Applications will be distributed and collected at the building level. A library representative will hand deliver the library cards. Dr. Farrelly said that the music department and members of the Drama Club, crew and orchestra performed "Footloose" for packed audiences in February. She added that despite the weather and changes in plans, the performance was spectacular. She offered kudos to all the students involved, Mr. Barone, Mrs. Cafiero, Mr. Scott, Mrs. Meadows, Ms. Montalvo and all of the other teachers and administrators who were actively involved in this performance. Dr. Farrelly said that the Districtwide STEM night was held on February 11th. More than 300 senior high school students were involved in coordinating dozens of activities available to K-12 students and their parents. They participated in science, math and technology activities. Dr. Farrelly said the evening was a huge success and was absolutely wonderful to watch. She offered a big thank you to Mrs. Mendoza and all the administrators & teachers who helped to coordinate the details. She shared some photos of the evening in a slide show. Dr. Farrelly asked everyone to please take a moment to review her February Points of Pride which outlines other academic, music, art and athletics accomplishments. The 2016-2017 Proposed School Calendar is on tonight's agenda. Dr. Farrelly said that she has recommendations before the Board adopts the calendar. She suggested changing the proposed Tuesday, February 14th Board meeting to February 7th and asked if, as was done this year, on months when school is closed for 4,5,6,7 days only one Board meeting will be scheduled with the understanding that if there is a need for another meeting the Board would have one. The Board was in agreement with Dr. Farrelly's recommendations. Dr. Farrelly said that Mrs. Jones received word from the Suffolk County Board of Elections that the primaries will be held on April 19th in the Board room, and as there is a Board meeting scheduled that evening, the meeting will need to be in an alternate location.

Statement of the WBTA:

WBTA President Jo Poio noted that teachers from Forest Avenue were present this evening. She said that she liked the Board's pamphlet that has the mission and vision statement. Ms. Poio added that the teachers assist in the Board accomplishing these goals. She said that the trustees will be receiving an invitation to attend a Forum about the future of public education with informational facts about the common core standards. She said Governor Cuomo is working to make public education a thing of the past. Ms. Poio encouraged the Board to attend the forum.

Statement of the WBAA:

None

Statement of CSEA Representative:

None

Statement of Student Association Representative:

None

Statement of PTA Council Representative:

PTA Council President Daienna Edmonds noted that the Founder's Day awards evening will be held on March 3rd. She said she was happy that the awards will be going to a nice split between parents, teachers and staff. She added that these people are true inspirations. Ms. Edmonds also noted that Tooker Avenue's PTA will be hosting a Motown Night on Friday, March 4, she encouraged everyone to attend. She also noted that the JHS PTA will host an auction on March 18. Ms. Edmonds also thanked Music Chairperson Joseph Barone for being a partner with the PTAs.

Statement of Residents (Agenda Items)

None

Report of the Superintendent and /or Educational Presentation**Budget Draft #2 - Budget Draft #2 – Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly and Mrs. Michele Psarakis, CPA**

Dr. Farrelly explained that there will be a more formal presentation of Budget Draft #2 at the March 8 Board meeting. She said that in Budget Draft #1 the district had a \$1.7 million dollar deficit. She said some changes had been made to insurance rates. Salary codes are being reviewed and cleaned up. In addition, needs for equipment were taken into account as was the inclusion of an on-site math curriculum specialist instead of paying an outside person to do the observations and math professional development work. At this point the district has a \$1.452 million dollar deficit. If the GEA is restored, the budget will be fairly balanced. If it is not restored, the Board could choose to close the gap by applying \$1.452 million dollars from reserves. She said that this evening the Board will need to decide if they have any intention of piercing the cap and will need to make a motion declaring their intentions to be sent to the state.

Trustee Wandasiewicz seconded by Trustee Kranz made a motion that it is the intention of the Board that they will not pierce the state budget cap for the 2016-2017 budget.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

SCOPE Preschool Program Fee Waiver:

Dr. Farrelly said that with the approval of the Board she will place a resolution on the March 8 agenda to waive the facilities fees for SCOPE to run the Preschool program in the district. She said that, as was done this year, district residents would have the first preference to attend. The consensus of the Board was to have the resolution on the next agenda for the Board to approve the fee waiver.

PAC Carpet Replacement:

Mr. Ray Graziano, and Mr. Don Soker discussed the replacement of the carpet/flooring in the PAC due to the bad odor from leaks over the years. The various options for carpet or flooring were discussed and the trustees were in agreement that the carpets should be in the aisles and the front and rear of the PAC should have flooring. Mr. Soker will leave carpet and flooring samples for the Board and administration to look through. Dr. Farrelly said that she would like to have the carpet replaced this year. She invited the trustees to come to the PAC at 5:30-5:45 on March 8 before the Board meeting to help in making a selection.

Mr. Graziano said that the specs for the bids for the gym flooring were for an inferior wood flooring product, not the quality that had been agreed to by the district. Mr. Soker explained that the underlayment in the specs called for plywood instead of the more superior material that would offer moisture resistance and cushioning. Dr. Farrelly said she will reach out to BBS to look into the matter.

Board President Lucy Campasano seconded by Trustee Evola made a motion to place the following letter and resolution on this evening's agenda as addendum #BE-3.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

President Campasano shared that she received the letter from the East Ramapo Schools Board of Education and presented it to the District Clerk to be entered into the minutes.

February 1, 2016

Dear School Board Members: On behalf of Strong East Ramapo, a coalition of over 3,500 public school parents, community members and concerned citizens, I am writing to request that your board lend its support to an issue of grave importance to fellow New Yorkers committed to public education. You may have already learned about the East Ramapo Central School District in Rockland County from various media reports, including a New York Times op-ed entitled "When A School Board Victimized Kids" co-written by Chancellor Merryl Tisch. Our district, which has 8,500 public school students (90 percent of whom are children of color) and 24,000 non-public school students, is governed by a school board dominated by non-public school parents who have dismantled public services (slashing art, music, advanced classes, social workers, all but 2.5 hours of kindergarten) while increasing funding for nonpublic schools, authorizing costly out-of-district special education placements for non-public school students, and hiring expensive lawyers to defend their practices. In 2014, the State Education Department's investigation uncovered both "reckless mismanagement" of the district and "favoritism" of non-public schools over public schools. In 2015, former NYC schools chancellor Dennis Walcott's report said the school board "persistently failed to act in the best interests of the public school students." The New York State Board of Regents concluded that the way to stop this crisis is to pass legislation that would authorize an independent state monitor to provide checks and balances for this unique and very problematic situation. Our local lawmakers sponsored a bill that has garnered the endorsements of our neighboring school boards, the Rockland County School Boards Association, the Alliance for Quality Education, the New York City Bar Association, and many other groups. The bill passed the Assembly last year, but we need to build support within the Senate leadership of Long Island. This is why your support is so critical: your Senator needs to hear that, given the conclusions of multiple state investigations, it is both appropriate and necessary for the state to ensure that the East Ramapo School Board is upholding its fiduciary responsibility to public school students. Attached is a draft resolution for your board to consider. Please contact me via e-mail (strongeamap@gmail.com) or by phone (646-483-8660) to let me know if your board has passed the resolution, or to discuss it further before voting. A representative from our group would also be happy to attend an upcoming school board meeting to brief your board on this matter in person.

With kind regards,

Andrew Mandel Co-Founder

Strong East Ramapo

Trustee Wandasiewicz seconded by Trustee Gismervik made a motion to approve the **Consent Agenda and addenda #BE-3 and #PE-2**

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

BOARD OF EDUCATION

#BE-1

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following school districts, to provide health services, to West Babylon School District resident students, during the 2015-2016 school year:

Uniondale Union Free School District
East Islip Union Free School District

#BE-2

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education adopts the proposed 2016-2017 School District Calendar, as attached.

PERSONNEL

#PE-1

RESOLVED: that the following schedules, as attached, are approved:

15-P-13 Professional Personnel

15-C-13 Civil Service Personnel

SCHEDULE 15-P-13 Professional Personnel Schedule

| NAME | POSITION | SCHOOL/ AREA | STEP/ SALARY | BEG/END APPT. | COMMENTS |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Borland, Bridgette | Elementary Tchr. | SA | | 1/12/16 - | Family Medical Leave |
| Ayerle, Antoinette | Elementary Tchr. | TA | | 2/1/16 - | Family Medical Leave |
| Satriano, Paul | School Guidance Counselor | HS | | 2/9/16 - | Family Medical Leave |

Salary Adjustments:

Retroactive to 2/11/16:

Jones, Taylor Science Tchr. HS FROM: Step A-1-1/
\$48,759. TO: Step A-3-1/
\$53,635.

Effective 2/29/16:

Shaw, Lauren Special Ed. Tchr. FA FROM: Step A-5-1/
\$56,073. TO: Step A-6-1/
\$61,071.

Tutorials:

Craig, Amanda \$37.14/session February - June, 2016 611 IDEA Grant
[10 sessions]

Intramural Advisors:

\$28.21/hr. Spring, 2015 - 2016

- Raimondi, Theresa FA
- Riviezzo, Francis FA
- Burden, Jessica JK
- Koentje, Nicholas JK
- Durkin, Kelly SA
- Suchoboky, Megan SA
- Brett, Carol SB
- Chiquitucto, Alison SB
- Russo, Michael SB
- Torres, Nicole SB
- Bellacosa, Michael TA
- Fischer, Theresa JH
- Richert, Danielle JH

Orsi, Joan HS

SCHEDULE 15-P-13 Professional Personnel Schedule

| NAME | POSITION | SCHOOL/ AREA | STEP/ SALARY | BEG/END APPT. | COMMENTS |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| | | | | Spring, 2015 - 2016 | |
| Coaches: | | | | | |
| Maxwell, Michael | Varsity Asst. | Lacrosse (B) | \$5,189. | | |
| Hagans, Connor | JV Head | Lacrosse (B) | \$5,189. | | [resignation] |
| Hartmann, Thomas | JV Head | Lacrosse (B) | \$5,189. | | [repl. C. Hagans] |
| Iannetta, April | Varsity Asst. | Lacrosse (G) | \$5,189. | | [pending FA/CPR] |
| Mauro, Kathryn | JV Head | Lacrosse (G) | \$5,189. | | |
| Olbeter, Brittany | JHS Head | Lacrosse (G) | \$4,436. | | |
| Horstmann, Thomas | JV Head | Tennis (B) | \$4,170. | | |
| Volunteer Coach: | | | | | |
| Smith, William | Varsity | Lacrosse (G) | -\$0.- | | |
| | | | | Spring, 2015 - 2016 | |
| Student Teachers/Observers/Interns: | | | | | |
| Darby, Nicholas | Social Studies | HS/JH | | | |
| Davide, Taylor | Physical Education | HS | | | |
| Anderson, Nicole | Special Education | JK | | | |
| Forcina, Chris | Social Studies | HS | | | |
| Knight, Bobbi | Elem./Special Ed. | TA | | | |
| Minnella, Amanda | Social Studies/Special Ed. | HS | | | |
| Temps, Megan | Mathematics | HS | | | |
| Per Diem Substitute: | | | | | |
| Marino, Alyssa | DW | \$110./day | 2015 - 2016 | | [cert: School Counselor] |

SCHEDULE 15-C-13 Civil Service Personnel Schedule

| NAME | POSITION | SCHOOL/ AREA | STEP/ SALARY | BEG/END APPT. | COMMENTS |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|---|
| Fanelli, Kimberly | Paraprofessional (special ed. aide) | TA | | 2/4/16 | Resignation |
| Kurz, Melissa | School Bus Driver | Trans. | | 2/8/16 | Resignation |
| Morante, Donna | Paraprofessional (pt/clerk typist) | JH | | 2/23/16 | Resignation |
| Lathbury, Florence | School Bus Driver | Trans. | | 12/21/15 | Returned from LOA |
| Scottaline, Edwin | Paraprofessional (hall monitor) | HS | | 2/29/16 | Returning from LOA |
| Thiel, Michael | Custodial Worker I | SA | Step 3/ \$45,473. (prorate) | 1/1/16 | Prior Service Credit [experience verified] |
| Barry, Michael | Custodial Worker I | JH | Step 1/ \$40,597. (prorate) | 2/24/16 | Probationary Appt. |
| *Guerrera, Robert | Maintenance Mechanic II | DW | Step 1/ \$39,438. (prorate) | 2/24/16 | Probationary Appt. |

Amato, Alexandra Paraprofessional SA Step 1/ 2/24/16 Probationary Appt.
(school monitor) \$13.64/hr.

FINANCE

#FI-1

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves, retroactively, the following budget transfer:

| <i>ACCOUNT CODE</i> | <i>ACCOUNT CODE DESCRIPTION & TRANSFER EXPLANATION</i> | <i>FROM</i> | <i>TO</i> |
|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------|
| A2110.4700 | Tuition Foster Care | \$50,000.00 | |
| A2250.4490 | Special Education Professional Services | | \$50,000.00 |
| | Foster student expenses for 2013-2014 & 2014-2015 school years; student placed in schools outside of the District | | |

#FI-2

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education gratefully accepts a donation, in the amount of \$700, from the Target "Field Trip Grants" program. The donation will be deposited into the Senior High School Trust and Agency account.

#FI-3

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Treasurer's report for the month of December, 2015.

#FI-4

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves Barrett, Bonacci and Van Weele, P.C., as the lowest responsible bidder, to perform survey work in conjunction with the planned site alterations at Santapogue School.

#FI-5

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves American Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C., as the lowest responsible bidder, to perform survey work in conjunction with the planned site alterations at Forest Avenue School and Tooker Avenue School.

#FI-6

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves Soil Mechanics, as the lowest responsible bidder, to perform test borings and geotechnical services in conjunction with the planned exterior site alterations at Forest Avenue School and Tooker Avenue School.

#FI-7

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves Soil Mechanics, as the lowest responsible bidder, to perform test borings and geotechnical services in conjunction with the planned exterior site alterations at Santapogue School.

CURRICULUM

#CU-1

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education gratefully accepts the following donation, from Ms. Kristen Carter, Junior High substitute teacher:

One (1) Holton French Horn — Serial No. 620788

FACILITIES

#FA-1

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education declares the following equipment obsolete:

John Deere Snowblower #3
Model No. TRS 27 WB5B
Serial No. MOTR27X100567
WB ID No. 002560

John Deere Snowblower #4

Model No. TRS 27 WB5B
 Serial No. MOTR2711193
 WB ID No. 20071807

ADDENDA:

#BE-3

WHEREAS: In recent years, the school board of East Ramapo, New York has denied public school students—largely children of color from low-income backgrounds—basic educational programs and staff, such as full-day kindergarten, art, music, athletics, advanced classes, assistant principals and social workers, while simultaneously increasing funding for students attending non-public schools;

AND WHEREAS: In 2014, New York State Education Department Monitor Hank Greenberg produced a comprehensive, empirically-based report declaring the district and school board has recklessly mismanaged funds, not complied with state and federal law, has entirely depleted the district’s millions in reserves, has exhibited repeated favoritism toward non-public schools over public schools, has demonstrated deep disrespect of the community, and warrants diversity and transparency training;

AND WHEREAS: In 2015, New York State Education Department Monitors Dennis Walcott, Monica George-Fields and John Sipple affirmed Mr. Greenberg’s findings and concluded that the school board has “persistently failed to act in the best interests of public school students”;

AND WHEREAS: Both studies recommended an independent monitor to serve as a check and balance of the school board to ensure educational quality and fiscal integrity of the district, a position unanimously endorsed by the New York State Board of Regents and officially supported by dozens of local and state-wide organizations, including the Rockland County School Boards Association and the New York City Bar Association;

AND WHEREAS: State intervention requires the authorization of Governor Cuomo and the New York State Legislature;

AND WHEREAS: Our school community stands with the students attending the East Ramapo Central School District and believes that the unique problems and prolonged crisis in the district, documented by multiple studies, obligate the state to increase its formal involvement;

Be it Resolved: That this resolution serves as a public declaration that our Board supports the legislation introduced by Rockland County’s lawmakers to bring oversight with veto power to East Ramapo and urges our lawmakers to vote in favor of its passage.

PERSONNEL

#PE-2

Resolved: that the attached personnel schedule is approved:
15-C-13A(a) Civil Service Personnel

SCHEDULE 15-C-13A Civil Service Personnel Schedule

ADDENDUM (a)

| NAME | POSITION | SCHOOL/ AREA | STEP/ SALARY | BEG/END APPT. | COMMENTS |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Benitez, Cristobal | School Bus Driver | Trans. | | 2/23/16 | Resignation |
| Bryson, Carolyn | School Bus Driver | Trans. | | 2/29/16 | Resignation |
| <u>Per Diem Substitute:</u> Benitez, Cristobal | Trans. | \$17./hr. | 2/24/16 - 6/30/16 | School Bus Driver | |

POLICY:

Trustee Kranz seconded by Trustee Wandasiewicz made a motion to waive reading the policies and move them to second time discussion

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

- 4010: Equivalence in Instruction Staff and Materials (First Time Reading)
- 4710: Grading Systems (First Time Reading)
- 6900: Disposal of District Property (First Time Reading)
- 8413 Transportation Services for Non-Public Schools (First Time Reading)

The following policies were reviewed

- 8412: Student Transportation to Certified or Licensed Child Care Facilities (Review)
- 8412.2 Transportation Services to Non-certified or Unlicensed Child Care Facilities (Review)

The following policy review/revision will be postponed until April 19, 2016

- 9530.1 Non-Instructional Personnel

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS: None

Statement of Residents:

Resident Daienna Edmonds asked what the process is for the PTAs being charged fees for additional security when they hold an event. Dr. Farrelly said that Mr. Joseph Barone begins the process and has a packet for reserving facilities. Ms. Edmonds said it was her understanding that there are no fees to the PTAs. Dr. Farrelly explained that fees are waived for the PTAs to use the facilities. However, if additional security is needed or if staff is needed to be hired like the PAC techs, the PTA would be responsible for any additional fees incurred. The district cannot absorb those extra costs. After some further discussion it was clear that Ms. Edmonds was referring the Motown Evening being held by the Tooker Avenue PTA next week. Trustee Scarlatos seconded by Trustee Kranz made a motion to waive the fees for the PAC techs and security for the Tooker Avenue PTA. Board President Lucy Campasano suggested that the Board wait to see if the PTA makes a profit. Dr. Farrelly expressed concerns about voting to waive fees for anything without knowing exactly what costs the District would be incurring. Dr. Farrelly asked Ms. Edmonds to have the PTA President contact her in the morning to see what can be done. The motion was not put to a vote.

Trustee Kranz seconded by Trustee Gismervik made a motion to adjourn at 8:38 p.m.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

District Clerk