

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF APRIL 9,2024

*****The April 9, 2024 Board of Education Meeting can be viewed on YouTube accessed through the West Babylon School District website at www.wbschools.org.**

The minutes of the Board of Education meeting summarize what took place.

***** The April 9, 2024 Regular Board of Education Meeting, of the West Babylon Union Free School District, Town of Babylon, Suffolk County, New York, NY was held in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 10 Farmingdale Road, West Babylon, New York. The meeting was held in-person**

Members present

Chris Paolillo, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Kristen Sciame, Patti Neville

Also present:

Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Shawn Hanley, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Mr. Scott Payne, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction; Mrs. Denise Gillis, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations; Christopher Venator, Esq., School Attorney and District Clerk Jailin Parada. Board President Lucy Campasano, Trustee Downey and Tymann Johnson were absent.

1. OPENING OF MEETING & EXECUTIVE SESSION-6:00 PM

Procedural: A. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Procedural: B. Call to Order by Presiding Officer

Action: C. Executive Session

Motion to enter into executive session to discuss CSEA Paraprofessional Negotiations, Student Matters and Student Residency Matter.

Motion by John Evola, second by Patti Neville.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Kristen Sciame, Patti Neville

2. PUBLIC SESSION-7:03 PM

Action: A. Approval of Minutes of previous Meeting(s): Regular BOE Meetings of 3/12/24 & 3/26/24.

Motion to Approve the Minutes of Regular BOE Meeting of 3/28/23.

Motion by Roseann Geiger, second by Patti Neville.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Kristen Sciame, Patti Neville

Procedural: B. Statement of the Board and/or Superintendent

Dr. Farrelly thanked the community for joining. She began her report with an acknowledgment of the district's school library media specialist, as it is School Librarian Recognition Week. On behalf of the Board of Education and the administration team, she thanked and acknowledged the district's school library media specialists for bringing in wonderful programs into the schools and for all the support they provide students, staff, and faculty throughout the district.

Several guests were scheduled to present, therefore since there were no scheduled association statements, Dr. Farrelly transitioned to the scheduled presentations.

Procedural: C. Statement of West Babylon Teachers Association Representatives

None

Procedural: D. Statement of School Administrators Association Representatives

None

Procedural: E. Statement of C.S.E.A. Representatives

None

Procedural: F. Statement of Student Association Representatives

None

Procedural: G. Statement of PTA Council Representatives

None

Procedural: H. Statement of Residents re: agenda items [15 minutes-limited to 3 minutes per speaker]

None

3. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT AND/OR EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

Information: A. 2024-2025 Budget Timeline Information: Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Farrelly provided the following timeline regarding this year's school district budget:

2024-2025 BOCES Budget Vote and BOCES Board Trustees Election:

April 16, 2024 -- 7:00 PM -- Administration Building

2024-2025 West Babylon School District Budget:

Budget Hearing:

May 7, 2024-- 6:00 PM -- Administration Building

District Budget Vote and Trustees Election:

May 21, 2024 -- 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM -- Administration Building & Santapogue School

Presentation: B. Electric Vehicle Bus Presentation: Mrs. Denise Gillis, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations & Wendel Companies

Dr. Farrelly reminded the Board that by 2027 all new school bus purchases need to be zero-emissions and all new school buses on the road will be zero-emissions by 2035. As such, the Senate is requiring the state to identify barriers to the 100% by 2035 goal so that they may be addressed prior to that.

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) is being tasked to provide technical assistance to school districts as they navigate the transition to 100% electric buses. In December, Dr. Farrelly shared a memo with the Board of Education with an overview of the information they had in hand up to that point regarding the New York State requirement to transition the transportation fleet to electric vehicles by 2035. Additionally, she shared that the district will need to participate in a fleet electrification study in order to make informed decisions; which led to the presentation.

Dr. Farrelly introduced representatives from Wendell to join the board meeting and walk us through a step-by-step analysis of what the district needs to do.

Representatives from Wendell gave a detailed presentation on how they could help the district with the analysis. Wendell and the Board had a discussion. Trustees Sciame and Evola asked that we inquire about other companies to compare prices and services they can provide. Dr. Farrelly agreed to research other companies.

Presentation is available on our school website www.wbschools.org

Presentation: C. Internal Report & Risk Assessment Report: Michael Reinhart, Supervisor & Lauren Agunzo, Partner - Nawrocki Smith

Dr. Farrelly introduced Ms. Agunzo and Mr. Reinhart and said the reports being reviewed tonight were previously shared electronically with the Board of Education. The draft documents included the "Report on the Internal Controls of the Transportation Cycle - June 2023" and the "Annual Risk Assessment Update On the Internal Controls of District Operations - June 2023". Ms. Agunzo complimented West Babylon on the cooperation of the entire business office for their diligent work in working with the firm to make appropriate corrections to the firm's recommendations.

Presentation: D. 2024-25 Budget Update: Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Farrelly provided the following budget update:

March 26, 2024 BOE Meeting Recap

2024-25 Budget: \$137,382,940

Tax Levy: 7.99%

Changes made from March 26th

- Reduction in Administration Positions
- Reduction in additional Social Workers (previously in federal grants)
- Reduction in transportation expenditures, as a results from RFP
- Reduction in behavior therapist (moved into special education grant)

NOW - After Reductions:

2024-2025 Budget: \$136,740,100

Tax Levy: 7.214%

***Pending Budget Adjustments:**

Unfortunately, State Aid information is not in. It is anticipated based on one house bills - an increase is possible.

- Employee Retirement Notifications
- Finalized NYS State Aid - Projected Mid-April (approx. \$863,849 additional funding)
- Continued analysis of the secondary class sections

Calculated Tax Levy Projected including projected approx. additional state aid funding: **6.17%**

Next Steps:

1. Final Budget Expenditure Plan to be presented for BOE review and adoption - April 16th
2. Budget Presentation Meetings and Mailings
 - a. Send budget information out via Parent Square, website, social media, school district budget newsletter, and card mailing to all residents
 - b. Send letters to local community groups sharing information and inviting them to the budget hearing
 - c. Administration to share budget information at all events
3. Budget hearing for all community members May 7
4. Budget vote May 21st

Dr. Farrelly asked the board if they had any questions. A conversation was held between the Board members and Dr. Farrelly. It was unanimously agreed that they would wait until Tuesday to continue the discussion. The District is hopeful NYS would release their state aid figures for school districts.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Action (Consent): A. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Resolution: Motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion by Cathy Gismervik, second by Patti Neville.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Kristen Sciame, Patti Neville

5. BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action (Consent): A. 2024-2025 Service Contract Health Source Group: Academic tutoring

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Health Source Academic tutoring agreement to provide paraprofessionals and tutoring services to West Babylon UFSD resident students during the 2024-2025 school year.

Action (Consent): B. 2024-2025 Service Contract - Health Source Group: Skilled Nurse Staffing Services

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves Health Source Skilled Nursing Services for West Babylon UFSD resident students during the 2024 - 2025 school year.

Action (Consent): C. 2024-2025 Service Contract Health Source Group: Related Svcs.

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves Health Source Group to provide related services to West Babylon UFSD resident students during the 2024 -2025 school year.

Action (Consent): D. Authorization to Sign Stipulation Agreement Regarding Special Education Student

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves and authorizes the superintendent of Schools to sign a stipulation of agreement dated March 27, 2024, with a family in the District made known to the Board of Education regarding the resolution of a special education due process complaint.

Action (Consent): E. 2024-2025 Service Contract - Crista Leshar Associates

RESOLVED: the West Babylon Board of Education approves Crista Leshar Associates providing a behavior training workshop on November 5, 2024.

Action (Consent): F. Authorization to Sign Settlement Agreement and Release

WHEREAS a plaintiff, Loretta Hoffmann, commenced a lawsuit (hereinafter "the Action") against the West Babylon Union Free School District ("the School District") by means of a filing dated August 12, 2020; and

WHEREAS in connection with the Action the School District asserted various defenses to the claims alleged by the plaintiff against the School District; and

WHEREAS the parties have agreed to settle their claims understanding the inherent uncertainties of litigation, without incurring the expense of litigation, further expenses, fees, and the inconvenience or diversion of time associated with

litigation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the School District's Board of Education hereby authorizes settlement of the Action titled *Loretta Hoffmann v. West Babylon Union Free School District*, venued in Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Suffolk, Index No. 610540/2020, in accordance with the terms of the Settlement Agreement and Release ("Agreement") among the parties, said Agreement having been reviewed and approved in Executive Session by and with the Board of Education and counsel for the Board of Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President to execute the above-mentioned Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the School District's attorneys of record to execute any and all other documents necessary to effectuate said settlement and/or discontinue the Action; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

6. PERSONNEL - BOARD OF EDUCATION 23-A-

None

7. PERSONNEL - PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL 23-P-17

Action (Consent): A. 2023-2024 Per Diem Substitute Teachers

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Per Diem Substitute Teachers:			DW		2023-2024	
				\$150./day		
				\$175/day 11 + days		
Gaudioso	Alexandra					[pending cert: max 90 days]
Sweet	Debora					Students W/Dis 1-6

8. PERSONNEL - CIVIL SERVICE PERSONNEL 23-C-16

Action (Consent): A. Leave of Absence Rescinded - FA

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS

Bracken	Dennis	Paraprofessional (school monitor)	FA		4/15/24-6/30/24	Leave of Absence Rescinded
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Action (Consent): B. Leave of Absence Request - SA

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Rutledge	Elizabeth	Paraprofessional (classroom aide)	SA		4/2/24-6/30/24	Leave of Absence

Action (Consent): C. Leave of Absence Returnee - JK

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
DeMartino	Francine	Paraprofessional (special ed. aide)	JK		4/15/24	Returning from LOA

Action (Consent): D. Resignation - JK

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education accepts the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Conway	James	Paraprofessional (school monitor)	JK		3/27/24	Resignation

Action (Consent): E. Resignation - JK

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education accepts the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Penalbert	Kyara	Senior Office Assistant	JK		4/22/24	Resignation

Action (Consent): F. Probationary Appointments - JK/HS

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Cayan	Betul	Food Service Worker 'B'	JK	Step 1/ \$18.14/hr.	4/10/24	Probationary Appt.
Giler Zamora	Andrea	Food Service Worker 'B'	HS	Step 1/ \$18.14/hr.	4/10/24	Probationary Appt.

Action (Consent): G. Reclassification - BO

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Delacrausaz	Alanna	Senior Office Assistant	BO	Step 4/ \$46,444. (prorate)	4/10/24	[reclassification per C.S. from Office Assistant]

9. FINANCE

Action (Consent): A. Obsolete Equipment - SHS

RESOLVED: That the West Babylon Board of Education declare the following item obsolete:

- 1. Star pizza warmer model #96S, serial #PM860610A000

Action (Consent): B. School Lunch Report February 2024

Action (Consent): C. Award of Bid 22-422 High School Roof Reconstruction

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves More Consulting Corp. as the lowest responsible bidder for the Roof Reconstruction at the High School:

Base Bid No.: GC-1 General Construction	\$3,931,000.00
Add Alternate No. 1 (Area P Roof Replacement)	122,000.00
Add Alternate No. 2 (Area K Roof Replacement)	267,000.00

Add Alternate No. 3 (Area B Roof Replacement) 277,000.00

TOTAL: \$4,597,000.00

Action (Consent): D. Acceptance of Internal Auditors' Report - Benefits Cycle and Annual Risk Assessment Update of District Operations

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education accepts the Benefits Cycle and Annual Risk Assessment Update Internal Audit Reports dated June 2023, as presented by Nawrocki Smith, LLP.

Action (Consent): E. Acceptance of Corrective Action Plan - Internal Controls of the Benefits Cycle

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education accepts the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for the Internal Auditors Report - Internal Controls of the Benefits Cycle dated June 30, 2023.

10. CURRICULUM

None

11. FACILITIES

Action (Consent): A. Acceptance of Donation - NY Islanders Floorball Program

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education gratefully accepts the following donation from the NY Islanders to the Forest Avenue Elementary.

- 30 Floorball Sticks
- 4 Nets
- 30 Balls
- 30 Pinnies
- 1 Curriculum Booklet (Four (4) week unit, plus additional activities)

12. POLICY

None

13. OLD BUSINESS

None

14. NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Farrelly asked the board if the reorganization meeting should be moved from July 9 to July 2 based on trustee availability. A majority of the board agreed to change the date to July 2.

15. RESIDENTS STATEMENTS

Procedural: A. Statements of Residents

16. ADJOURNMENT

Action: A. Adjourn Meeting (Should take place by 8:23pm).

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Motion by Roseann Geiger, second by Patti Neville.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Kristen Sciame, Patti Neville