

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 25, 2025**

*****The February 25, 2025 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 February 25, 2025 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, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Patti Neville, Anthony Raccomandato, Stephan Maucere

Also present:

Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Shawn Hanley, Deputy Superintendent for Human Resources & Mrs. Victoria Galante, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations. Trustees Downey and Evola were absent. Mr. Scott Payne, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction was not present. Trustee Tymann Johnson arrived at approximately 5:15pm.

1. OPENING OF MEETING & EXECUTIVE SESSION-5:00 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 Individual Contract Negotiations and Heads & Chiefs Negotiations.

Motion by Anthony Raccomandato, second by Patti Neville.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Patti Neville, Anthony Raccomandato, Stephan Maucere

2. PUBLIC SESSION-7:09 PM

Action: A. Approval of Minutes of previous Meeting(s): Regular BOE Meeting of 2/11/25.

Motion to Approve the Minutes of Regular BOE Meeting of 2/11/25.

Motion by Chirsten Johnson Tymann, second by Cathy Gismervik.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville, Anthony Raccomandato, Stephan Maucere

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

Dr. Farrelly expressed her gratitude to the community for attendance, and extended her best wishes to all students, staff and faculty members for a pleasant winter recess. She initiated her report with a series of updates, followed by the primary budget presentation scheduled for that evening.

Dr. Farrelly communicated to the community that she had formally notified the state education department of the proposed consolidation plan. During the February recess, Mr. Hanley and Dr. Farrelly convened with the consultants to discuss the recently proposed attendance zones. They were requested to re-evaluate the addresses of current walkers and any elementary borderline addresses. The consultants were asked to consider the potential impact on class sizes if these areas were to remain in their current attendance zone school. The district indicated its desire to finalize the attendance zones at the earliest opportunity. Following this, the district will issue letters to all families, informing them of their designated attendance zone school. Dr. Farrelly has indicated her preference for notifying families as soon as possible.

Dr. Farrelly went on to state that the school principals and Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) have shared a plethora of exemplary transition-related concepts, activities, and programs for the benefit of our students. Over the course of the forthcoming months, these concepts will be refined, scheduled, and disseminated to the families residing in West Babylon.

A teacher survey has been distributed, requesting that educators indicate their preferences with regard to the grade band of interest, as well as the preference for early or late schools.

Dr. Farrelly has advised that as of the present date, there have been seven interested parties in the rental of Forest Avenue. The majority of these parties are childcare providers for infants to five-year-olds, while some are related service providers specializing in speech, physical therapy and occupational therapy for children. Dr. Farrelly has met with three of the seven interested parties and will be meeting with the remaining parties in the next week or so. She will also be visiting their other childcare location sites. Following the conclusion of this process, the relevant information will be disseminated to the Board of Education.

Dr. Farrelly has advised that in the near future, the district will be hosting the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) lottery. Specific information regarding this process will be communicated to UPK-eligible families in the manner that has been standardized annually, namely through direct mail, the district website, and social media.

The Board President had questions regarding the UPK program, all of which were answered by Dr. Farrelly.

Procedural: C. Statement of West Babylon Teachers Association Representatives

Procedural: D. Statement of School Administrators Association Representatives

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

Procedural: F. Statement of Student Association Representatives

Procedural: G. Statement of PTA Council Representatives

3. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT AND/OR EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

Presentation: A. 2025-26 Budget Presentation, Victoria Galante, Interim Assistant Superintendent

The Interim Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, Mrs. Victoria Galante delivered a comprehensive budget presentation, encompassing the following: State Aid, Reserves, Tax Levy Limit and Appropriation Budget (Administrative and Capital Component).

Dr. Farrelly informed the community that the subsequent budget workshop will concentrate on the program components. Moreover, the tax levy stipulated in the presentation (2.06%) will also be submitted to the NYS Comptroller's Office. Dr. Farrelly inquired whether there was a general consensus on the tax levy. She clarified that the board will still be able to opt for an alternative levy.

4. STATEMENT OF RESIDENTS - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

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

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

Motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion by Stephan Maucere, second by Patti Neville.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville, Anthony Raccomandato, Stephan Maucere

6. BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action (Consent): A. 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 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): B. Approval of Transportation Agreement with M & V Transportation

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to approve and sign the Transportation agreement M & V Transportation for the Science Olympiad State Tournament.

7. PERSONNEL - BOARD OF EDUCATION 23-A-6

None

8. PERSONNEL - PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL 23-P-11

Action (Consent): A. 2024-2025 Club and Advisor/Chaperones - HS

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

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Club & Advisor/Chaperones:			HS		2024-2025	DECA State Conference
Bacco	Kerry	DECA Chaperone		\$314.25		[25% of shared stipend]
Patruno	Christopher	DECA Chaperone		\$314.25		[25% of shared stipend]
Kilgus	Colleen	DECA Advisor		\$628.50		[adjustment amount to 50% of shared stipend]

9. PERSONNEL - CIVIL SERVICE PERSONNEL 23-C-10

Action (Consent): A. LOA Returnee - JK

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

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
DelValle	Margie	Paraprofessional (special education aide)	JK	2/24/25	Returning from LOA

Action (Consent): B. Leave of Absence Request - 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
Gaglio	Charlene	Paraprofessional (special education aide)	JK		2/7/25-6/30/25	Leave of Absence

Action (Consent): C. Resignation - Trans.

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

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	STEP/SALARY	SCHOOL/AREA	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Lane	Michelle	School Bus Driver		Trans.	2/28/25	Resignation [eff/ 3/1/25]

Action (Consent): D. Student Printer - 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
Newell	Dominick	Student Printer	HS/Printshop	\$16.50/hr.	2024-2025	

Action (Consent): E. 2024-2025 Per Diem Substitutes - DW

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 Substitutes:			DW	\$16.50/hr.	2024-2025	
Amaltifano	James	Custodian			2/26/25-6/30/25	[emergency conditional appt.]
Serra	Catherine	Food Service Worker			"	[emergency conditional appt.]
Uzum	Canan	"			"	[emergency conditional appt.]

10. FINANCE

Action (Consent): A. Approval of Budget Transfer

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

Account Code	Account Description	From	To
A9060.8000	Health Insurance	18,243.00	
A2110.4700	Tuition Foster Care/Charter Schools		18,243.00
	New Entrants		

Action (Consent): B. Approval of Budget Transfer

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

Account Code	Account Description	From	To
A2250.4490	Special Education Professional Services	50,000.00	
A2250.4700	Special Education Tuition		50,000.00
	Tuition as per approved Stipulation		

Action (Consent): C. Approval of Budget Transfer

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

Account Code	Account Description	From	To
A9050.8000	Unemployment	890.83	
A1310.4490	Professional Services		890.83
	ACA Consulting Services		

Action (Consent): D. Acceptance of Scholarship Donation - DeSimone-Hannaford

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education gratefully accepts a scholarship donation from DeSimone-Hannaford in the amount of \$1,000.00 to be awarded to a high school senior student.

Action (Consent): E. Approval of Budget Transfer

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

Account Code	Account Description	From	To
A1010.4500	Board of Education Materials and Supplies	72.00	
A1240.4500	Superintendent Materials and Supplies		72.00
	Cover copy paper expenses for Central Administration		

Action (Consent): F. Approval of 2024-2025 Farmingdale Union Free School District Health Services Agreement

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Health Services Agreement with Farmingdale UFSD, to provide health services to West Babylon School District resident students, during the 2024-2025 school year.

Information: G. Schedule of Bills - February 13, 2025 Accounts Payable Check Run

Action (Consent): H. Approval of Budget Transfer

Account Code	Account Description	From	To

A1240.4490	Superintendent Professional Services	4,000.00	
A2010.4490	Curriculum and Instruction Professional Services		4,000.00
	Funds needed for required Megan's Law workshops		

11. CURRICULUM

Action (Consent): A. Obsolete SHS Library Books

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education declares the attached list of 953 books, located in the Senior High School library, obsolete. The content is outdated, certain books are worn and others have been replaced with updated editions.

12. FACILITIES

None

13. POLICY REVIEW

None

14. OLD BUSINESS

None

15. NEW BUSINESS

Action, Discussion: A. Discussion: 25-26 School Calendar - Patriots Day Discussion, Trustee Tymann Johnson

In her address on the matter of September 11, Trustee Chirsten Tymann articulated the position that the school district should remain open on this day, serving as a forum for students to engage with the significant historical events of that date. After considerable discussion, a motion was made to designate September 11 as a regular school day. The motion was put forth by Trustee Tymann Johnson and seconded by Trustee Raccomandato. Board President Paolillo and Trustee Gismervik opposed the motion.

Motion to remain open for 9/11 as a regular school day.

Motion by Chirsten Johnson Tymann, second by Anthony Raccomandato.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Roseann Geiger, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville, Anthony Raccomandato, Stephan Maucere

No: Chris Paolillo, Cathy Gismervik

16. RESIDENTS STATEMENTS

Procedural: A. Statements of Residents

Two members of the community asked the Board to provide a more detailed breakdown of future budget presentations and requested information regarding budget reductions that have been made as a result of the elementary consolidation of schools.

Another parent, addressing the matter of 9/11, suggested that the district exercise discretion in its discourse on such subjects, emphasizing the utilization of material deemed suitable for the age group in question.

Dr. Farrelly addressed each inquiry presented.

A member of the community inquired about the possibility of Long Range Planning initiatives in the future, particularly those related to the Transportation Department, with the aim of achieving future cost savings and land sales. The Board President offered a response to the inquiry, indicating that the organization is contemplating a wide range of potential areas.

The Board concluded public session and reconvened in executive session to discuss contract negotiations, with Trustee Neville making the motion and Trustee Neville seconding it.

****The February 25, 2025 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.**

17. ADJOURNMENT

Action: A. Adjourn Meeting (Should take place by 10:00 PM)

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting at 9:01pm

Motion by Patti Neville, second by Anthony Racomandato.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville, Anthony Racomandato, Stephan Maucere