

February 6, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Westhampton Beach Union Free School District, Suffolk County, New York, was held in the High School Library on February 6, 2023.

Board of Education members present: Ms. Suzanne M. Mensch, Ms. Dawn Arrasate, Ms. Joyce Donneson, Mr. George R. Kast, Ms. Elizabeth Lanni-Hewitt, Mr. Halsey C. Stevens, and Ms. Heather Wright.

Also Present: Carolyn J. Probst, Superintendent of Schools; Judy Iannone, District Clerk; William Fisher, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel & Instruction; Jacqueline I. Pirro, Assistant Superintendent for Business; Chris Herr, HS Principal; Charisse Miller, MS Principal; Jeremy Garritano, ES Principal; and approximately 10 attendees.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Suzanne Mensch, President, at 7:00 p.m.

The pledge was conducted.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

Dr. Herr congratulated senior, Jack Schultz, on being recognized as one of 300 semifinalists nation-wide in the Regeneron Talent Search Science Competition. Jack then gave a presentation on his research.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Mr. Kast, second by Ms. Arrasate, the minutes of the January 23, 2023, Board of Education meeting, to be and hereby are approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

SPECIAL EDUCATION

On motion of Mr. Kast, second by Ms. Lanni-Hewitt, the recommendations and authorization of funds to implement the special education programs and services consistent with such recommendations of the Westhampton Beach UFSD CSE meetings of 1/9, 1/24 and 1/25; to be and hereby are approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR

On motion of Ms. Donneson, second by Mr. Kast, the resolution to adopt the 2023/2024 School District Calendar, as submitted, to be and hereby is adopted.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

JOHN A. GRILLO, ARCHITECT

On motion of Ms. Donneson, second by Mr. Kast, the resolution authorizing the execution of a contract with John A. Grillo, Architect, for services relating to the October 2022 bond referendum project, to be and hereby is adopted.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

TRUVIEW INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES

On motion of Mr. Kast, second by Ms. Wright, the resolution authorizing the execution of a contract with TruView BSI, LLC, for investigative services through June 30, 2023, to be and hereby is adopted.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

KATHERINE CARR

On motion of Ms. Lanni-Hewitt, second by Mr. Stevens, the request from Katherine Carr for a childcare leave of absence from her position as a District Social Worker beginning on or about April 26 through June 23, 2023, using 9 sick days, 3 personal days, followed by 29 days of unpaid leave, to be and hereby is approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

EMILY ISSELBACHER

On motion of Mr. Kast, second by Mr. Stevens, the resolution to amend the appointment of Special Education Teacher, Emily Isselbacher, from .6 FTE to .8 FTE and decrease her appointment as a perm sub from a .4 FTE to .2 FTE retroactive to her start date of December 12, 2022, to be and hereby is approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

LAURA HANSEN

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Donneson, the request from Laura Hansen for a one-week extension of her medical leave of absence through February 10, 2023, to be and hereby is approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

SUBSTITUTES

On motion of Ms. Lanni-Hewitt, second by Mr. Kast, the appointment of the following substitute, to be and hereby is approved:

Elise Ferreira Uncertified Teacher

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

REPORTS

The personnel postings were noted.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Chris Herr, High School Principal, presented the high school budget requests for the 2023/24 school year.

Charisse Miller, Middle School Principal, presented the middle school budget requests for the 2023/24 school year.

Jeremy Garritano, Elementary School Principal, presented the elementary school budget requests for the 2023/24 school year.

BOARD POLICIES

Board Policy 4327 (Homebound Instruction)

The first reading of the above policy was held.

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Mr. Kast, the resolution to waive the second and third readings and adopt the above policy, as revised, to be and hereby is adopted.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

Board Policy 9645 (Disclosure of Wrongful Conduct)

The first reading of the above policy was held.

On motion of Mr. Kast, second by Mr. Stevens, the resolution to waive the second and third readings and adopt the above policy, as revised, to be and hereby is adopted.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Mr. Kast, the Board of Education to convene to Executive Session at 7:35 PM to discuss ongoing special education litigation, to be and hereby is approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

On motion of Ms. Donneson, second by Ms. Wright, the Board of Education to reconvene from Executive Session at 9:00 PM, to be and hereby is approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Wright, all business being completed, Ms. Mensch declared the meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Judy Iannone, District Clerk

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