

**WESTHAMPTON BEACH UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**340 Mill Road**  
**Westhampton Beach, NY 11978**



**Minutes of Regular Board of Education Meeting**  
**High School Library**  
**Monday, October 7, 2024 (7:00 PM)**

Board of Education members present: Ms. Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Ms. Heather A. Wright, Ms. Dawn Arrasate, Mr. Daniel A. Bennett, Mr. Ryan M. Fay, Ms. Jennifer Neumaier, Mr. Halsey C. Stevens

Also present: Carolyn J. Probst, Superintendent of Schools; Lisa Rheaume, District Clerk; Bill Fisher, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel & Instruction; Jacqueline I. Pirro, Assistant Superintendent for Business; and 15 attendees.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Lanni-Hewitt, President at 7:00 p.m.

The pledge was conducted.

**EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

Mr. Fisher gave an update to the community on ARP-ESSER and Title Funding. A summary of update is as follows:

- ARP (American Rescue Plan) - ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) Funding. Funding was provided during COVID. It began in March of 2020 and continued through September 2024. The district received \$590,000 to address students Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs due to the impacts of the Coronavirus. The grant funding was utilized by the district as follows:
  - After school support programs similar to the WIN Academy at the Middle School and RISE at the Elementary School
  - Additional support staff was provided for ELA & Math at the High School and Middle School
  - Additional Nursing Services and Mental Health Support Programs
  - Provided transportation for summer program during 2020
  - Elementary digital learning content during the summer of 2020
  - Ongoing Professional Development focus on learning loss strategies
  - Fixtures and furniture in the Middle School Library and Elementary School classrooms to support the SEL needs of pandemic students
- ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) - The district receives yearly funding but the amounts fluctuate annually and they are broken up into 4 components listed below.
  - Title I A - Focuses on improving basic programs. The district manages a target assistance program for ELA and Math at the Elementary and Middle Schools. For the 2024-25 school year, the district received approximately \$111,000 which is being used to fund two part time title teachers at the elementary school to support academic intervention in Math and ELA. Money is also being utilized to fund additional support sections in Math and ELA at the Middle School.
  - Title II A - Supports Professional Development that impacts instruction. For the 2024-25 school year, the district received \$20,300. The money is being used to fund

mentoring support and professional development related to content standards, lesson design and instructional technology.

- Title III A - Language instruction for language learners. For the 2024-25 school year, the district received \$19,300. The money is being used to fund additional instructional support, both after school and during the summer month for ELL students.
- Title IV A - Student support and academic enrichment. For the 2024-25 school year, the district received \$10,000. The money is used to partially support and promote the Greenhouse Education Program and healthy eating habits at the elementary school.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Wright, the minutes of the September 16, 2024 regular board meeting, to be and are hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION

On motion of Ms. Arrasate second by Mr. Stevens, 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 9/9, 9/12, 9/17, 9/20, 9/24, 9/25, 9/26 and 9/27, to be and hereby are approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

#### FINANCIALS

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Wright, the recommendation to approve audited and paid claim 0016-0064 as submitted, to be and are hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

On motion of Ms. Arrasate, second by Mr. Bennett, the budget status report as of June 30, 2024 as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

On motion of Ms. Wright, second by Mr. Stevens, the budget transfer report June 2024 as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

On motion of Ms. Stevens, second by Ms. Wright, the trial balances through June 30, 2024 as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

On motion of Ms. Wright, second by Mr. Stevens, the extraclass activities for July and August 2024 as submitted, to be and are hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

WAINSCOTT COMMON SCHOOL DISTRICT

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Arrasate, the approval of a Special Education Services Agreement with Wainscott Common School District for the 2024-25 school year, as submitted, to be and hereby is adopted.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

FEDERAL GRANTS IDEA 611/619

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Wright, the recommendation to approve contract between Westhampton Beach UFSD and the following special education program provider for students with disabilities as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

- Suffolk County Department of Health Services
- Just Kids Early Childhood Learning Center

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

Homegrown Organic Food, Inc.

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Mr. Bennett, the approval of a consultant services contract with Homegrown Organic Food Inc. for the 2024-25 school year as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

On motion of Ms. Wright, second by Mr. Stevens, the recommendation to dispose of the following unrepairable and outdated item as submitted, to be and is hereby accepted.

Asset #	Description	Model	Location
07791	Bunn Coffee Maker	n/a	Buildings and Grounds

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

BUDGET TRANSFER

On motion of Mr. Bennett, second by Mr. Stevens, the following budget transfer requests, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

	From		To		Amount
	Code Number	Code Title	Code Number	Code Title	
1.	9060-800-00-05	Medical Insurance	1930-400-00-05	Judgements & Claims	\$125,000.00

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE FIELD TRIP

On motion of Mr. Bennett, second by Ms. Neumaier, the field trip request for seventy-six middle school students to attend the Youth and Government Conference in Albany, NY on November 24-26, 2024 as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Neumaier, the approval of a stipulation of settlement, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

TENURE RECOMMENDATIONS

On motion of Ms. Wright, second by Ms. Neumaier, the tenure recommendations for the following teachers as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Teacher Name	Tenure Area	Tenure Date
Kaitlin Gebhardt	Social Worker	November 23, 2024
Jaclyn Olivotti	Guidance	December 6, 2024

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

ANDREW KINANE

On motion of Ms. Arrasate, second by Mr. Stevens, the recommendation to appoint Andrew Kinane as a Custodial Worker I assigned to the Elementary School at \$43,748 (prorated) effective October 8, 2024, pending receipt of fingerprint clearance, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

AVERY LEIN

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Arrasate, the recommendation to appoint Avery Lein as an Elementary School Monitor effective October 8, 2024 at \$16 per hour, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

JOSEPH BRUNO

On motion of Ms. Wright, second by Mr. Stevens, the request by Joseph Bruno for a medical leave of absence beginning September 16, 2024 through October 15, 2024, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

MERCEDES ZAMBRANO

On motion of Mr. Bennett, second by Mr. Stevens, the request from Mercedes Zambrano to rescind her resignation as a Food Service Worker and appointment as an Assistant Cook, as well as her request for an unpaid leave of absence effective August 29, 2024 through September 27, 2024, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

GABRIELLE BURNS

On motion of Mr. Bennett, second by Mr. Stevens, the recommendation to appoint Gabrielle Burns as a Substitute Monitor for the 2024-2025 school year, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

NANCY FELICIANO

On motion of Mr. Bennett, second by Mr. Stevens, the request from Nancy Feliciano for a medical leave of absence beginning September 17, 2024 through October 21, 2024, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

RICHARD PISACANO

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Arrasate, the recommendation to appoint Richard Pisacano as a Title I teacher assigned to the Elementary School, effective October 8, 2024 through June 6, 2025, 6.5 hours per day, \$35 per hour, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

JEANNE SEAMAN

On motion of Mr. Bennett, second by Mr. Stevens, the request from Jeanne Seaman for a family and medical leave of absence beginning September 3, 2024 through November 22, 2024 as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

HIGH SCHOOL ADDITIONAL CLASS SECTIONS

On motion of Ms. Wright, second by Ms. Arrasate, the recommendation to appoint the following staff to additional class sections at the High School, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

**Teacher 1: September 18, 2024 - October 11, 2024**

Cole Malsky	0.2 FTE English 11 Inc.
Cynthia Griffin	0.2 FTE Consultant Services/Skills
Lort Reinfurt	0.2 FTE FALP
Kelly Roesel	0.2 FTE FALP
Maryann Higgins	0.2 FTE FALP

**Teacher 2: September 18, 2024 - October 5, 2024**

Marissa Diveris	0.2 FTE Global II
Carrie Bender	0.2 FTE Global II Inc.
Jacqueline Intravaia	0.2 FTE Global II Inc.
Alison Hansson	0.1 FTE Consultant Services
Matthew Reed	0.2 FTE Global I
Kristin Kalisak	0.1 FTE Skills

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

BRUCE KERN

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Neumaier, the recommendation to appoint Bruce Kern as a Special Education Teacher assigned to the High School, effective October 15, 2024 with a four-year probationary period through October 14, 2028 in the tenure area of Special Education, at Step 1D, MA, \$61,409 (prorated) pending receipt of official transcripts, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

## CO-CURRICULAR ADVISOR

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Neumaier, the recommendation to add Laura Mara as a Co-Curricular Advisor for Honor Society Music (tri-M) for the 2024-2025 school year, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

<b>High School Advisorships</b>			
<b>Club Name</b>	<b>Advisor(s)</b>	<b>Stipend</b>	<b>Term</b>
9th Grade	Mary Bergmann	1,213	full year
10th Grade	Christy Larson	1,213	full year
11th Grade	Joyce Schmeider	2,362	full year
Art Club	Katie McCurry	1,983	full year
Best Buddies	Alison Hansson	1,000	full year
Business Advisory Board	Amy Demchak-Connell	2,751	full year
Chamber Singers	Laura Mara	2,932	full year
Drama Club	Matthew Andrew	2,648	full year
Environmental Club (C.U.R.E.)	Lisa Menegio	1,748	full year
Fall Play Director	Kimet Speed	2,590	semester 1
Fall Play Producer	Matthew Andrew	1,035	semester 1
French Club	Gabriel Maginier	867	full year
Friends for Friends	Monica Van Essendelft/R. Sullivan	3,500	full year
Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA)	Katie Carr	507	full year
Golden Canes	Lisa Lagattolla	867	full year
Honor Society	Diveris/Sullivan	3,105	full year
Honor Society Foreign Language	Denizzie Kearns	867	full year
Honor Society Math	Jenna Lin	867	full year
Honor Society Music (Tri-M)	Josh Seifert/Laura Mara	867	full year
Honor Society Science	Dianna Gobler	867	full year
Interact	Amy Demchak-Connell	4,666	full year
It's Academic	Cynthia Griffin	867	full year
Jazz Ensemble (Instrumental)	Tom Commerford	2,932	full year
Junior Ambulance	Glen Dorskind	867	full year
Key Club	Kristin Dalisak/Brook Russell	2,264	full year
Literacy Magazine	Joyce Schmeider	1,649	full year
Long Island Teen Institute (formerly H.U.G.S.)	Kaitlin Gebhardt	754	full year
Marching/Pep Band	Josh Seifert	3,861	full year
Mathletes	Gina Grillo	1,429	full year
Mock Trial	Cynthia Griffin	1,889	full year
Performing Band	Josh Seifert	5,534	full year
Performing Chorus	Laura Mara	4,106	full year
Robotics	Jon Fletcher	3,779	full year
Robotics Assistant	Dan Caron	1,378	full year
Science Club	Dianna Gobler	1,055	full year
Senior Class Advisor	Fred Walling	5,186	full year
Social Media (Hurricane Watch)	Dariah Luciano/Kirsten Mett	4,106	full year
Spanish Club	Lisa Lagattolla	867	full year
Spring Musical Director	Kimet Speed	2,590	semester 2
Spring Musical Producer	Matthew Andrew	1,035	semester 2
Student Government	Dariah Luciano/Kirsten Mett	3,105	full year
Yearbook	Gina Grillo/Alyssa Tempera	5,279	full year
Youth to Youth	Joe Garvey/Kaitlin Gebhardt	2,194	full year

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the clerical unit spoke to the board and detailed all of the duties that the clerical workers perform on a daily basis. She urged the board to take this into consideration when discussing the ongoing negotiations with the unit.

A parent asked for an update on the basefield fields, wondering if any progress or decisions have been made for improving the fields.

REPORTS

Personnel postings were noted.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business on the Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Policy 0115 - Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention Intervention

The first reading of the above policy was held.

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Arrasate, the resolution to waive the second and third reading and adopt the above policy as submitted, to be and hereby is adopted.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

Board Policy 9520.6 - Nursing Mothers in the Workplace Policy

The first reading of the above policy was held.

On motion of Ms. Arrasate, second by Mr. Stevens, the resolution to waive the second and third reading and adopt the above policy as submitted, to be and hereby is adopted.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Neumaier, the Board of Education convened into Executive Session at 7:24 p.m. to discuss negotiations.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

On motion of Ms. Wright, second by Ms. Neumaier, the Board of Education to reconvene from Executive Session at 9:05 p.m., to be and hereby is approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Ms. Wright, second by Ms. Neumaier, all business being completed, Ms. Lanni-Hewitt declared the meeting adjourned.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0



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Lisa Rheume, District Clerk