

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



Minutes of Regular Board of Education Meeting
High School School Library
Monday, December 9, 2024 (6:00 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; Jacqueline I. Pirro, Assistant Superintendent for Business; and 12 attendees.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Lanni-Hewitt, President at 6:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Wright, the Board of Education convened into Executive Session at 6:03 p.m. to discuss ongoing negotiations.

Vote: Yes 5 No 0

Ms. Arrasate and Mr. Bennett arrived at 6:15 p.m.

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Wright, the Board of Education to reconvene from Executive Session at 6:55 p.m.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

The pledge was conducted.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS
GREAT HURRICANE AWARD

The Great Hurricane Award is a way for the board to honor staff members who go above and beyond everyday for our district. The first recipient of this award is Jake Sweet, head custodian at the Elementary School. A video presentation was shown with sentiments for Mr. Sweet from staff members and students. Ms. Lanni-Hewitt presented Mr. Sweet with a plaque.

REGIONALIZATION

Dr. Probst explained that the New York State Education Department defined Regionalization as a systematic approach to continually improve schools and districts essential for supporting successful outcomes for our students. Regional planning is a mechanism for achieving this goal. This collaborative approach provides a strategic solution increasing education opportunities for students and responding to pressing academic and operational issues in an evolving educational demographic and fiscal landscape. In September, districts in New York State were directed by the New York State Education Department that they would participate in a regionalization planning process that would involve completing a strength and needs tools survey and then ultimately

participate in developing regionalization plans to be overseen by each regional BOCES. The state education department has recently issued a memo stating that the regionalization initiative is voluntary and will be up to the discretion of each individual board of education to determine if the district will participate or not. More information about this initiative can be found at www.nysed.gov/regionalization.

The Board of Education had a discussion regarding the choice to participate in the survey and it was agreed that the board will not participate in the survey.

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

WHEREAS, at its December, 2024 meeting, the Board of Regents adopted the emergency regulations related to Regionalization Plans (Subpart 124-2) as final; and

WHEREAS, a new § 124-2.8 was added which provides, in part, that a “school district may elect not to participate in the development of a regionalization plan.”

BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Regulations of the Commissioner of Education § 124-2.8, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the District elects not to participate in the development of a regionalization plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is directed to submit written notice to the New York State Department of Education by January 15, 2025.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Mr. Bennett, the minutes of the November 18, 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 10/28, 10/29, 10/31, 11/1, 11/4, 11/6, 11/7, 11/8, 11/12, 11/13, 11/14, 11/15, 11/21 and CPSE 10/30, 10/31 and 11/15, to be and hereby is approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

FINANCIALS

On motion of Ms. Wright, second by Ms. Arrasate, the recommendation to approve audited and paid claims 0087-0092, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

On motion of Ms. Neumaier, second by Mr. Fay, the recommendation to approve budget status report as of October 31, 2024, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

On motion of Ms. Arrasate, second by Mr. Stevens, the recommendation to approve the budget transfer report November 2024, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Arrasate, the recommendation to approve the revenue status report as of October 31, 2024, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

On motion of Ms. Wright, second by Mr. Stevens, the recommendation to approve the trial balances through October 31, 2024, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

On motion of Ms. Arrasate, second by Mr. Stevens, the recommendation to approve the extraclass activities report for October 2024, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Neumaier, the recommendation to approve the monthly treasurer's reports for July, August, September and October of 2024, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

DONATION

On motion of Ms. Neumaier, second by Mr. Fay, the donation from the Elementary School PTA in the amount of \$10,000 to be split between the Greenhouse and STEM related activities, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

CHANGE ORDER

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Arrasate, the request to approve a change order for MRJ Industries, Ltd. with a deduction of \$4,963.35 from the original contract, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

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

Asset #	Description	Model	Location
no tag	Shoulder Rotation Machine	Cybex	Buildings and Grounds
no tag	Decline Bench		Buildings and Grounds
no tag	Hack Squat Machine		Buildings and Grounds
no tag	Tricep Machine	Cybex	Buildings and Grounds
no tag	Chest Press	Cybex	Buildings and Grounds
000558	Smith Machine		Buildings and Grounds
000560	Squat Rack		Buildings and Grounds
no tag	Old Varsity Mats		Buildings and Grounds

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

SHARED TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Arrasate, the recommendation to approve a shared transportation contract with the William Floyd UFSD for the purpose of providing transportation services to students attending the Annual NSBDA (New York State Band Directors' Association) Symposium on March 7-9, 2025, as submitted, to be and hereby is approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

FIELD TRIP

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Mr. Fay, the recommendation to approve the field trip for two High School Music students to the New York State Band Directors Association (NYSBDA) for the High School Honor Band Symposium in Syracuse, NY on March 7-9, 2025, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

GREATER WESTHAMPTON HISTORICAL MUSEUM

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Mr. Bennett, the recommendation to approve a contract with the Greater Westhampton Historical Museum for the 2024-25 school year, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Arrasate, the recommendation to approve the corrective action plan for the audit report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 prepared by external auditor, R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP., as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

BUDGET TRANSFER

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

	From		To		Amount
	Code Number	Code Title	Code Number	Code Title	
1.	2070-400-00-05	In-Service Training - Contractual	2070-490-00-08	BOCES In-Service Training - DW	\$17,250.00

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

ANTHONY CAPPIELLO

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Mr. Bennett, the recommendation to appoint Anthony Cappiello as the Elementary School Winter Recreation Director for the 2024-2025 school year with a stipend of \$1,976, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

SARAH DRAKE

On motion of Mr. Bennett, second by Mr. Fay, the request from Sarah Drake for a childcare leave of absence beginning on or about January 27, 2025 through June 27, 2025, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

SUBSTITUTES

On motion of Ms. Wright, second by Ms. Newmaier, the recommendation to appoint the following substitutes and proctors, as submitted, to be and are hereby approved.

Substitute Clerical, Nurses, Aides, Guards, Custodial, and Monitors:

Taylor Baker

Substitute Custodial Worker 1

Substitute Uncertified Teacher

Substitute Teacher Aide

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was a question if the results of the regionalization questionnaire that was due on December 6th were public. It was explained that the district did not submit the results of that survey and that the board voted earlier this evening not to participate in the survey.

There was a comment regarding the community center and the need for more outdoor space for students.

REPORTS

Personnel postings were noted.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business on the Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Policy 2350, Board Meeting Procedures

The first reading of the revised policy above was held.

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

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

Board Policy 6900, Disposal of District Property

The first reading of the revised policy above was held.

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

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

Board Policy 0110.2, Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

The first reading of the new policy above was held.

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

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

Board Policy 0111, Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Under Title IX

The first reading of the new policy above was held.

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

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

Board Policy 0110, Sexual Harassment

The first reading to abolish the above policy was held.

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

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Ms. Wright, second by Ms. Arrasate, the Board of Education convened into Executive Session at 7:39 p.m. to discuss ongoing negotiations.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Neumaier, the Board of Education to reconvene from Executive Session at 9:35 p.m., to be and hereby is approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

ADJOURNMENT

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

Vote: Yes 7 No 0



Lisa Rheume, District Clerk