

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



Minutes of Regular Board of Education Meeting
High School Library
Monday, March 10, 2025 (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 and Mr. Halsey C. Stevens

Also present: Carolyn J. Probst, Superintendent of Schools; Lisa Rheaume, District Clerk; William Fisher, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel & Instruction, Jacqueline I. Pirro, Assistant Superintendent for Business; and approximately 8 attendees.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Lanni-Hewitt, at 6:05 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Ms. Arrasate, second by Mr. Stevens, the board entered into executive session to discuss negotiations.

Vote: Yes 6 No 0

Ms. Wright was not present at the start of executive session.

On motion of Ms. Arrasate, second by Mr. Stevens, the Board of Education reconvened from Executive Session at 6:58 p.m.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

The public portion was called to order by Ms. Lanni-Hewitt at 7:07 p.m.

The pledge was conducted.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND UPDATES

Dr. Probst spoke about the recent events that took place in the district and community. She shared her appreciation for the support of the Westhampton Beach Fire Department and St. Mark's Episcopal Church for providing shelter for students and staff during the bomb threat that occurred on Friday. Appreciation was also given to the numerous agencies who were on hand to help, such as, Westhampton Beach Police Department, Southampton Police Department, Suffolk County Police Department, Westhampton Beach Public Works Department, Montauk Bus Company, as well as district staff who acted swiftly to move the students to safety. Dr. Probst also expressed her gratitude to the Westhampton Beach Fire Department and the fire departments from all over Long Island who helped distinguish the enormous brush fire that burned many acres of land in Westhampton Beach on Saturday. In spite of those events, the Westhampton Beach Fire Department was still able to escort the girl's varsity basketball team home after they clinched the Suffolk County Championship on Sunday afternoon. It is humbling to be a part of such a wonderful community.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Wright, the minutes of the February 24, 2025 regular board meeting, to be and are hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

SPECIAL EDUCATION

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Arrasate, 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 1/21,1/24,1/27, 1/31, 2/3, 2/4, 2/6, 2/10, 2/24, 2/25, 2/26, 2/27, 2/28, 3/3, 3/4 and CPSE 1/23, 1/28, 1/31, 2/3 & 2/6 to be and hereby are approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

RATIFICATION OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (WHB CLERICAL UNIT)

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Mr. Fay, the resolution ratifying the “Memorandum of Agreement” executed by and between the representatives of the Westhampton Beach Union Free School District and the Westhampton Beach Clerical Unit (“UPSEU”), as submitted, to be and hereby is adopted.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

CHANGE ORDER

On motion of Mr. Bennett, second by Ms. Arrasate, the request to approve a change order for GC-1 Construction Consultants of LI, Inc. with an addition of \$33,585.83 from the original contract, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENTS

On motion of Mr. Bennett, second by Ms. Arrasate, the recommendations to approve intermunicipal agreement with Riverhead, Southampton and Longwood school districts, as submitted, to be and are hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

HEALTH AND SERVICES AGREEMENTS

On motion of Ms. Arrasate, second by Mr. Stevens, the recommendation to approve health and service agreements with Southampton and West Islip school districts, as submitted, to be and are hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

BUDGET TRANSFERS

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

	From		To		Amount
	Code Number	Code Title	Code Number	Code Title	
1.	2110-470-00-01	Tuition Charter School	2110-405-00-01	Teaching Reg School	\$32,720
2.	9901-950-00-05	Special Aid Fund	9901-930-00-05	School Lunch Fund	\$14,928

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

FIELD TRIPS

On motion of Ms. Arrasate, second by Ms. Wright, the recommendation to approve the field trip for thirty-one high school students to the YMCA Youth and Government State Conference in Albany, NY on March 21-23, 2025, 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 field trip for sixteen high school students to attend the Virtual Enterprise Youth Business Summit at the Jacob Javits Center in NYC on April 8, 2025, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

MARIA PEPEY

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Mr. Fay, the resignation of Maria Pepey from her position as an High School Science Teacher for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2025, with retirement beginning on July 1, 2025, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

JAMES FORD

On motion of Mr. Bennett, second by Mr. Stevens, the request from James Ford for an unpaid leave of absence from February 24, 2025 through March 14, 2025, with an expected return to his teaching position on March 17, 2025, as submitted, to be and is hereby approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

SUBSTITUTE

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Neumaier, the recommendation to approve the following substitute for the 2024-2025 school year, pending fingerprint clearance, as submitted to be and is hereby approved.

Substitute Teachers, Home Tutors:

Robin Held School Social Worker

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A community member expressed his gratitude to the fire department for welcoming the girls basketball team back after their win on Sunday.

REPORTS

Personnel postings were noted.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business on the Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Short presentations were given to the board on the following 2025-26 Budgets:

1. Curriculum Development & Personnel
2. BOCES Programs
3. Buildings & Grounds
4. High School
5. Transportation

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Ms. Arrasate, the Board of Education convened into Executive Session at 7:47 p.m. to discuss negotiations.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0


On motion of Ms. Wright, second by Mr. Stevens, the Board of Education to reconvene from Executive Session at 10:03 p.m., to be and hereby is approved.

Vote: Yes 7 No 0

ADJOURNMENT

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

Vote: Yes 7 No 0



Lisa Rheume, District Clerk