

WESTHAMPTON BEACH UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

340 Mill Road

Westhampton Beach, NY 11978



Board Meeting - Oct 20 2025 Minutes

Monday, October 20, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Middle School Library

Members Present: Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay,
Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Ex-Officio Board Members Present: Nico Grazina

Also Present: Carolyn Probst, William Fisher, Jacqueline Pirro, and Lisa Rheume

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Lanni-Hewitt called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

3. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND UPDATES

3.1 Ex-Officio Board Member

Nico Grazina reiterated that Westhampton Beach School district was named the number seven school in Suffolk County by Niche. Nico stated that there was an ice cream social and the Key Club hosted a Bake Sale, both of which were very successful. He added that school is going well and the clubs and extracurriculars are going smoothly.

3.2 Bond Presentation

Dr. Probst gave a presentation on the Capital Improvement Bond.

3.3 Middle School Presentation

Middle School Principal, Charisse Miller, along with Assistant Principal, MaryKate Hill and Director for Curriculum and Instructional Technology, Jessica Williams, presented information about testing and assessment data for the English Language Learners in the Middle School. The full presentation can be found here: [October 20, 2025 Board Meeting Recording](#).

3.4 Audit Report

Brendan Nelson, a partner at R.S. Abrams, the District's Independent External Auditor, explained the final Audit report findings. The District received an "unmodified" or "clean" opinion in all areas, meaning that the District financial books are in great shape. The District has a strong balance sheet and is in a stable financial position.

4. MINUTES

4.1 Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – October 6, 2025

The Board approved the minutes of the Board Meeting held on October 6, 2025.

Moved by: Daniel A. Bennett, Seconded by: Dawn Arrasate

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

5. SPECIAL EDUCATION

5.1 CSE and CPSE Recommendations

The Board approved the CSE recommendations from the following meeting dates: 8/25, 9/9, 9/17, 9/18, 9/19, 9/22, 9/26, 9/29, 9/30, 10/1, 10/3, 10/6, 10/7, 10/8, 10/9, 10/10, 10/15 and CPSE 9/30 & 10/8.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Heather A. Wright

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

6. FINANCIALS

6.1 Trial Balances as of Sept 30 2025

The Board approved the trial balances as of September 30, 2025.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Ryan M. Fay

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

6.2 Budget Status as of Sept 30 2025

The Board approved the budget status report as of September 30, 2025.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

6.3 Budget Transfer Report of Aug & Sept 2025

The Board approved the budget transfer reports of August and September of 2025.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

6.4 Revenue Status Report as of Sept 30 2025

The Board approved the revenue status report as of September 30, 2025.

Moved by: Heather A. Wright, Seconded by: Daniel A. Bennett

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

6.5 Monthly Treasurer's Reports August & September

The Board approved the treasurer's reports of August and September of 2025.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Dawn Arrasate

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

6.6 Audited and Paid Claims

The Board approved the audited and paid claims of September and October, warrants 0022-0030.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Daniel A. Bennett

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

7.1 Contract East Quogue Special Education Services

The Board approved a Special Education Services Agreement with the East Quogue UFSD from October 14, 2025 through June 26, 2026.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

7.2 Internal Audit Report – Detailed Testing Oct 2025

The Board accepted the Internal Audit Report on Detailed Testing dated October 1, 2025. The testing involved: out of district tuition, billings, accounts, cash management and food service.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Ryan M. Fay

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

7.3 Internal Audit Report – Risk Assessment Update Report Oct 2025

The Board accepted the Internal Auditor's Risk Assessment Update Report dated October 1, 2025. The audit report prepared by Cullen & Danowski, LLP was approved by the Audit Committee on October 1, 2025.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Ryan M. Fay

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

7.4 External Audit Report YE 2025

The Board accepted the External Auditor's Financial Audit Report for the year ending 2025. The audit report prepared by R. S. Abrams & Co., LLP was approved by the Audit Committee on October 20, 2025.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

7.5 Disposal of Assets

The Board approves the disposal of the following item:

| Asset Tag | Description | Location |
|------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 001405 | File Cabinet, Lateral 5 drawer | Administration 1 st floor |

Moved by: Ryan M. Fay, Seconded by: Daniel A. Bennett

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8. PERSONNEL

[Personnel Action Report 10.20.2025.pdf](#)

8.1 Resignation/HS Assistant Principal/Kerry Pillittier

The Board accepted the resignation of Kerry Pillittier from her position of High School Assistant Principal effective October 20, 2025, to accept the position of Director of Student Services available at the High School beginning October 21, 2025.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Heather A. Wright

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.2 Appointment/Director of Student Services/Kerry Pillittier

The Board approved the recommendation to appoint Kerry Pillittier as Director of Student Services, effective October 21, 2025, at an annual salary of \$155,000 (prorated), with a four-year probationary period through October 20, 2029, in the tenure area of Director of Student Services.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Daniel A. Bennett

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.3 Tenure Recommendation/Katie McCurry

The Board approves the tenure recommendation for Katie McCurry, in the tenure area of Art, effective October 16, 2025.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.4 Retirement/Guard/Laura Martuscello

The Board approves the resignation of Laura Martuscello from her position as a Guard, for the purposes of retirement, effective November 28, 2025, with retirement beginning on November 29, 2025.

Moved by: Daniel A. Bennett, Seconded by: Jennifer Neumaier

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.5 Appointment/HS Psychologist/Kristen Kmiotek

The Board accepts the recommendation to appoint Kristin Kmiotek for the probationary School Psychologist position at the High School, effective November 24, 2025, with a three-year probationary period through November 23, 2028 in the tenure area of School Psychologist, at Step 8G, MA+30, \$89,980 (prorated), pending receipt of official transcripts.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Ryan M. Fay

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.6 Appointment Extension/HS Psychologist Leave Replacement/Shannan Basile

The Board accepted the recommendation to appoint Shannan Basile as a School Psychologist Leave Replacement assigned to the High School, originally effective September 8, 2025 through October 31, 2025, be extended through November 21, 2025. Ms. Basile's initial appointment was approved by the Board of Education on September 15, 2025, at Step 1, MA(D), \$63,577 (prorated).

Moved by: Heather A. Wright, Seconded by: Daniel A. Bennett

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.7 Appointment/Instructional Coordinator/Kelly Roesel

The Board approved the recommendation to appoint Kelly Roesel as the Special Education Coordinator effective October 21, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.8 Appointment/Groundskeeper I/Luis Garcia

The Board approves the recommendation to appoint Luis Garcia be appointed as Groundskeeper I, effective October 21, 2025 at \$44,498 (prorated), pending receipt of fingerprint clearance.

Moved by: Ryan M. Fay, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.9 Appointment/MS Permanent Substitute Teacher/Thomas Hoare

The Board approved the recommendation to appoint Thomas Hoare as a Permanent Substitute Teacher assigned to the Middle School, effective October 21, 2025 through June 12, 2026, at \$160 per day.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.10 Appointment/HS Assistant Cook/Diane Sehner

The Board approved the recommendation to appoint Dian Sehner as Assistant Cook assigned to the High School effective October 21, 2025 at \$24 per hour.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Daniel A. Bennett

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.11 Appointment/Food Service Worker/Eric Albrecht

The Board approved the recommendation to appoint Eric Albrecht as a Food Service Worker, effective October 21, 2025 at \$17.25 per hour.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Dawn Arrasate

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.12 Appointment/Substitutes for the 2025-2026 School Year

The Board approves the following substitutes for the 2025-2026 school year:

Substitute Guard: Matthew Kempton (pending receipt of security license)

Substitute/Proctor: Susan Nelson

Moved by: Ryan M. Fay, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.13 Appointment/PT Guard/Christoper Geer

The Board approved the recommendation to appoint Christopher Geer as a part-time Guard, effective October 21, 2025, at \$25/hour.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.14 Appointment/Coaching Recommendations

The Board approves the following Winter Coaching positions for the 2025-2026 school year:

| SPORT | LEVEL | COACH | STEP | SALARY | Years as of 6/2026 |
|--------------|----------|------------------------|------|------------|--------------------|
| Basketball B | Varsity | Hernandez, Ryan | 1 | \$9,073.00 | 1 |
| Basketball B | Var Asst | Ottati, Jaden | 1 | \$7,950.00 | 1 |
| Basketball B | JV | John Paga | 1 | \$6,838.00 | 2 |
| Basketball G | Varsity | Peters, Katie | 3 | \$9,597.00 | |
| Basketball G | Var Asst | Hempfling, William | 1 | \$7,950.00 | 3 |
| Basketball G | JV | Kneski, Olivia | 1 | \$6,838.00 | 1 |
| Comp. Cheer | Varsity | Bennett-Rosman, Alexa | 1 | \$5,461.00 | 3 |
| Wrestling | Varsity | Zenie, Jared | 1 | \$9,073.00 | 2 |
| Wrestling | Var Asst | Els, Douglas | 1 | \$7,950.00 | 2 |
| Track G | Varsity | Broich, John | 3 | \$6,790.00 | |
| Track G | Var Asst | Bender, Carrie | 1 | \$5,807.00 | 3 |
| Track B | Varsity | Mensch, Joe | 2 | \$6,616.00 | 8 |
| Track B | Var Asst | Habersaat, Erika | 3 | \$6,128.00 | |
| Basketball B | MS | Pinney, Robert – White | 1 | \$4,843.00 | 3 |
| Basketball B | MS | Harpaul, Mike – Green | 2 | \$4,961.00 | 9 |
| Volleyball G | MS | Lein, Avery – Green | 1 | \$4,843.00 | 2 |
| Volleyball G | MS | Fabian, Sarah – White | 1 | \$4,843.00 | 4 |
| Basketball G | MS | Pinney, Robert – White | 1 | \$4,843.00 | 3 |
| Basketball G | MS | Harpaul, Mike – Green | 2 | \$4,961.00 | 9 |
| Volleyball B | MS | Tuttle, Josh – Green | 3 | \$5,079.00 | 11 |

Moved by: Ryan M. Fay, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.15 Appointment/Home Instruction Special Education Teacher/Taryn Brown

The Board approved the recommendation to appoint Taryn Brown to the position of Home Instruction Special Education Teacher for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year, at a rate of \$51.99 per hour.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Dawn Arrasate

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

8.16 Appointment/Volunteer Coaching Recommendations

The Board approved the following volunteer coaching recommendation for the 2025-2026 school year.

| | | |
|------------------|----|-------------------|
| Girls Track | V | McAuley, Annmarie |
| Boys Track | V | Amato, Joe |
| Girls Basketball | V | Doroski, Jeffrey |
| Girls Volleyball | MS | Wolf, Jackie |

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Heather A. Wright

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

9. REPORTS

Postings were received.

10. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

11. NEW BUSINESS

There was no old business.

12. PUBLICATION PARTICIPATION

There was a comment regarding a bus stop pickup.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

13.1 Motion to Recess into Executive Session

The Board recessed into executive session at 8:03 p.m. to discuss ongoing negotiations.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Jennifer Neumaier

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

13.2 Motion to Return to Open Session

The Board returned to open session at 9:30 p.m.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Jennifer Neumaier

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0

14. ADJOURNMENT

All business being completed, Ms. Lanni-Hewitt adjourned the meeting.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Jennifer Neumaier

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Heather A. Wright, Dawn Arrasate, Daniel A. Bennett, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 7-0



District Clerk