

# **WESTHAMPTON BEACH UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**340 Mill Road**

**Westhampton Beach, NY 11978**



## **Board Meeting - Oct 06 2025 Minutes**

Monday, October 6, 2025 at 7:00 PM

High 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: Emily Edwards

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

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Lanni-Hewitt called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

### **3. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND UPDATES**

Ex Officio Board Member, Emily Edwards, gave an update on happenings in the High School. She stated that Spirit Week was last week and the student government was able to raise funds for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation with a game of musical chairs that took place during the pep rally. The homecoming game had a large turnout and the concession stand is getting a lot of business to support the cheer and football programs. The homecoming cheer camp was very successful with over 70 kids in attendance. There was a big soccer game over the past weekend and Westhampton Beach won 2-0. The boy's varsity soccer team is doing very well this year. The phone ban is going very well. Emily says that she has not seen phones and everyone is talking to each other more in between classes. She added that the transition to no phones is going smoother than she personally expected. Lastly, Emily stated that Westhampton Beach was recently recognized academically as the number seven school in Suffolk County and moved out of 50th in the State to 48th, which showcases all of the hard work students and staff are putting into the school.

#### **3.1 2025 Capital Improvement Bond Presentation**

Dr. Probst gave a presentation about the proposed bond project.

#### **3.2 High School Presentation**

Dr. Herr and Dr. Williams provided an introduction to the New York Seal of Biliteracy, an academic distinction that recognizes students who have attained a high level of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages in addition to English. At Westhampton Beach High School, this program not only celebrates linguistic achievement, but also underscores the value of cultural awareness, communication, and global citizenship, skills that are essential for success beyond high school. It encourages students to take pride in their language abilities, to connect more deeply with their heritage or global interests, and to engage meaningfully with diverse communities. The seal also serves as a point of distinction on college and career applications, reflecting both academic rigor and personal commitment. Three students spoke about why they are pursuing the Seal of Biliteracy and what their future aspirations are.

### **4. MINUTES**

#### **4.1 Approval of Board Meeting Minutes - September 15, 2025**

The Board approves the minutes of the Board Meeting held on September 15, 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 approves the CSE recommendations from the following meeting date: 9/25/25.

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. FINANCIALS**

There were no financial reports.

## **7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **7.1 Amendment to Appointment of Vote Workers for Bond Vote on October 28, 2025**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Westhampton Beach UFSD appoints the following persons for the Bond Vote of October 28, 2025:

**Chairperson:** Lisa Rheume

**Chief Election Inspector:** Patricia Gonce

**Inspectors of Election:** Marlene Vera-Viteri, Vivian Hobson, Barbara Lennon, Sarah Mayo

**Poll Workers:** Bea Allen, Doreen Croser, Joan Scannell, Stephen Wisnoski

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the rate of compensation for the Chief Election Inspector, Inspectors of Election and Poll Workers be set at \$16.50 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**

### **7.2 Disposal of Assets**

The Board approves the disposal of the following item:

<b>Asset Tag</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Location</b>
None	Chest Freezer	ES Kitchen

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**

### **7.3 Use of Facilities Agreement - High School**

The Board approves a use of facilities agreement with the East End Arts.

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**

#### **7.4 Claims Audit Reports**

The Board approves the Claims Audit Reports for the third and fourth quarters of 2024-2025 and the first quarter of 2025-2026.

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**

#### **7.5 Contracts - Software/Subscriptions**

The Board approves the following software/subscription contracts for the 2025-2026 school year.

- Gimkit Inc.
- Starfall Education Foundation

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**

#### **7.6 Approval of 2025-2026 Tax Levy**

WHEREAS, the voters of the Westhampton Beach Union Free School District approved the 2025-2026 School District Budget on May 20, 2025 and approved the Westhampton Beach Library Budget on May 20, 2025, and approved the Westhampton Historical Museum Budget on May 20, 2025 and authorized the Westhampton Beach Board of Education to levy the necessary tax therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the tax levy for the 2025-2026 school year set at \$35,679,656 for the school district budget, \$2,726,245 collected for the Westhampton Free Library and \$102,000 collected for the Greater Westhampton Historical Museum, for a total tax levy of \$38,507,901.

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**

#### **7.7 Nursing Services Contract**

The Board approves a consultant services contract with Serene Home Nursing Services for the 2025-2026 school year.

Moved by: Heather A. Wright, 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**

#### **7.8 Special Education Services Contract with Quogue UFSD**

The Board approves a Special Education Services contract with the Quogue UFSD.

Moved by: Daniel A. Bennett, 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**

## 7.9 Budget Transfers

The Board approves the following budget transfers:

	From		To		Amount
	Code Number	Code Title	Code Number	Code Title	
1.	2250-470-00-05	District Tuition	2250-400-00-05	Contractual Services	\$11,416.26
2.	8060-161-00-05	We Care Salaries	9010-800-00-05	Employee Retirement System	\$20,970.48

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. PERSONNEL

[Personnel Action Report 10.6.25.pdf](#)

### 8.1 Request for Leave of Absence/Teacher on Special Assignment/JoAnne Williams

The Board approves the request from JoAnn Williams for a leave of absence from her position as Teacher on Special Assignment, effective October 7, 2025 through June 30, 2026, to allow for her appointment as Director of Pupil Personnel Services.

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**

### 8.2 Appointment/Director of Pupil Personnel Services/JoAnne Williams

The Board approves the recommendation to appoint JoAnne Williams as Director of Pupil Personnel Services, effective October 7, 2025, at an annual salary of \$175,000 (prorated), with a four-year probationary period through October 6, 2029, in the tenure area of Director of Pupil Personnel Services.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey 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**

### 8.3 Appointment/ES Assistant Principal for Curriculum/Jessica Weinberg

The Board approves the recommendation to appoint Jessica Weinberg as Elementary School Assistant Principal for Curriculum, effective October 27, 2025, at an annual salary of \$130,000 (prorated), with a four-year probationary period through October 26, 2029, in the tenure area of Assistant Principal.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, 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**

**8.4 Appointment/Administrative Temporary ENL Support, Interim ES Assistant Principal/Janine Lavery**

The Board approves the recommendation to appoint Janine Pratt Lavery as Interim Elementary School Assistant Principal from October 6, 2025 through October 24, 2025, at a per diem rate of \$700. On June 23, 2025, Janine Pratt Lavery was appointed as Administrative Temporary ENL Support. She will continue in this roll through October 3, 2025, and will resume the position on October 27, 2025. She will continue to work on an intermittent basis at a per diem rate of \$700.

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**

**8.5 Appointment/Administrative Pupil Personnel Services Support/MaryAnn Ambrosini**

The Board approves the recommendation to appoint MaryAnn Ambrosini as Administrative Pupil Personnel Services Support, effective October 7, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Dr. Ambrosinii will work on an intermittent basis at a per diem rate of \$775.

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**

**8.6 Appointment/Substitutes for the 2025-2026 School Year**

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

<b>Substitute Nurse (RN):</b>	Donna Schulz Pomata
<b>Substitute Monitor:</b>	Scott Heuskin
	Kathleen Sullivan
<b>Substitute Clerical:</b>	Kathleen Sullivan
<b>Substitute Teacher (Uncertified):</b>	Marley Merrihew
<b>Substitute Guard:</b>	Scott Crawford

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**

**8.7 Appointment/MS Monitor/Rosa Drell**

The Board approves the recommendation to appoint Rosa Drell as a Middle School Monitor, effective October 7, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$16.50.

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**

**8.8 Appointment/ES Teacher Aide/Jordan Manowitz**

The Board approves the recommendation to appoint Jordan Manowitz as a Teacher Aide assigned to the Elementary School, effective October 7, 2025, with an annual salary of \$21,500 (prorated).

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**

### **8.9 Teacher Column Movements**

The Board approves the following salary step increases effective August 28, 2025.

Name	Step	Prior Column	New Column
AnnMarie Steiner	8	MA+42 (H), \$91,859	MA+60 (I), \$93,783
Brian Hilly	24-25	MA+30 (G), \$137,290	MA+42 (H), \$140,724

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**

### **8.10 Appointment/MS Additional Section Multi-Sensory Reading**

The Board approves the recommendation to appoint Caitlin Montpetit to the 0.2 FTE Multi-Sensory Reading position available in the Middle School, effective September 29, 2025 through June 26, 2026.

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**

### **8.11 Request for Medical Leave of Absence/HS Custodial Worker I/Sean Madden**

The Board approves the request from Sean Madden to take an unpaid leave of absence beginning September 30, 2025 through on or about October 20, 2025.

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**

### **8.12 Resignation/HS Custodial Worker I/Michael Irish**

The Board approves the resignation of Michael Irish from his position as a High School Custodial Worker I, effective October 3, 2025.

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**

### **8.13 Appointment/HS Music Leave Replacement Teacher/Shawn Johnson**

The Board approves the recommendation to appoint Shawn Johnson as a Chorus Leave Replacement Teacher assigned to the High School, effective October 6, 2025 through December 23, 2025, at Step 15I, MA+60, \$114,559 (prorated).

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**

#### **8.14 Appointment/ES Teacher Aide/Ruth Blasl Rodriguez**

The Board approves the recommendation to appoint Ruth Blasl Rodriguez as a Teacher Aide assigned to the Elementary School, effective October 7, 2025, at an annual salary of \$21,500 (prorated).

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**

#### **8.15 Appointment/HS Additional Section Chorus/Eric Becker**

The Board approves the recommendation to appoint Eric Becker to the 0.2 FTE Chorus position available in the High School, effective September 17, 2025 through October 3, 2025.

Moved by: Ryan M. Fay, 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**

#### **8.16 Appointment/HS Accompanist/Betsy Doyle**

The Board approves the recommendation to appoint Betsy Doyle as the High School Accompanist at a rate of \$75 per session.

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**

#### **8.17 Appointment/Revised HS Co-Curricular Advisorships**

The Board approves the recommendation to appoint the following revised advisorship assignments for the 2025-2026 school year.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Rate of Pay</b>
Mario Rivera	MS Accompanist 10/6/25-6/30/26	\$2,484.88
Laura Mara	MS Accompanist 8/28/25-10/3/25	\$307.12
Laura Mara	HS Honor Society Tri-M 8/28/25-10/3/25	\$48.40
Kathryn Toolan	HS Chamber Singers 10/6/25-12/23/25	\$863.04
Laura Mara	HS Chamber Singers 8/28/25-10/3/25	\$327.36
Laura Mara	HS Performing Chorus 8/28/25-10/3/25	\$530.20

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**

## **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 7:35 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter.

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**

**13.2 Motion to Return to Open Session**

The Board returned to open session at 9:21 p.m.

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**

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

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

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**



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District Clerk

06 Oct 2025