

WESTHAMPTON BEACH UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

340 Mill Road

Westhampton Beach, NY 11978



Board Meeting – Jan 12 2026 Minutes

Monday, January 12, 2026 at 7:00 PM

High School Library

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

Members Absent: Jennifer Neumaier

Ex-Officio Board Members Present: Nico Grazina

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Lanni-Hewitt called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

3. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND UPDATES

3.1 Great Hurricane Award

The Fall 2025 Great Hurricane Award recipient is Scott Leogrande, physical education teacher and athletic trainer. A video presentation was shown with sentiments for Mr. Leogrande from staff members and students. Ms. Lanni-Hewitt presented Mr. Leogrande with a plaque.

3.2 High School Presentation

Dr. Herr, Ms. Williams and Mr. Erickson presented information at the Peer Mentoring Art Class at the high school. Ms. Williams and Mr. Erickson spoke about the class, explaining that the class is a collaboration between mentors and mentees who have diverse learning needs. Some of the students spoke about the class and shared their experiences.

3.3 Ex-Officio Board Member

Nico Grazina gave an update on happenings in the high school. He shared that his fellow ex officio board representative Emily Edwards was just named to Long Islands top 50 cheerleaders. Our school's varsity volleyball captain and also top 50 Long Island setter, Cameron Giordano is currently a finalist and competing for Long Island volleyball's block of the year. The PTO is currently working and hosting a movie night for our 10th grade class, the date is still to be determined, but the goal is that the PTO is going to have an event for every single grade. And then finally, there is going to be a bingo night, which is raising money to hopefully have a photo booth at the junior prom.

4. MINUTES

4.1 Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – December 8, 2025

RESOLVED, that the Board accepted the minutes of the December 8, 2025 board meeting.

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

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

Carried 6-0

5. SPECIAL EDUCATION

5.1 CSE and CPSE Recommendations

The Board approve the CSE recommendations from the following meeting dates: 11/20, 12/2, 12/3, 12/4, 12/8, 12/9, 12/10, 12/11, 12/15, 12/17, 12/18, 12/19, 1/6 and CPSE 12/8, 12/11, 12/17 & 1/6.

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

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

Carried 6-0

6. FINANCIALS

Consent Action

A motion was made to approve all financial reports as a block.

6.1 Audited and Paid Claims

The Board approves warrants #0040-0055.

6.2 Monthly Treasurer's Reports

The Board approves the monthly Treasurer's Reports as of November 2025.

6.3 Budget Transfer Report November 2025

The Board approves the Budget Transfer Report for November 2025.

6.4 Budget Status Report as of November 30, 2025

The Board approves the Budget Status Report as of November 30, 2025.

6.5 Revenue Status Report as of November 30, 2025

The Board approves the Revenue Status Report as of November 30, 2025.

6.6 Trial Balances as of November 30, 2025

The Board approves the Trial Balances as of November 30, 2025.

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

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

Carried 6-0

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

7.1 Approval of 2026-2027 School Calendar

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the 2026-2027 school calendar.

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

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

Carried 6-0

7.2 Approval for the Superintendent to attend the 2026 Winter Institute & Lobby Day

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Westhampton Beach School District approve the attendance of Dr. Carolyn J. Probst at the 2026 Winter Institute & Lobby Day in Albany, NY, on March 1-3, 2026.

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 and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 6-0

7.3 Approval of Supervisory Unit MOA

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves a memorandum of agreement with the Supervisory Unit for the 2025-2026 school year.

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 and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 6-0

7.4 Approval of Teachers Association MOA

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves a memorandum of agreement regarding the use of sick time.

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

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

Carried 5-0

7.5 Approval of Teacher Aides and Monitors Unit MOA

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves a memorandum of agreement with the Teacher Aides and Monitors Unit for a four (4) year period, commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2029.

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 and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 6-0

7.6 Special Education Services Contract

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves an individual Special Education Services Contract with West Islip Union Free School District for a parentally placed student at St. John the Baptist for the 2025-2026 school year.

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

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

Carried 6-0

7.7 Approval of Contract – Home Tutoring

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves a consultant services contract with LearnWell Education to provide academic tutoring services for students during the 2025-2026.

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

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

Carried 6-0

7.8 Budget Transfer

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following budget transfer:

	From		To		Amount
	Code Number	Code Title	Code Number	Code Title	
1.	2250-164-00-02	Teacher Aide Sal – MS	2250-164-00-01 2250-164-00-05	Teacher Aide Sal – HS Teacher Aide Sal – DW	\$19,000 \$10,000
2.	2110-130-00-01	Instr. Salaries 7-12 HS	2110-120-00-03 2110-123-00-02	Instr. Salaries K-3 Instr. Salaries 4-6 MS	\$11,500 \$83,000

3.	2110-130-00-01	Instr. Salaries 7-12 HS	2110-130-00-02	Instr. Salaries 7-12 MS	\$27,000
4.	9089-800-00-05	Other Employee Benefits	Various	Non-Instructional Salaries	\$189,070
5.	2820-150-00-03	Instr. Sal – ES	2820-150-00-02	Instr. Sal – MS	\$37,000
6.	9089-800-00-05	Other Employee Benefits	2110-153-00-05	Retirement Sick Pay	\$200,000

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 and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 6-0

7.9 Field Trip Request/UCS HS Nationals, Orlando, FL, January 29-February 2, 2026

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves a field trip request for the Varsity Cheerleaders to attend the UCA HS National Competition in Orlando, Florida on January 29-February 2, 2026.

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

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

Carried 6-0

7.10 Disposal of Assets

The Board approves the disposal of the following outdated and no longer usable item:

Asset Tag	Description	Model	Location
None	Heated Cabinet	C199	ES Kitchen

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 and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 6-0

7.11 Donation – ES PTA Greenhouse

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts a donation from the ES PTA in the amount of \$5,000 to be used for the greenhouse educational program.

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 and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 6-0

8. PERSONNEL

[Personnel Action Report 1.12.26.pdf](#)

8.1 Resignation/Cook/Sewdutt (Mike) Harpaul

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Sewdutt (Mike) Harpaul from his position as a Cook, effective December 23, 2025.

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

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

Carried 6-0

8.2 Appointment/ES Winter Recreation Staff

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the recommendation to appoint the following Elementary School Winter Recreation staff beginning January 20, 2026 through and concluding March 20, 2026.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Taryn Brown | 5. Christine DelGuidice | 9. Liam McIntosh |
| 2. Joy Campagna | 6. Lauren Gomez | 10. Tom O’Leary |
| 3. Jennifer Cucinotta | 7. Kim Higgins | 11. Maile Santora |
| 4. Emily Dawson | 8. Jordan Manowitz | |

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 and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 6-0

8.3 Request for Medical Leave of Absence/MS Food Service Worker/Deborah Roulston

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the request from Deborah Roulston for a medical leave of absence beginning January 6, 2026 through February 13, 2026, with an anticipated return to her position to her food service worker position on February 23, 2026.

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 and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 6-0

8.4 Appointment/Part-time Guard and Substitute Guard/James Lee

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation to appoint James Lee as a Part-Time Guard and Substitute Guard, effective January 13, 2026 at a rate of \$25 per hour.

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 and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 6-0

8.5 Appointment/Revised Coaching Recommendations

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following revised coaching recommendations for the 2025-2026 school year.

Connor Davis	MS Boys Basketball	\$1,693 (mid-season replacement)
Connor Davis	MS Girls Basketball	\$5,079

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 and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 6-0

8.6 Appointment/HS Music Leave Replacement Teacher/Jonathan Babcock

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the recommendation to appoint Jonathan Babcock as a Chorus Leave Replacement Teacher assigned to the High School, effective January 5, 2026 through June 30, 2026, at Step 8I, MA+60, \$93,783 (prorated).

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 and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 6-0

8.7 Teacher Column Movement

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following salary step increases effective February 1, 2026.

Name	Step	Prior Column	New Column
Christine Mazura	20	MA+42 (H), \$127,475	MA+60 (I), \$129,401
Matthew Reed	8	MA+42 (H), \$91,859	MA+60 (I), \$93,783

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

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

Carried 6-0

8.8 Termination/Substitute Guard/Jeffrey Terry

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the termination of Jeffrey Terry’s employment as a Substitute Guard effective November 18, 2025.

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

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

Carried 6-0

8.9 Appointment/Revised HS Co-Curricular Advisorships

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following advisorship assignment revisions for the 2025-2026 school year.

Name	Activity	Rate of Pay
Eric Becker	HS Spring Musical Director	\$2,750.00
Jonathan Babcock	HS Performing Chorus (prorated) 1/5/26-6/30/26	\$2,892.00
Jonathan Babcock	HS Chamber Choir (prorated) 1/5/26-6/30/26	\$1,785.60

Moved by: Dawn Arrasate, Seconded by: Heather A. Wright

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

Carried 6-0

8.10 Appointment/0.6 FTE HS Social Worker Leave Replacement/Lauren Sanchez

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation to appoint Lauren Sanchez as a 0.6 FTE Social Worker Replacement Teacher, effective on or about January 29, 2026 through May 4, 2026, at Step 1D, MA, \$63,577 (prorated), pending receipt of official transcripts.

Moved by: Dawn Arrasate, Seconded by: Ryan M. Fay

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

Carried 5-0

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the request from Sean Madden to extend his unpaid medical leave of absence through on or about February 23, 2026.

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 and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 6-0

8.12 Appointment/Substitutes for the 2025-2026 School Year

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the recommendation to appoint the following substitutes for the 2025-2026 school year, pending fingerprint clearance:

Substitute Clerical: Lisa Monti

Substitute Teacher: Steven Tringali

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

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

Carried 6-0

9. REPORTS

Postings were received.

10. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

11. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

12. PUBLICATION PARTICIPATION

There were no comments.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

13.1 Motion to Recess into Executive Session

The Board recessed into executive session at 7:30 p.m. to discuss matters pertaining to personnel.

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

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

Carried 6-0

13.2 Motion to Return to Open Session

The Board returned to open session at 8:24 p.m.

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

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

Carried 6-0

14. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

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

Carried 6-0

Lisa Rheume

District Clerk