

Board of Education “Meeting Highlights”

November 14, 2017

President’s Report...

BOE President Mark McAteer’s report included the following:

Tonight, you will hear an update on the execution of one of the Board’s goals for 2017, the implementation of the four-year Mentoring Program for our newly hired teachers. Although the teachers were selected from hundreds of applicants, we recognize that mentoring is an important part of their integration. The Board is fully committed to the professional development of our staff and a number of other initiatives are underway including selected staff going to the AMLE Conference in Philadelphia for middle level educators, and attending the STANYSS Conference focused on the new science standards. We have seen benefits from this type of off-site education in the past. You may recall that a professional development conference in Florida last year allowed us to get a full understanding of the benefits of launching The Creative Learning Labs in our elementary schools. The labs were ultimately funded by the CSH Ed Foundation, and were just unveiled to enthusiastic parents this past week at Lloyd Harbor, and today at West Side. They are spectacular.

Also, this week we will be distributing Chromebooks to 10th, 11th, & 12th graders as part of our acceleration of the 1:1 Initiative. We are cognizant of the student’s rate of absorption on this new teaching method and are planning on adapting our pace of the rollout with the student’s best interest in mind. It is worth mentioning that 74% of the senior High School teachers requested that the initiative be accelerated, and the Chromebooks were provided by The Educational Foundation. It is apparent that the professional development of our educators is driving innovation, which is being funded by the Foundation. The partnership and this rate of positive change...well...it’s a bit unusual in public education. But it’s happening here, and we should be very proud of our staff for embracing it. I would also like to thank The Foundation for their profound contribution to our institution and their many generous donations.

So, this is really a positive message, among many others, that we should share with our community. In order to spread the news, I urge you to follow the district on Twitter, where we now have 275 followers. Retweet as you like. Also, to share his message Principal Bolen has developed a method for parents and students to view the daily announcements of the Jr/Sr High School on their smartphone. And in the interest of sharing with the community, you may be aware that last month the Mr. Fenter and his team made a public presentation to local realtors who were very curious to hear what makes our district #1 in the county, and in the top 1% in the United States.

I would like to welcome back Mark Margolies who looks as robust as ever. We missed you Mark. Consistent with another of the Board’s goals for this year, we recently conducted a public work session to review our 5-year facility plan, our current bond position, and the need to adapt our facilities to better support our educational programs. This is an important and continuous process and we look forward to Mark executing our objectives well into the future.

And lastly with sports...all of our fall varsity teams made the playoffs. Congratulations to our teams for all of their hard work and their accomplishments. I would like to encourage everyone to see our undefeated varsity football team play for the County Championship this Thursday night at Hofstra. Good luck fellas.

Superintendent's Report...

Robert C. Fenter's report included the following:

Tonight we have honored three people, one a student who has distinguished himself for his efforts in the area of science research, and two educators who have provided many years of service to our students and district. These honors remind us of the connection between the work that our educators do each day and the students who so greatly benefit from their efforts. We are also reminded that our students are best served when they are provided the tools needed to be successful in a very competitive world.

A few nights ago, I wondered about the question, "What does it take to be a Seimens Semi-finalist? I think that we learned from Thomas' science research teacher, Mr. Raudsepp, that there were many steps for him to reach success in this process. I think we learned from Mr. Raudsepp's introduction that being successful in such a prestigious competition requires a desire to look at a problem or issue that impacts our world. Then, I believe, one has to research just about everything that has been written on the topic. It then seems that one has to find research scientists who, not only know a lot about his topic, but are willing to work with a young aspiring scientist. After that one has to find a niche - something that has not yet been explored about the topic. Then one has to conduct experiments to derive meaning from those investigations. Finally, I would imagine that one has to write about that which was revealed by this process. Although, I am not all that familiar with the topic of Thomas' research, nor do I believe that I would understand much of it, but I do believe that there were times when Thomas might have decided that to complete all of these steps and likely more that I am even aware of, that he might have wanted to stop. Maybe he wanted to do something other than report to a dark lab again and crunch data and numbers. No one would have blamed him - he is a teenager, after all. But he decided to stay with his project and see it through. There is a lesson there of persistence and commitment that we can all learn from. And as Mr. Raudsepp says, he had to sacrifice.

The same thing holds true for our retirees. Each day they came to work bringing their knowledge of literary and library programs, creating positive and supportive learning environments all to support the needs of their students. The results? Students who enjoy reading, writing and yes, research....

As educators, we awake each morning with a commitment to provide our students with the very best support that we can offer - so that they may become successful citizens and members of our society. We do this because of the calling that we all had when we were just about Thomas' age - a time when we decided that working with children was the most important, wonderful, and rewarding experience that we could ever hope for. Thomas is a great example of what can happen when a community of educators, including his science research teacher, Mr. Raudsepp, supported by a Board of Education, school leaders, parents, community members, a Foundation, and others, work together to support the interests and goals of our students.

We are proud of Thomas' accomplishment, as well as the many years of dedicated service that our retiring educators provided to our many students who walked through the doorway of their classroom and their library. Tonight, we congratulate them all.

Recognitions...

- 1. 2017 Siemens Competition in Math, Science, and Technology**
Semi Finalist Thomas McGee
- 2. Retirements**
Maryellen DiCioccio
Pam Weiss

Focus on Teaching and Learning...

Teacher Mentoring Program Update

Dr. Lydia Bellino

Erin Goldthwaite

Joey Waters

Board Actions...

Resignations:

Pam Weiss: for the purpose of retirement of Pamela Weiss, Teacher Assistant was accepted effective December 1, 2017 with appreciation for her many years of service.

Maryellen DiCioccio: for the purpose of retirement of Maryellen DiCioccio, Library Media Specialist, was accepted with appreciation for her years of service effective January 1, 2018.

Teacher Assistant Resignations: **Christine Lopez, Alexandra Ferrara, and Geraldine Mossa.**

Appointments:

Meagan Taylor was appointed a teacher assistant at WS. This is a four-year probationary position in the tenure area of Teacher Assistant effective November 9, 2017 through November 8, 2021 subject to applicable laws and regulations regarding the granting of tenure.

Janet Fitterman was appointed Substitute 1:1 Teacher Aide for the remainder of the 2017-18 school year.

Jim Ceraso – JH Basketball Coach boys winter 2017-2018 was approved.

Olivia Curry – Varsity Fencing Assistant girls winter 2017-2018 was approved.

Personnel Contracts:

Adult Education Instructors approved: Elizabeth Yaari, Martine Tawaji, Richard Vos, Kathy Huezey, and Victoria DeLaurentis for the 2017-2018 school year.

Brian Cohen, Presenter of Staff Development, at the rate of \$1,200 per workshop; \$3,000 maximum for the 2017-18 school year be approved as submitted.

John Zaccari, Professional Guitarist/Musical Accompanist (Renaissance Workshop/Moving Up Ceremony) at WS for the 2017-18 school year.

Eliana Kleiner Lichtman, Elementary Musical Choreographer, and Elementary Musical Director both at WS for the 2017-18 school year.

Christopher McKee, Elementary Musical Accompanist, WS for the 2017-18 school year.

Additional Business Matters:

Affordable Care Act - The Board established the required measurement, administrative, and stability periods required under the federal law. The Board also approved the offer of coverage for employees who met the minimum threshold of hours worked.

Budget calendar adopted.

Consulting Agreement - HB Solutions - The Board of Education entered into a consulting agreement with HB Solutions, LLC of Pittsford, New York to provide Internal Revenue Transmittal services as required for compliance under the Affordable Care Act for 2017 fiscal data.

Co-Curricular Club - The Board of Education approved an increase in the Co-curricular Annual Cap for the Marine Biology club. for the 2017-2018 school year.

Special Education Reports:

The Board of Education approved the terms and conditions of the following contract between the District and the following agencies or independent providers:

Locust Valley Central School District

Glen Cove City School District

Policies: (First Read)

1. Policy 4532 - School Volunteer
2. Policy 5151 - Homeless Children

3. Policy 5151-R - Homeless Children Regulation
4. Policy 5420 - Student Health Services
5. Policy 5420-R - Student Health Services Regulation

Policies: (Second Read & Adoption)

1. Policy 1230 - Public Participation at Board Meetings
2. Policy 1530 - Tobacco-Free School Environment Policy
3. Policy 2120 - School Board Elections
4. Policy 5300.25 - Student Dress Code

Donations:

1. **WSSPTG** - The Board of Education accepted the generous donation from the WSSPTG of new stage draperies for the gym. The amount of the donation is approximately \$4,135.
2. **Seahawks Booster Club** - The Board of Education accepted the generous donation of a custom tent to the Cold Spring Harbor School District. The value of the donation is \$11,412.

For the full Agenda – please visit the Board of Education on the website

Upcoming Meeting(s)...

December 5th–Board of Education Meeting – 8pm

Meetings are held at the Francis Roberts Community Center (District Office)
75 Goose Hill Rd., Cold Spring Harbor
District web site – www.csh.k12.ny.us