

Board of Education “Meeting Highlights” October 8, 2013

President’s Report...

BOE president Janice Elkin’s report included the following:

Welcome. One of the highlights of our meetings is when we have the opportunity to honor our students for their hard work and achievements in a variety of avenues. Tonight we have many students to honor. We honor them for their social conscience, their scholarship and their artistic ability. We would also like to congratulate West Side School on being named a Blue Ribbon School.

Tonight our focus on teaching and learning will be a very informative presentation by Mrs. Bellino on the Common Core Standards. The Common Core Standards have been written about in the local, state and national media, as educators navigate through their implementation and initial outcome assessments. Recently there was an article in the Sept 30th issue of Time magazine, which you can access through the library website, titled “The New Smart Set” which details the rationale for, and creation of the Common Core Standards, expected implementation difficulties and educational outcomes, as well as a look at the experience of the state of Kentucky which was one of the first states to adopt the Common Core and now is in year 3 of implementation. Kentucky experienced much of what is being experienced in local schools on Long Island, with testing assessment changing before implementation had time to mature. However, the message that came through loud and clear in the article was that what happened, or the shape of the road to implementation, depended in large part on district administration and staff. In the schools with the strongest leaders, teachers were given opportunities to study and discuss the new standards with one another and to brainstorm and reinvent lessons for the higher standards. These were districts where the administration, curriculum developers, and teachers embraced the inevitable changes that the Common Core required. I believe we are such a district. Tonight you will hear an outstanding, scholarly and practical presentation by Ms. Bellino in our Focus on Teaching and Learning. She will surely demonstrate how Cold Spring Harbor has embraced the new learning standards.

Parents have received NY State testing results along with a very informative letter from Dr. Wilansky, which also can be found on the website. The letter explains the differences in this year’s assessments and scoring. Dr. Wilansky has made several presentations over the past month, so that parents can understand the consequences of the phase in of new assessment standards, and therefore be able to get an accurate understanding of their children’s progress. The transition to the Common Core and the new testing protocols will take time and discussion and certainly has led to much debate and some anxiety among parents. We, as a board, thank the administration and staff in advance for their patience in taking the time to communicate openly,

so that in the end we will, as a community, understand how the district can use the new standards to enhance the educational program our students receive.

On that note, the board sets annual goals in the fall of each year, and during the year we use our work session to hear reports related to the district's progress toward our goals. Last year some of our goals related to technology, the Dignity for All Act, the Common Core and APPR. We will once again be setting goals at our October work session. We invite you to attend and listen to our discussion of possible goals.

Superintendent's Report...

Dr. Judith A. Wilansky's report included the following:

Good evening –

October is National School Board Recognition Month.

Lee H. Hamilton, long time Democratic Congressman from Indiana, has been quoted as saying:

“I can assure you, public service is a stimulating, proud and lively enterprise. It is not just a way of life; it is a way to live fully.”

This evening we take the time to recognize the members of the Cold Spring Harbor Board of Education for the gift of their service to our school community.

In my opinion, there has never been a more complicated time in public school governance. Think about the decisions that have needed to be made, just within the last year, with regard to:

- The recently regulated tax cap has placed a new constraint in balancing what constitutes a sound educational program for students through the lens of fiscal limitations and priorities.
- The implementation of the Common Core State Standards which has caused the inevitable ripples of anxiety and uncertainty that accompany any change in an institution.
- The experience of the recently regulated and negotiated Annual Professional Performance Review. While the accountability factor has never been called into question, the focus on state assessments (particularly in the early grades) has been at odds with the District's philosophy regarding the value of qualitative assessment, in addition to understanding students' developmental profiles.
- The continuing technological evolution which is impacting learning in such a significant manner, that our only assurance is to know that no classroom will, in a short decade, even remotely resemble the way teaching and learning occur today.

Our committed Board gets to grapple with all of these issues – for very little (if any) glory, no compensation and all too few thank you’s – so lest I forget – “Thank you!!”

You are among the most open-minded and thoughtful community members that I have had the good fortune to work with. You have the capacity to disagree with me or each other in the most civil and respectful of ways. You have always kept student welfare at the heart of every decision you make.

We require our students to engage in community service as a requirement for graduation in the hope that they will “reap more than they sow” – that they will come to learn that service brings a sense of fulfillment and self-satisfaction – and that those intangible rewards bring more to one’s life than any other manner of compensation.

In an era where civic responsibility has substituted the gift of one’s time for a monetary contribution – you are the models that we hope our students aspire to - the ability to make a difference through one’s actions and commitment. Thank you for the gift of your service.

Recognitions...

2014 National Merit Scholarship Program

Commended Students

Henry Farahani
Rachel Johnson
Emma Katovitz
James Kaye
Katharina Knapp
Henrietta Schlaeger
Julia Schubauer
Isaac Schuman
Michael Terracciano
John Toomey
Allyson Tsu
Robert Vavassis

Semifinalist

Riley Jill Schwartz

National Hispanic Recognition Program

Nina Riffaud
Laura Taylor

"Embracing Our Differences" Art Competition

Bridget DeGiorgio
Alanna Schetty

Focus on Teaching and Learning...

Common Core Standards - Lydia Bellino

Board Actions...

Tenure Recommendations:

At the request of the Superintendent, that Tara Silber be granted tenure effective October 13, 2013 in the tenure area of Teacher Assistant

Leaves:

Rebecca Koob, Tenured Teacher, HS was granted Unpaid Childcare Leave beginning January 25, 2014 through June 30, 2014. (Mrs. Koob was granted unpaid Childcare Leave through January 24, 2014 at the 6/11/2013 Board Meeting.

Appointments:

Helen Murdock-Prepp was appointed HS Musical Set Director for the 2013-14 school year.

Timesheeted Clubs 2013-14, CSHHS

FBLA Patricia Connolly
Computer Science, Melissa McLees
Marine Biology, Erin Oshan
Aviation, Peter Gregorchuk
Community Service, Allison Halloran
Dungeons & Dragons, Christopher Conklin
Jr./Sr. High Fashion Club, Kristine O'Malley-Levy
Model United Nations, Vincent Natale
Political Science, Vincent Natale
Outreach 7-8, Jennifer Pickering

HS Co-Curricular REVISED to reflect that Mathletes Sr. High be split between—Carissa Reddock and Jamie Petretti.

Caroline Kennedy, Leave Replacement French Teacher HS was appointed effective September 3, 2013 – June 30, 2014.

Christine Perez was appointed School Nurse LH effective on September 26, 2013.

Denise Engel was appointed P/T Teacher Assistant P/T Special Education Teacher HS effective September 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014.

Winter Coaching CSHHS approved:

JV Basketball (B) Brian Maini
JV B Basketball (B) Ryan Conroy
JH Basketball (B) Mike Wolf
JH Basketball (B) Ryan Towers
JH Basketball (B) Chris Phelan
Varsity Wrestling Michael Ferrugiari
JV Wrestling Anthony Servidio
Varsity Swimming (B) Gary Renart
Swimming JH (B) Dan Kelly

Varsity Swimming Asst. (B) Jennifer Scott
Varsity Swimming Diving (B) Kim Como
JH Volleyball (G) Erin Oshan
JH Volleyball (G) Emily Wildermuth
JH Volleyball (G) Nicholas Fengler
V. Basketball (G) Rory Malone
V. Basketball Asst. (G) Steve Cacioppo
JV Basketball (G) Alicia Defino
V. Gymnastics Asst. (G) Paige Ehlers
Winter Weight Training Dennis Bonn
Winter Crew Weight Training Jon Mendreski
V Winter Track (G) Nick Aurigemma
JH Winter I Track Christian Lynch
V Winter Track Asst. (G) Erica Fraiberg
V. Winter Track (B) Gary Franklin
V. Fencing (B) Lauren Wangner

Donations:

The Board of Education accepted a generous donation from the Sepanski Family of the following computer equipment:

1 Mac Pro A1186 s/n G87114P9UQ2
1 Power Mac G5 s/n YM5510L6UUY
1 Cinema HD Display s/n/ 2A7191NZXMN

Establishing the Tax Levy:

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Article 13 of the Real Property Tax Law and Section 1804 of the Education Law and based upon the assessed valuation of 21,231,265 which has been certified to the District by the Town of Huntington Assessor and based upon the final assessed valuation of \$2,327,946 which has been certified to the District by the Nassau County Assessor, the following school tax amounts to be levied with approximate school tax rates are adopted and ordered certified to the respective assessors by the Board of Education for the 2013-2014 fiscal year:

<u>Amounts to be Levied</u>	<u>Approximate Tax/Rate/\$100 AV</u>
Town of Huntington 43,110,038	203.05
Town of Oyster Bay 13,974,228	656.47(Residential Class 1)
Total School Levy 57,084,266	

*The actual tax rates will be set by the Tax Receiver’s officers of the Towns of Huntington and Oyster Bay.

Special Education Reports—Contracts:

The Board of Education of the Cold Spring Harbor Central School District approved the terms and conditions of the following contract between the District and the following agencies or independent providers:

Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf (suballocations)

Field Trips:

1. 2014 National Speech & Debate Championships

The Board of Education approved the Cold Spring Harbor Jr/Sr High School Speech and Debate Team to compete at the 2014 National Championships for Speech and Debate in Chicago, Illinois held from May 23-26, 2014.

2. Varsity Boys and Girls Lacrosse Trips

Resolved, that the Board of Education approve the request for the Varsity Boys Lacrosse team spring trip to Boston April 16th through April 19th and the Varsity Girls Lacrosse team spring trip to San Diego April 10th through April 14th.

Upcoming Meetings...

October 29 Board of Education Work Session 7:30pm

November 12 Board of Education Meeting – 8pm

Most meetings are held at the Francis Roberts Community Center (District Office)

75 Goose Hill Rd., Cold Spring Harbor

(To confirm location check District web site – www.csh.k12.ny.us)

For the full Board of Education Agenda, please log onto our website.