

Board of Education “Meeting Highlights”

September 12, 2017

President’s Report...

BOE President Mark McAteer’s report included the following:

Just as you would expect, the construction crews finished, the schools opened on time, and the buses delivered all of their precious cargo to the proper destinations without incident. I want to thank our principals and senior staff for such a smooth kick off to the school year.

Part of that smooth kick off is Athletic Director Bongino’s outstanding Code of Conduct meeting. And while not always followed by all of our student athletes, they are still kids, after all, the lessons are an important element in teaching accountability, proper sportsmanship, and standards of behavior. The varsity meeting was concluded last week, JV is tomorrow, and Jr. High is next week. We’re all done this month. Thank you, Mike, for continuing this valuable initiation.

Also, this month, our parents are receiving their initiation with “Back to School Night”. Goose Hill concluded this past Thursday, the Jr. High is tomorrow night, Lloyd Harbor and West Side are next week, and the High School is at the end of the month. Again, all finished this month.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the Cold Spring Harbor Educational Foundation with both the 7th & 9th grade receiving their Chrome Books for our expanding 1:1 Initiative. Also, the Creative Learning Labs are arriving very shortly in the 5th & 6th grade classes at Lloyd Harbor & West Side Schools, and I-pads at the Goose Hill Library. The classroom portion of the labs was provided by district funds demonstrating an excellent partnership between our school team and The Foundation. My thanks again to The Foundation and their many generous contributors.

So that’s where we are...moving along briskly with lots to do, and off to a good start

Superintendent’s Report...

Robert C. Fenter’s report included the following:

Before I begin my formal comments, I would like to thank all of those who contributed to a smooth and very successful opening of school - our leaders, teachers, and support staff. I would also like to thank the members of our Leadership Team for their contributions to our Annual Report, a summary of our efforts and accomplishments over the course of the 2016-17 school year. It is an extraordinary document and will be posted on our website for community members to review and enjoy. Finally, I would like to thank Karen Spehler and Joe Monastero for their contributions to our annual opening of school slideshow that we will share this evening after our principal and athletic director reports.

It has been a timeless question: What is the purpose of an education? When one reviews the writings of some great thinkers and leaders, the answers to this question are markedly different. The purists extol the 'search for truth' as the primary function of an education, and to experience

that which allows the student to explore very 'meaning of life' throughout his or her years of school. Others, focus on the functionality that an education may bring to a person entering the job market, including specific writing, coding, or other marketable skills. Finally, some have viewed education as a means of preparing our youth for success in the social realm, ensuring that students have the human relations skills needed to operate successfully in their personal relationships and in business settings.

Of course, as we know, there is no one description of the purpose of education except that which says, choice D, 'all of the above.'

One powerful way to generate experiences that address all of these desired outcomes for our students is providing them with the opportunity to ask questions about that which they are genuinely curious. This is not always typical of approaches taken in schools that are more likely to have questions with answers that have already been determined to be correct or not.

This past school year, I visited two science classrooms who are providing students with the opportunity to ask questions about issues that they were concerned with, or problems that they were struggling with. One of these classrooms provided a wall that students could write any question that they had about the concepts they were learning and displayed them for consideration by classmates and/or the teacher. When students had extra time, they were asked to return to their question, or that of a classmate, and research the answers to the questions. At times, the teacher would select a question for discussion by the class as well.

Another class I visited asked students to research a topic that they were interested in through a mechanism called, Genius Hour. The questions that students researched were usually important, sometimes personal, and culminated in a presentation to peers about the results of their research. What did they ask?

- Why is the temperature rising on earth?*
- How can we end disease?*
- Why are the cultures of different nations so very different?*

I don't know about you, but, in my view, these are some pretty impressive questions.

The truth is, in providing an education, we need to do it all, or as Valerie Strauss, Washington Post author writes, 'Critical thinking, creativity, interpersonal skills and a sense of social responsibility all influence success in life, work and citizenship.'

In Cold Spring Harbor, we proudly prepare our students for the next step in their journey of life, but we also need, through artful teaching, strong curriculum, and increased opportunities, to allow our students to ask their 'wonder question' and to search for answers. Through our newly enhanced research program, our 1:1 initiative at the Jr/Sr High School, and new creative learning spaces at the elementary level, we are creating the infrastructure for our students to grapple with challenging questions and problems that are solved through collaboration, and research. My thanks to our leaders and teachers who every day work to make these many purposes of education come to fruition. Ultimately, with all that we need to accomplish it is often the most difficult thing to do to allow students the voice to ask questions that will drive great instruction and research.

Wishing everyone a successful year ahead with the ability to explore your "wonder question."

Focus on Teaching and Learning....

Opening Day Reports

Goosehill Primary School	Lynn Herschlein
Lloyd Harbor School	Valerie Massimo
West Side School	Kurt Simon
Jr/Sr High School	Jim Bolen
Athletics	Michael Bongino

Board Actions...

Resignations:

Christine Garramone - Teacher Assistant, LH effective September 1, 2017.

Erica Fischetti - JV Volleyball Coach effective September 2, 2017.

Appointments:

Amanda Kenigsberg – Teacher Aide GH effective September 5, 2017

Sloane Cogliati – Teacher Assistant LH, This is a four-year probationary appointment in the tenure area of Teacher Assistant effective September 8, 2017 through September 7, 2021 subject to applicable laws and regulations regarding the granting of tenure.

Lori Siegel – ENL Teacher GH/WS effective Aug 30 – June 30, 2017

Terry Tini – Coach JV Volleyball (G) effective September 7, 2017

HS Co-Curricular approved:

Activity	Employee	
Asst. Debate & Forensic Club	Jeanne Glynn	
Newspaper-HS - Split	Christine Oswald	
Newspaper-HS - Split	Joanna Waters	
Mathletes - Sr. High	Marissa Puleo	
Mathletes - Jr. High	Brigid Victorson	
Jr. High Brainstormers	Jaak Raudsepp	
Business Director-JH Musical	Danielle Beach	
Business Director-SH Musical	Danielle Beach	

*Plus adjustment where applicable

Time-sheeted clubs approved with an annual cap

Club	Employee	
Computer Science	Melissa McLees	
Jr./Sr. High Fashion Club	Myra Georgiou	
FBLA	Patricia Connolly	
HS Fall Drama - Director	Marc Beja	
HS Fall Drama - Technical Director	Marc Beja	

HS Fall Drama - Business Director	Christine Oswald	
Knitting for the Needy	Vincent Natale	
Model UN	Vincent Natale	
Outreach	Suzanne Main-Wegielnik	
Political Science	Vincent Natale	

Additional Business Matters:

1. [Joint Municipal Cooperative Bidding](#)
The Board of Education approved the resolution to participate in the Eastern Suffolk BOCES Joint Municipal Cooperative Bidding Program, as per attached.
2. [Transportation Contract](#)
The Board of the Education approved the transportation contract extension with Huntington Coach Corp. for the period from September 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018, at a 1.8% increase over the prior year’s contract based on the CPI, for regular and handicapped transportation at an anticipated annual cost of \$3,667,266.
3. [Transportation Contract](#)
The Board of the Education approved the transportation contract extension with Huntington Coach Corp. for the period from September 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018, at a 1.8% increase over the prior year’s contract based on the CPI, for athletic and academic field trips at an anticipated cost of \$464,977.

Donations: WSSPTG

The Board of Education accepted the generous donation from the WSSPTG of resurfacing of the basketball court and recently paved play area. The amount of the donation is approximately \$7,400.

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

Upcoming Meetings...

September 26th –Board of Education Work Session – 7:30pm
“*presentation of the 2016-17 school report card*”

October 10th – 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