

## **Board of Education “Meeting Highlights” December 11, 2018**

### **President’s Report...**

BOE President Ingrid Wright’s report included the following:

*Good Evening. Thank you to the students and teachers in our high school music department for coming tonight to perform for our board and audience. We look forward to hearing more from these talented musicians at their upcoming winter concerts.*

*Tonight, we will be recognizing our Varsity Football team for capturing the Long Island Class IV Championship. A few years back, with player numbers down, we were wondering what the future would hold for our football program. Today, we are excited to celebrate the accomplishment of our students and staff in bringing the title of Class IV Champions back to Cold Spring Harbor. I would like to thank Head Coach Jon Mendreski and the entire coaching staff for their hard work and leadership in working with our players. Congratulations!*

*Over the past few weeks, our Capital Projects committee has been hard at work. Each year, through our budgetary process, we set aside money in our capital reserve fund for infrastructure projects that are needed to upkeep our buildings. Although we have been able to improve our buildings using this program, we have begun to think about long term, bigger projects for our facilities. The committee has begun to think about what our buildings will need for the next 20 years and how we envision learning, classroom space and our physical plant in that time period. These long term needs will need to be financed through a bond issuance, not our capital reserve fund. As a result, we have begun to meet with our administrators to better understand what long-term projects are needed to not only improve teaching and learning in our buildings, but also ensure that our facility remains safe and secure. With the help of our business office, we will begin to ascertain the costs associated with these projects, so that we can eventually put together a proposal for our voters. Our board is also discussing ways that we can get community input in our planning and projects. Please stay tuned for further information in the coming months for opportunities to have your voice heard in our planning process.*

*I would like to wish everyone a very happy holiday season. May you take the time this holiday to relax with family and friends and to make new memories with loved ones. Wishing you all the best for a safe and prosperous new year ahead.*

## **Superintendent's Report...**

Robert C. Fenter's report included the following:

*Good evening and happy holidays to all. This is a time of year when one thinks of the traditions that make our community so very special. One of those traditions is the practice of inviting to our December Board of Education meeting musicians to provide us with a taste of the season with some holiday selections. My thanks to our district chairperson for music, Mr. Brent Chiarello, our teachers, and, especially, our students, for their willingness to continue this tradition as we get into the holiday spirit. The arts are alive and well in Cold Spring Harbor. Thank you to all of our musicians for your commitment to the arts and for being here this evening to celebrate the holiday season.*

*Another tradition we have enjoyed at Cold Spring Harbor is honoring the teams who have accomplished the very highest success in their respective sports. This year, our Varsity Football team not only won the County Championship against a team that has provided us with challenges over the years, but also went on to win the Long Island Championship in impressive fashion. As someone who stood on the sidelines of each of the playoff games - through cold, rain, and other challenging conditions - I am in even more awe as the team fought hard during these conditions. My congratulations to Coach Mendreski, his staff, Mr. Bongino, our athletic director, and all of the students on the team that made us all so very proud!*

*Finally, it is tradition that two additional items be addressed as items for discussion at the December Board of Education meeting: new courses at the Jr/Sr High School, and the school calendar for the following school year. Those items will be addressed later in the meeting, but I would like to take the opportunity to thank Dr. Bolen for his leadership in examining the offerings of our Jr/Sr High School and working with our leaders and teachers to determine how those offerings can be enhanced for the benefit of our students' educational program. In terms of the calendar, our plan for next year is to create a calendar that does not have a regular day of school on Election Day, and one that preserves multiple make-up days in the event of emergency closure most typically due to snow conditions. Our plan is to discuss both of these items this evening and to ask the Board to take action next month to finalize both course offerings and a school calendar at the January 8th Board of Education meeting.*

*On a final note, I had the opportunity to conduct my first Residency Day of the year recently by spending much of the day at West Side School. Each time I spend this quality time with our leaders, teachers, support staff and students, I am reminded of the wonderful educational experience that we provide to our students on a daily basis. Throughout my visit, I was impressed with the amount of student-centered learning, the use of creative spaces, the thoughtful use of technology, the implementation of student choice in projects, the thoughtful writing that was taking place based on student research, and the extensive experiences with non-fiction text. One of my favorite parts of the day was when I visited Ms. Dopico's third grade class. In that class I came upon a small group of children working on their 'expert topics.' They chose these topics because they know a lot about them and wanted to dive even deeper into their study and share with others what they had learned. One student told me that he was studying Ancient Greece. I was excited to show him some of the differences between Roman and Greek architecture with some simple sketches. I then spoke to another student who, after being asked*

*what he was an expert in, he said, "US Presidents." I could barely contain my enthusiasm when I asked him, "Who are your favorite presidents? He said, "McKinley, Reagan, and Bush 41." We talked for a bit and I was taken by the fact that this young man liked one of my favorite presidents, Bush 41. We talked about him for a little while, including his status as a WWII veteran and hero. We agreed before I left that, given President Bush's living in Texas most of his life, we would honor him by saying his number with a real Texas accent - 41! Little did we know that, just hours after this conversation, President Bush would pass. From the mouth of babes we learn to appreciate so very much. Thank you to Mr. Loughren and his entire staff for welcoming me in what was a most enjoyable and informative day.*

*Thank you for the opportunity to share these thoughts with you at this very special time of year. My thanks also to the Board of Education for their continued support and guidance. Finally, thank you to our dedicated leaders, teachers, and support staff who work every day to provide our students with the very best educational experience possible. Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year to all!*

## **Focus on Teaching and Learning....**

### **Holiday Performances:**

#### **Cold Spring Harbor Wind Ensemble**

*Under the Direction of Brent Chiarello*

#### **Cold Spring Harbor String Ensemble**

*Under the Direction of Jessie Moran*

#### **Cold Spring Harbor Brass Ensemble**

*Under the Direction of Brent Chiarello*

#### **Cold Spring Harbor Chamber Singers**

*Under the Direction of Mark Beja*

## **Recognitions:**

**Varsity Football Team - Long Island Class IV Champions**

## **Board Actions...**

### **Appointments:**

Winter Coaching assignments at the Jr./Sr. High School approved:

JH Wrestling (B) Anthony Servidio

JH Wrestling (B) Nicholas Fengler

JH Volleyball (B) John Franklin

JH Basketball (G) Odysseas Svolos

JH Basketball (G) Lori Messina

JH Basketball (G) Lauren Blackburn

**Personnel Contracts:**

The Contract for Services between the District and [Roots and Wings LLC](#), provider of Mindfulness Training to the staff of the District, effective November 28, 2018

**Additional Business Matters Approved:**

1. Lease agreement with Jonrob, Inc. for the driver's education vehicle.
2. Pitney Bowes Contract - High School
3. Budget Revisions:
  - a. Revenue Line A2706 "Gifts and Donations - Ed Foundation" shall be increased by \$112,269.67. Expenditure Line A2110.2010-05 "Equipment Foundation" shall be increased in the amount of \$112,269.67, effective July 1, 2018.
  - b. Revenue Line A2706 "Gifts and Donations - Ed Foundation" shall be increased by \$67,142. Expenditure Line A2630.4910-10 "Services From BOCES" shall be increased in the amount of \$67,142, effective December 12, 2018.
4. Memorandum of Agreement – UPSEU (United Public Service Employees Union.).
5. Corrective Action Plan - Independent Auditor's Year End 6/30/18
6. Corrective Action Plan - Information Technology Independent Audit
7. Corrective Action Plan - Risk Assessment Update Internal Audit

**Special Education Contracts Approved:**

[Oyster Bay-East Norwich CSD](#)  
[Challenge Day Addendum](#)

**Policies:**

[Policy 4531 – Field Trip and Excursions – First Read](#)  
[Policy 1400 - Public Complaints Second Read & Adoption](#)  
[Policy 2340 - Notice of Meetings Second Read & Adoption](#)

**Discussions:**

1. [New High School Course Offerings](#)
2. [2019-2020 School Calendar](#)

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

**Upcoming Meeting(s)...**

[No December Work Session](#)

[January 8<sup>th</sup> –Board of Education Meeting – 8pm](#)

[January 29<sup>th</sup> – Board of Education Community Budget Forum – 7:30 pm](#)

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](http://www.csh.k12.ny.us)