

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**December 12, 2019 - Beach Street Middle School**

PRESENT: Mr. Gellar, Mr. Maginniss, Mr. Antonello, Mr. Compitello, Mrs. LaRosa,  
Mr. McCann

ABSENT: Mr. Michaluk

ADMINISTRATORS: Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. Pellati, Mr. Taylor

ABSENT: None

ATTORNEY: Mr. Volz

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Meeting was called to order at 8:02 p.m. followed by the Pledge.

A community forum took place regarding the Masera property. Mrs. Burns and Mr. Gellar gave a presentation on the history of the Emil D. Masera Elementary School and options being considered for the site.

After the presentation, the following residents wished to speak regarding the Masera property:

Mr. John Davis, 503 Avon Place, West Islip - Mr. Davis is president of the Willetts Point Association and prefers condos over rentals. He asked the Board what influence they have regarding the size of the development. Mr. Gellar explained that waivers would not be allowed, the height would be no more than two stories, and the district would be diligent with the details of the contract.

Mr. Emil Masera, 35 Skipper Drive, West Islip - Mr. Masera asked if the only possibility for the property is senior housing. Mr. Gellar answered in the affirmative and reiterated that the district would not allow variances and is limited to 10-12 units per acre. Mr. Gellar explained that the district is sensitive to the fact that it is a residential area and a 55-and-older development would not be a burden on the school system.

Mr. Rocco G. Pepe, 15 David Court, West Islip - Mr. Pepe has lived in West Islip for 65 years and asked if the property would only be limited to senior housing. Mr. Gellar said that the district could make the sale contingent on senior housing, upon approval from the town. Mr. Pepe inquired about the impact on the sewer system; the district will investigate.

Mr. David Rubano, 84 Pace Drive South, West Islip – Mr. Rubano asked if the property would have a tax advantage and expressed concern about the many tax advantages in West Islip due to the private schools, churches and hospital and asked if there are other options for the property. Mr. Gellar explained that there would likely be a tax abatement for ten years and there have been discussions with the town assessor and IDA. The property would be a tax-generating site.

Mr. Matthew Paules, 745 Tanglewood Road, West Islip - Mr. Paules suggested that the district should have different realtors pitch ideas for the property; seniors prefer to stay in their homes. He stated that a 55-and-over development would put a burden on the fire department, ambulances etc. He is in favor of an acquisition by the Atlantic Auto Mall because they do a lot for the community and maintain their property. Mrs. Winkler explained that this project was open to all realtors and anyone can make offers. Mr. Gellar added that the district considered other options but is looking for a project in the best interest of the community. The district will consider all feedback from the community.

Mr. Ed Vilim, 592 Center Dyre, West Islip – Mr. Vilim asked about debt and if there would be preferential treatment for homeowners who want to sell their home and move into the development. Mr. Volz, the school district attorney, explained that this might be seen as restrictive to outsiders but can be investigated. Mr. Vilim questioned what would happen if the student population increased in the future. Mr. Gellar advised that there was a long-term study completed by BOCES a few years ago and the student population is projected to continue to decline. The district owns two other buildings presently being rented that can be repurposed if the need were to arise.

Mr. Vilim also had concerns regarding the Islip Town Board and the control the district would have if circumstances changed in the future. Mr. Gellar advised that the town is in support of the project but if the district does not agree with the approved plan, the district would not go through with the deal.

Mr. Bob Ferraro, 6 Dunwoodie Road, West Islip – Mr. Ferraro had concerns about zoning and would like to see residential homes and a small park. Mrs. Winkler explained that the property is zoned for a school and would be rezoned to Residence C District, which limits housing to 10 condominiums per acre or 12 apartments per acre. The district would not be in favor of granting variances to any developer. Mr. Gellar explained that there is a greater need for senior housing and the construction cost of high-end homes is very high. Mrs. Winkler also explained that there is more value in senior housing.

Mr. Bill Sullivan, Jackson Avenue, West Islip - Mr. Jackson asked if the property would be rentals or condos. Mr. Gellar explained it could be a mixed-use development but was still under discussion. Mr. Jackson would prefer private homes since the value would increase over time.

Robert, 569 Peter Paul Drive, West Islip - Robert suggested a cash generating business for the property such as a sports complex. Mr. Gellar suggested that any proposals should be sent to Mrs. Winkler.

Erica, West Islip resident - Erica asked about the price range for the units. Mrs. Winkler explained that the developer is mandated to have 10% of the units be affordable.

West Islip resident - Asked the deadline date for bids and Mr. Gellar advised that the bids are closed for a senior development.

Kim Librizzi, 215 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, West Islip - Mrs. Librizzi asked if zoning can be changed once is sold. Mrs. LaRosa advised that the Town of Islip assigns the zone and it cannot be changed. Mrs. Librizzi asked if Masera be renovated and the district close a different school. Mrs. LaRosa and Mrs. Winkler explained the high costs associated with renovating Masera.

West Islip resident - Eric told the audience that zoning is a very long process and one can go online to learn more about zoning in the Town of Islip.

Mike Lombardi, West Islip resident - Mr. Lombardi does not feel the community needs a medical building or a car dealership and prefers condos, but questioned why senior condos were chosen over condos available to the general public. Mr. Gellar explained that senior housing would stabilize the student population and not add a burden to the district.

Doreen Hantzschel, 1129 Jefferson Avenue, West Islip - Mrs. Hantzschel thanked the Board for having the community forum and expressed concerns about the traffic flow. Mr. Gellar explained there is a bus stop and a traffic study would be part of the project.

Ed Jablonski, West Islip resident - Mr. Jablonski asked what which project – condos or apartments – would generate more tax revenue. Condos are not eligible for the IDA abatement but apartments are. In that case, the district would receive less tax revenue for the first ten years, but be eligible for PILOTs.

Lynn Luttenberger, West Islip Association - Mrs. Luttenberger does not want rentals and feels renters do not have a vested interest in the property.

John Davis, West Islip Historical Society - Mr. Davis asked if an historical name using “Paumanok” could be used when naming the property. Mr. Gellar said it could be considered.

Jamie Dorr, 117 Paris Court, West Islip - Ms. Dorr spoke about the population of young parents in the community and the need for affordable housing. She feels home ownership is not always ideal and that renters are invested in the community. Mrs. LaRosa responded that it is something to consider.

Vincent, West Islip resident - asked if the solicitation was just for senior housing and if other projects would be considered. He is concerned about the amount of traffic 120 units would bring.

Julie Cannistra, 143 Gladstone Avenue, West Islip - Mrs. Cannistra reminded the audience that the community was a thriving district for years and has always had traffic.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2019 Planning Session.

#### PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHER: LEAVE OF ABSENCE (unpaid): (Pursuant to the Family Medical Leave Act of 1993-12 week continuous medical coverage): Nicole Perperis, Health, effective December 2, 2019 through January 24, 2020 (High School).

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Peter McCann and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: RESIGNATION: Kerri Culkin, Part Time Food Service Worker, effective December 14, 2019 (Oquenock).

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: RESIGNATION: Rosemarie Giudice, School Nurse, effective January 4, 2020 (Paul J. Bellew).

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: RETIREMENT: Sylvie Desano, Part Time Food Service Worker, effective December 21, 2019 (16 years).

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: RETIREMENT: Michael Logiudice, Chief Custodian, effective January 31, 2020 (25 years).

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: CHANGE IN TITLE: Fortunata DeMartino, Library Aide, effective December 13, 2019 (High School; Step 8; replacing A. O'Bryen {retired}).

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Peter McCann and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Carol Churpita, Senior Office Assistant, effective January 13, 2020 (District Office; Step 1; replacing A. Anos {retired}).

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Mayra Castillo, Cafeteria Aide, effective December 13, 2019 (Udall; Step 1; replacing H. Mercorella {Library Aide}).

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Kerri Culkin, Special Education Aide, effective December 16, 2019 (High School; Step 1; replacing M. Kofler {retired}).

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Peter McCann and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Robin LaMorte, Special Education Aide, effective December 13, 2019 (Paul J. Bellew; Step 1; replacing L. Beck {resigned}).

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: SUBSTITUTE SPECIAL EDUCATION AIDE (\$17.87/hr.): Mayra Castillo, effective December 13, 2019.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: 2020 SPRING HIGH SCHOOL COACHES:

BASEBALL

Shawn Rush, Varsity Coach  
Richard Zeitler, Assistant Varsity Coach  
Michael LaCova, J.V. Coach  
Joseph LaCova, Varsity/J.V. Volunteer Coach

SOFTBALL

John T. Denninger, Assistant Varsity Coach  
Edward Jablonski, J.V. Coach  
Kim Raimondi-Rinyu, Varsity/J.V. Volunteer Coach

BOYS TRACK

Jeremy Robertson, Varsity Coach  
John Lavery, Assistant Varsity Coach  
Daniel Fannon, Varsity Volunteer Coach

GIRLS TRACK

Nick Grieco, Varsity Coach  
Michael DiStefano, Assistant Varsity Coach

BOYS LACROSSE

Thomas Corcoran, Varsity Coach  
William Turri, Assistant Varsity Coach  
Sean McAleavey, J.V. Coach  
Michael Delgado, Assistant J.V. Coach

GIRLS LACROSSE

Joseph Nicolosi, Varsity Coach  
Brian Cameron, Assistant Varsity Coach  
Thomas Powers, J.V. Coach  
Stacy Piropato, Assistant J.V. Coach

BOYS TENNIS

George Botsch, Varsity Coach  
James Dooley, J.V. Coach

GIRLS GOLF

Thomas Loudon, Varsity Coach

UNIFIED BASKETBALL

Erin Bies, Assistant Coordinator

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: 2020 SPRING MIDDLE SCHOOL COACHES:

BASEBALL

Kevin Osburn, 7-8 Udall Coach  
Richard Zec, Udall-Volunteer Coach  
Frank Franzone, 7-8 Beach Coach  
Larry Plompen, Beach Volunteer

SOFTBALL

Robert Weiss, 7-8 Udall Coach

BOYS TRACK

Kevin Murphy, 7-8 Udall Coach  
Chris Salerno, 7-8 Beach Coach

OTHER: 2020 SPRING MIDDLE SCHOOL COACHES - continued

GIRLS TRACK

Kathryn Dranoff, 7-8 Udall Coach  
Lindsay Morgan, 7-8 Beach Coach

BOYS LACROSSE

Greg Schmalenberger, 7-8 Udall Coach  
Dennis J. Coleman, Assistant Udall Coach  
Michael Perrone, 7-8 Beach Coach  
Anthony Pellati, Assistant Beach Coach

GIRLS LACROSSE

Kelly Weiseneel, 7-8 Udall Coach  
Kristie Ferruzzi, Assistant Udall Coach  
Kristen Doherty, 7-8 Beach Coach  
Daniel Formichelli, Assistant Beach Coach

BOYS & GIRLS SWIMMING

Thomas Bruder, 7-8 Udall-Beach B&G Coach  
John {Jack} Luquer, Assistant 7-8 Udall-Beach B&G Coach

BOYS TENNIS

JoAnne Orehosky, 7-8 Udall-Beach Coach

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTOR (\$30.00/hr.)

Meghan Brady, effective December 13, 2019  
Kathryne Gruskin, effective December 13, 2019  
Jennifer Kelly, effective December 13, 2019

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: SUBSTITUTE TEACHER (\$115 per diem):

Meghan Brady, effective December 13, 2019  
\*Sarah Clahane, effective January 2, 2020  
Allison Gunning, effective January 27, 2020, student teacher  
Kathryne Gruskin, effective December 13, 2019  
Jennifer Kelly, effective December 13, 2019  
Mark Marron, effective January 23, 2020, student teacher  
Samantha McEvoy, effective March 16, 2020, student teacher  
Michelle Murphy, effective December 13, 2019  
Daniel Rush, effective January 27, 2020, student teacher  
Alana Schultz, effective January 22, 2020, student teacher  
Danielle Sugumele, effective January 27, 2020, student teacher  
Nicolette Zahralban, effective January 22, 2020, student teacher

CURRICULUM UPDATE

Mrs. Morrison informed the audience that on December 5 high school students took part in a Career Fair planned by Mr. Ryan Vollmuth. Representatives from technology companies, medical facilities, banking and finance institutions, Disney, the food service industry, and engineering specialists, to name a few spent the morning sharing their insights and expertise in regard to their profession. Local establishments such as Brian Joseph Salon, Good Samaritan Hospital and Gemelli's Restaurant participated in the event along with Mr. Gellar and Mr. McCann.

Superintendent's Conference Day took place on December 6. Teachers and staff members attended self-selected workshops on topics of personal interest facilitated by 30 West Islip administrators and teachers. Topics explored included: *Flipping for Flip Grid*, *Coding for Newbies*, *In a Galaxy Far Far Away: Using the Planetarium Across All Subject Areas*, and many more.

A parent academy regarding the elementary math standards and resources will take place on January 22 by Mr. Grover and the elementary principals. The academy will include student involvement, hands on activities, modeling and much more. Specific information will be provided to elementary parents in the coming weeks.

Mrs. Morrison wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Finance Committee: Ron Maginniss reported on the meeting held on 12/10/19. Items reviewed included the October treasurer's report; October extra-curricular report; November payroll summary; October financial statements; claims audit report and the November system manager audit report. Also reviewed were warrants, payroll certification forms, surplus items, donations, resolutions and approval of contracts. Mrs. Pellati informed the committee that if the District were to decide on using the Capital Reserve for the 2020-2021 school year, a proposition would have to be added to the 2020-2021 school budget ballot. The committee will evaluate the remaining bond projects before making a decision related to the potential use of the Capital Reserve.

Buildings & Grounds Committee: Ron Maginniss reported on the meeting held on 12/10/19. Items reviewed included a bond update: Phase 4 bid results, pending Phase 5 submittals and a Bayview sports field project. Other items discussed were a request by the Soccer Club to add mobile turf lights to the Barberry field, Bridges' request to replace its basketball court, and the PV Solar Panel Roof Project. Mrs. Pellati and Mr. Bosse are to meet with ECG to review and analyze the submittals. The Willett's Creek remediation is on schedule.

Committee on Special Education/Preschool Special Education: Tom Compitello reported on the meeting held on 12/11/18. Items discussed were CSE/CPSE recommendations and student placements.

Safety Committee: Tom Compitello reported on the meeting held 12/10/19. Items reviewed included a technology update about the RAVE system by Reanna Fulton; the blue light warning system; additional camera coverage; additional vape detectors in bathrooms; addition of security guards for 2020-2021; and a Code of Conduct review.

Health & Wellness Committee: Peter McCann reported on the meeting held 11/19/19. Items reviewed included a review of the Color Run that took place 10/20/19, a wonderful community event with approximately 400 participants. The expected release of the Newsletter is late January-February and will address mental health, vaping, appropriate behavior at interscholastic events, the social host law, hotlines, etc. The public comment period is open for the Gardasil vaccination and the committee discussed some possible events for Family Connection Nights. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. in the Paul J. Bellew cafeteria.

## FINANCIAL MATTERS

The treasurer's report for October was presented. Beginning balance as of 10/1/19: \$53,611,333.54; ending balance as of 10/31/19: \$38,726,864.05.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve 2019-2020 General Fund budget transfers 3753-3758 and 2019-2020 Capital Fund budget transfers 3755-3761.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Richard Antoniello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve a resolution re: donation from Alliant Insurance - \$700 to WIUFSD Cafeteria Fund.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Richard Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve resolution re: Special Olympics New York - \$1,000 - WIUFSD Unified Basketball Program.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve a resolution re: Increase to Budget 2019-2020.

DONATIONS:

WHEREAS, the West Islip Union Free School District is in receipt of donated funds in the amount of \$700.00 from Alliant Insurance Services, Inc., which have been donated to the Cafeteria Fund to directly benefits the students of the West Islip School District.

WHEREAS, the West Islip Union Free School District is in receipt of donated funds in the amount of \$1,000.00 from Special Olympics of New York, Inc., which have been donated for the purchase of athletic supplies and equipment for the Unified Basketball Program at the High School.

RESOLUTION: INCREASE 2019/2020 BUDGET

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the appropriation budget for the 2019/2020 school year to be increased to \$125,911,290.98, an increase of the \$1,000.000 donation from Special Olympics for the West Islip High School.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve 2019-2020 contracts: Edward M. Petrosky, Psy.D., ABPP; Half Hollow Hills CSD: Hardship and Eligibility Amendments to the WIUFSD 403(b) Retirement Plan; Lindenhurst UFSD; Milestones in Homecare, Inc; Mountain Lake Academy; South Huntington UFSD; Tender Age Pediatric Therapies; Theralympic Speech PLLC.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Richard Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the surplus of miscellaneous IT equipment; IBM Selectric III Typewriter-Special Education Department; Miscellaneous Music textbooks at Bayview.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Richard Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve resolutions re: approval of the corrective Action Plan as related to the Independent Auditors Report for the year ended June 30, 2019 from R.S. Abrams & Co.,LLP.

I. RESOLUTIONS

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the West Islip School District approves of the District's Corrective Action Plan related to the Independent Auditors Report for the year ended June 30, 2019 from R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Richard Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Winkler Amendment to Contract.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Resolution re: destruction of unused and full ballot booklets from the May 21, 2019 election.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Richard Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Teamsters Local 237 Memorandum of Agreement re: additional duties.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Peter McCann, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Chief/School Physicians 2019-2020.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mrs. Burns congratulated the Varsity Football Team, which recently played in the Suffolk County Championship game. The students represented the district well and we are proud of them.

The high school chorus concert took place [Wednesday] night and the elementary and middle school concerts are in full swing. The students are doing a great job and it is wonderful to see the progression from fourth grade to high school. Mrs. Burns encouraged residents to try to attend the concerts. Concert information is posted on the district website.

Mrs. Burns congratulated the High School on the production of its one-act plays and Beach Street Middle School for the production of *Frozen, Jr.*. The performances were outstanding and Beach Street was able to utilize its new sound and lighting system.

Kindergarten registration is ongoing and it is very important to register.

Mrs. Burns wished everyone a joyous and festive holiday season.

The following resident wished to speak during an "Invitation to the Public":

Mike Lombardi, President of West Islip Soccer Club - Mr. Lombardi requested lights on the Barberry turf field or if the district would consider using the lights at another building. Mrs. Burns requested that Mr. Lombardi provide her with the dates on which the main turf was not available to the club during the fall season.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 11:07 p.m. on motion by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Peter McCann, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve PERSONNEL: TEACHER: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Tatiana Lisica, English as a Second Language, effective January 13, 2020 through January 12, 2024 (Udall/Oquenock; Step 1A!; new position subject to APPR regulations).

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Peter McCann, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to conditionally approve a \$250.00 weekly stipend for D.L.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Attendance Waiver for Student "A" and Student "B".

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 p.m. on motion by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted by,



Mary Hock  
District Clerk

All correspondence, reports or related materials referred to in these minutes are on file in the District Office.