

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
August 11, 2022 – West Islip High School

PRESENT: Mr. Tussie, Mr. Antonello, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Compitello, Mrs. Kelly, Mr. Maginniss,
Mr. McCann

ABSENT: None

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

ABSENT: None

ATTORNEY: Mr. Volz

Meeting called to order at 7:31p.m. followed by the Pledge.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Tussie announced that the New York State Comptroller's Office (OSC) released a report on the audit of the West Islip School District and on 7/24/2022 reported their findings. The report was for the period July 1, 2017 through October 31, 2021. The OSC reported that the district was not transparent regarding surplus funds. Mr. Tussie advised that the entire report and the district response is available on the district website.

Mr. Tussie introduced Mrs. Elisa Pellati, the Assistant Superintendent for Business, who gave a Fund Balance and Reserve presentation and addressed the comments received from the NYS Comptroller's Office regarding reserves and the OSC Audit.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2022 Reorganizational Meeting and the July 5, 2022 Regular Meeting.

PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Sophia Stokkeland, Art, effective August 29, 2022 to Augusts 28, 2026 (Bayview and Manetuck; Step 1A¹, replacing Dana Gillman {resigned}).

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Stephanie Nicou, Music, effective August 29, 2022 to August 28, 2026 (Manetuck and Oquenock; Step 1A⁴, replacing Avery Yurman resigned}).

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Kelly Minicozzi, Elementary Counselor, effective Augusts 12, 2022 to August 11, 2026 (Bayview and Paul J. Bellew; Step 1A¹, new position).

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: John T. Denninger, Physical Education, effective August 29, 2022 to August 28, 2026 (High School; Step 1A¹, replacing James Dooley {retired}).

In order to be granted tenure a classroom teacher or building principal shall have received composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Education Law § 3012-d of either effective or highly effective in at least three of the four preceding years and if a classroom teacher or building principal receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period he or she shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANT: RETIREMENT: Diane Calderone, effective August 1, 2022 (8 years).

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Angelina Archer, Part-Time Food Service Worker, effective August 25, 2022 (Udall \$15.13 hr.; replacing A. Imbo {resigned}).

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Lyudmyla Bahlay, Custodial Worker I, effective August 12, 2022 (Oquenock; Step 1; replacing T. Hohsfield {resigned}).

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Mark Robuffo, Custodial Worker II, effective August 29, 2022 (District Wide; Step 1; {new position}).

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Pasquale Romeo, Head Custodian, effective August 29, 2022 (Bayview; Step 1; replacing M. DeBatt {resigned}).

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Lisa Schweigert, Part-Time Food Service Worker, effective August 25, 2022 (Bayview; \$15.13 hr.; replacing M. Morici {resigned}).

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve T-2, CL-1, CL-2, CL-3, CL-5, CL-6 and Other of the 8/11/2022 Personnel Agenda as listed below:

T-2 **RESIGNATION**

Dana Gillman, Art
Effective July 1, 2022
(Bayview and Manetuck)

Michael Martino, Special Education
Effective August 4, 2022
(High School)

CIVIL SERVICE

CL-1 **RESIGNATION**

William Dixon, Microcomputer Repair Technician
Effective August 20, 2022
(District Wide)

Thomas Hohsfield, Custodial Worker I
Effective July 26, 2022
(Oquenock)

CL-1

RESIGNATION, continued

Michele Hopkins, Special Education Aide
Effective August 1, 2022
(Paul J. Bellew)

Amy Ingrassia, Cafeteria Aide
Effective June 25, 2022
(High School)

Douglas Kenah, Guard
Effective August 1, 2022
(Manetuck)

Kristin Miller, Special Education Aide
Effective July 9, 2022
(Paul J. Bellew)

Carly Morgan, Special Education Aide
Effective July 29, 2022
(Manetuck)

Jennifer Musto, Cafeteria Aide
Effective July 21, 2022
(Bayview)

Alfred Nolie, Guard
Effective August 1, 2022
(Beach Street)

Jennifer Pelletier, Special Education Aide
Effective June 24, 2022
(Oquenock)

Carmela Rugnetta, Special Education Aide
Effective August 29, 2022
(High School)

CL-2

CHANGE IN TITLE

Robert Verito, Custodial Worker III
Effective August 29, 2022
(Kirdahy Step 10; change from Acting Head Custodian)

CL-3

LEAVE OF ABSENCE, unpaid

Irene Curto, Special Education Aide
Effective August 29, 2022 – June 23, 2023
(Paul J. Bellew)

CL-5

SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIAN (\$15.00/hr)

William Magrane, effective August 12, 2022
Joseph Rizzuto, effective August 12, 2022

CL-6

SUBSTITUTE PARAPROFESSIONAL (\$15.00/hr)

Amy Ingrassia, effective August 30, 2022
Kristin Miller, effective August 30, 2022

OTHER

HEARING WITNESS AGREEMENT (\$144.45/hr.)

Bernadette Burns, effective August 22, 2022

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER (\$130 per diem)

Kristin Miller, effective August 30, 2022
Carly Morgan, effective August 30, 2022

SUMMER SCHOOL 2022

Kelly Weisenseel, Substitute

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL 2022-2023

Daniel Marquardt, Co-Coordinator
Paulina Zarokostas, Co-Coordinator

OTHER

REGENTS REVIEW 2022-2023

Nicole Tomei, Algebra 1
Lisa Gelsomino, Algebra 2
Maddie Schaefer, Biology
Brian Daniels, Chemistry
Brian Haldenwang, Chemistry
Danielle Dischley, Earth Science
David Gershfeld, English
Amanda Schilling, Geometry
David Moglia, Global

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER ACADEMY PROGRAM 2022

Mollie Healey, teacher

FALL 2022 MIDDLE SCHOOL COACHES

CHEERLEADING

Marissa McAllister, 7-8 Udall Coach
Marissa McCandless, 7-8 Beach Coach

RESIGNATION

John T. Denninger, Preferred Substitute
Effective August 29, 2022

CURRICULUM

Mrs. Morrison informed the audience that the district is looking forward to welcoming back teachers and staff. Superintendent Conference Day will take place on Monday, August 29 and will include a keynote speaker to motivate the staff. Students will return on Tuesday, August 30. The district will be welcoming new teachers and new teacher orientation will take place for three days at the end of August.

Mrs. Morrison acknowledged Mrs. Burns and thanked her for her time and dedication to the district and wished her the best of luck and a long and healthy retirement.

Education Committee: Richard Antonello reported on the meeting held 8/10/22. Items reviewed included June 2022 assessment results for AP, IB & Regents exams, summer programs, parent academies, staff professional development, standard based report cards (K-5), elementary counseling curriculum, and news literacy (Grade 6).

Finance Committee: Ron Maginniss reported on the meeting held on 8/10/22. Items reviewed included the May treasurer's report, May extra-curricular, May payroll summary, May financial statements, May, June and July internal claims report, June and July system manager audit report, payroll certification forms, tax-levy 2022-2023, change order, donation, surplus, breakfast exemption 2022-2023, income eligibility guidelines for free and reduced lunch 2022-2023, bids and contracts. Mrs. Pellati discussed the external auditors being on-site the week of 8/22 to do year-end testing for the 2020-2021 school year. Other items discussed were school lunch prices for 2022-2023 and posting budget transfers on the district website.

Buildings and Grounds Committee: Peter McCann reported on the meeting that took place on 8/10/22. Items reviewed included construction project update by BBS and SCC; PV Solar projects are almost complete; B&G Department preparing facilities for returning students and staff; Barberry turf field at high school replaced by Landtek at no cost to district; and approximate cost to install mini-split air-conditioning units in all classrooms districtwide is approximately \$8 million. Other items discussed were window stops and the Masera property.

Policy Committee: Mr. Tussie advised that a First Reading took place on the following policy: No. 1512 The Use of Videoconferencing at Public Meetings.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

The treasurer's report for May was presented: beginning balance \$73,770,089.29; ending balance \$82,341,321.24.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve 2021-2022 General Fund budget transfers 4211-4212, 2022-2023 General Fund budget transfer 4221 and 2022-2023 Capital Fund budget transfers 4213-4224.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve 2022-2023 Contracts: Center for Developmental Disabilities Consultant Services Contract; Christine Baudin, M.S. Speech Language Pathologist Consultant Services Contract, Complete Rehabilitation PT, OT, SLP of the Hamptons, PLLC Consultant Services Contract; Developmental Disabilities Institute, Hilary Gomes, Ph.D. Consultant Services Contract, Kidz Educational Services SLP, OT, PT, LMSW Psychology, Audiology, PLLC Consultant Services Contract, Long Island Developmental Consulting, Inc., (LIDC) Consultant Services Contract, United Cerebral Palsy Association of Greater Suffolk, Inc., Special Education Services Contract and 2022-2025 Wright Management Company, LLC Management Agreement.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Surplus – Miscellaneous books – Udall.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Change Order No. 1 - Maccarone Plumbing, Inc. - \$26,998.11 – Beach Street.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the following 2022-2023 Resolutions: Breakfast Program Exemption (resolution in supplemental file); Income Eligibility Guidelines for Free and Reduced Priced Meals or Free Milk (resolution in supplemental file); Tax Levy, Donation from Alliance Energy LLC - \$500 – WIHS –Increase to Budget - \$500.

RESOLUTION: 2022-2023 TAX LEVY

WHEREAS, the estimated expenditures for the West Islip Union Free School District, for the school year 2022-2023 in the amount of \$130,246,851 proposed in accordance with Section 1716 of the Education Law, were approved by the voters of the District on May 17, 2022, and,

WHEREAS, the estimated expenditures for the West Islip Public Library, for the fiscal year 2022-2023 in the amount of \$4,242,248, proposed in accordance with Section 259 of the Education Law, were approved by the voters of the District on April 5, 2022 for a total approved budget of \$134,484,568 therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2022-2023 tax levy in the amount of \$90,382,573 for the West Islip Union Free School District and \$4,167,248 for the West Islip Public Library, for a combined tax levy of \$94,549,821 be approved and levied upon the real property of the District.

(The tax levy of \$90,382,573 for the School District plus \$39,864,278 other income as estimated on July 1, 2022, including State Aid, \$500,000 Appropriated from Reserves and \$850,000 of Appropriated Fund Balance equals a budget of \$130,246,851. The tax levy of \$4,167,248 for the Public Library plus \$75,000 other income as estimated on July 1, 2022 equals a budget of \$4,242,248).

DONATION:

WHEREAS, the West Islip Union Free School District is in receipt of donated funds in the amounts of \$500 from Alliance Energy LLC, which have been donated for use in science, technology, engineering or mathematics for the students of the West Islip High School.

RESOLUTION: INCREASE 2022-2023 BUDGET

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the appropriation budget for the 2022-2023 school year to be increased to \$130,247,351, an increase of the \$500 donation from Alliance Energy LLC for the West Islip High School.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Requests for Proposal: RFP #588 Student Beverages without Equipment, RFP #599 Direct Diversion.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve After School Kids Under Supervision, Inc. Fourth Amendment to Lease Agreement.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Director of School Safety Terms of Employment.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Memorandum of Agreement re: West Islip Teachers Association Teaching Assistants Chapter Negotiated Agreement - July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2026.

Mr. Tussie informed the audience that the MOA for the West Islip Teachers Association Teaching Assistants Chapter was approved for the period July 1, 2022- June 30, 2026. Some of the highlights of this MOA include: Salary increases each year are based on the State-issued allowable growth factor that is based upon the change in CPI for the year ending December 31 with a minimum of 1% and a maximum of 2%. Two additional steps will be added to the salary schedule. The amount of unused accumulated sick days paid out at retirement was increased from 40 days to 45 days. Teaching Assistants will now be permitted to participate in the NYSHIP Excelsior Plan in which the district will contribute 50% toward the individual premium and for the family plan, the district will contribute 50% of the individual premium plus 35% of the difference between the individual and family premium.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Memorandum of Agreement re: West Islip United Public Service Employee Union/Local 237 Negotiated Agreement - July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2026.

Mr. Tussie informed the audience that the MOA for the West Islip UPSEU/Local 237 was approved for the period July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2026. Some of the highlights of this MOA include: Salary increases each year are based on the State-issued allowable growth factor that is based upon the change in CPI for the year ending December 31 with a minimum of 1% and a maximum of 2%. Effective July 1, 2022, two additional steps will be added to the salary schedule. Effective July 1, 2022 all longevity increments were increased by \$200 and the Custodial Worker III position will receive a \$200 increase to the annual stipend. Effective July 1, 2023, the employees who were hired prior to July 1, 2014 will increase their employee health contribution from 7.5% to 8% of the premium; it will increase to 9% of the premium effective July 1, 2024 and then 10% of the premium effective July 1, 2025. Effective July 1, 2024, the employees who were hired on or after July 1, 2014 will increase their employee health contribution from 15% to 16% of the premium.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Final Contract for Eastern Suffolk BOCES Cooperative Educational Services 2021-2022.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Burns thanked all staff members working diligently to prepare the facilities and grounds for students and staff who will be returning in two weeks. Mrs. Burns also thanked the community for a fabulous 28 years and for the privilege to serve the district. Mrs. Burns wished good health, friends and joy to everyone.

Dr. Romanelli thanked everyone for the warm welcome he has received, and looks forward to many great years ahead and working together with the administration to see what can be accomplished together. Dr. Romanelli is excited to welcome staff on Monday, August 29 and students on Tuesday, August 30.

Dr. Romanelli advised that he is looking forward to finalizing the district's Emergency Response Plan and will be working with Sean McAleavey, Director of Safety and Security. Dr. Romanelli and Mr. McAleavey will be meeting with law enforcement to ensure a safe start to the school year.

Dr. Romanelli gave a special thank you to Mrs. Burns for all the information she has shared over the last two weeks and wished her the best in her retirement.

Mr. Maginniss also thanked Mrs. Burns for all her efforts on behalf the district and for keeping the district in great shape.

On behalf of the Board and the community, Mr. Tussie thanked Mrs. Burns for all she has done for the district.

NOTICES/REMINDERS:

Mr. Tussie reminded the audience that on Monday, 8/22/22, the Suffolk County Police Department and Home Land Security along with Safety and Security would be holding a safety exercise on district grounds. Mr. Tussie advised that an official notification would go out to the community.

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

Al DiBernardo - Mr. DiBernardo spoke about the findings presented by the Masera Community Advisory Committee regarding the Masera property, and feels that single family homes are the most sensible choice.

Motion was made by Richard Antoniello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 9:46 p.m. on motion by Richard Antoniello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Motion was made by Richard Antoniello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve resolution: Education Law §913 Examination - Employee "A".

Meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m. on a motion by Richard Antoniello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Hock
District Clerk

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