

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
January 5, 2023 – Beach Street Middle School

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

ABSENT: None

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

ABSENT: None

ATTORNEY: Mr. Volz

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Tussie congratulated Dr. Romanelli for being one of thirty-five educators across the United States to join the Global Leadership Summit in Berlin this July. The cost of the trip is covered under a full scholarship, and includes a special learning tour designed to create a sustainable future. Mr. Tussie explained that there are many elements to the trip that Dr. Romanelli can bring back to West Islip and apply to create future ready leaders, and possibly help form the framework to be used to create travel based learning opportunities for West Islip students.

Dr. Romanelli announced that Mrs. Pellati would be presenting a Capital Reserve presentation regarding the Capital Reserve Vote on Tuesday, 1/24/2023, from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mrs. Pellati will be outlining the key elements of the vote and a postcard mailing will also be going out to all residents regarding the vote.

DISCUSSION:

- A) Capital Reserve Vote – Mrs. Pellati did a presentation regarding the upcoming Capital Reserve Vote on January 24, 2023. Mrs. Pellati spoke about the capital reserve balances and the capital improvements consisting of installing air conditioning districtwide, replacing building fire alarms at the elementary and middle schools and upgrading the Building Management System districtwide. Mrs. Pellati also explained that there is no additional cost to the taxpayers.
- B) Mr. McCann gave an update regarding the Masera property since the Buildings & Grounds Committee meeting is not until 1/24/23. Mr. McCann advised that the Masera Advisory Committee gave their recommendations regarding the property back in August 2022 and discussed the three possibilities for the property.
 - 1. Technical/Vocational School
 - 2. Sell the land and have single family homes built
 - 3. Repurpose the building similar to Westbrook and Kirdahy

Mr. McCann advised that the Board has started to look into the first option of a Technical and Vocational School and that this option would benefit the students and community the most. Mr. McCann also explained that this is a process that cannot be done overnight or over a couple of months, and will be a long process with many stages.

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 December 8, 2022 Regular Meeting.

RECOGNITION:

Athletic

Girls Varsity Gymnastics All County ~ *Emily Ball, Amelia DiBenedetto, Victoria Mueller*
Girls Varsity Tennis All County ~ *Katherine Fix, Abigail Lam*
Girls Varsity Soccer All County ~ *Isabella Tomeo*
Boys Varsity Soccer All County ~ *Derek Gildard, Aidan Lodie*
Boys Varsity Soccer All County Academic ~ *Vincent Grieco*
Boys Varsity Volleyball All County ~ *Colin Beanland, Erick Burciaga, Graham Labeck, Seamus Smith*
Boys Varsity Volleyball All County Tournament Team ~ *Graham LaBeck, Semus Smith*
Girls Varsity Volleyball All County ~ *Lola Konopa*
Girls Varsity Volleyball All County Academic ~ *Braydynn Alessi, Emma Fallon*

Varsity Football All County ~ *Patrick Keenan, Christopher Pirovato*
Varsity Field Hockey All County ~ *Gabriel Abbatiello, Kelsey McCabe*
Varsity Field Hockey All County Honorable Mention and All Tournament ~ *Emma Carangi, Avery Lanzarotta*

Music

Marissa Beybl, Ruth Boucher, Carlie Brunengraber, Lianna Crisci, Jack Dyer, Vivian Gallagher, Isabella Grimaldi, Thomas Kerrigan, Nicholas Locurto, Kevin Mauri, Lauren McCann, Christopher Palazzio, Braden Pritchard, Caitlyn Salus, Sophia Stehlik, Aaron Tomasello

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: Keri Magennis, elementary, effective January 1, 2023 to August 28, 2026 (Bayview; Step 1A¹, Replacing Paul Perkurney {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 the 1/5/2023 Personnel Agenda as listed below:

T-2

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT (AMENDED)

Alysha Walker, Elementary
Effective August 29, 2022 to August 28, 2025
(Paul J Bellew; change in effective date from August 29, 2022 to August 28, 2026)

T-3

LEAVE OF ABSENCE (unpaid)

(Pursuant to the Family Medical Leave Act of 1993-
12-week continuous medical coverage)

Tatiana Lisica, ESL
Effective January 3, 2023 through March 27, 2023
(Oquenock and Udall)

CIVIL SERVICE

CL-1 CHANGE OF TITLE

Maria Corso, Special Education Aide
Effective December 19, 2022
(High School; Step 3; change from Cafeteria Aide)

Maureen O'Connor, Administrative Assistant, Confidential
Effective January 6, 2023
(District Office; \$71,000; change from Senior Account Clerk)

CL-2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (unpaid)

Cathleen Cronin, Special Education Aide
Effective January 9, 2023 through January 23, 2023
(Paul J. Bellew)

CL-3 PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

Jessica Churpita, Cafeteria Aide
Effective January 6, 2023
(Paul J. Bellew; Step 1; new position)

Charlene DiCicco, Cafeteria Aide
Effective January 6, 2023
(Udall; Step 1; replacing Maria Corso {Special Education Aide})

*Jean Pozzini, Special Education Aide
Effective January 3, 2023
(Paul J. Bellew; Step 1; replacing Nancy Corso {leave})

*Tangerine Schmitt, Special Education Aide
Effective January 5, 2022
(High School; Step 1; {new position})

CL-4 RESIGNATION

Susanne Camilleri, Senior Office Assistant
Effective February 4, 2023
(High School)

June Connell, Account Clerk
Effective January 7, 2023
(District Office)

Charlene DiCicco, Part-Time Food Service Worker
Effective January 5, 2023
(Beach Street)

Laurie Donnelly-Parsons, Health Aide
Effective January 7, 2023
(Beach Street)

Elizabeth Eppig, Cafeteria Aide
Effective January 28, 2023
(Udall)

Mary Ann Reilly-Conway, Part-Time Food Service Worker
Effective January 4, 2023
(High School)

**Conditional pending fingerprinting clearance*

OTHER

MENTOR PROGRAM 2022-2023 (AMENDED)

Mentor (\$1051 Stipend) pro-rated
Cynthia LaPrarie (Jacquelyn Manley, Elementary)
(replacing Rebecca Burluson; approved at BOE meeting November 22, 2022)

CLUBS/ADVISORS 2022-2023

UDALL ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Drama Director, Shane O'Neill

DRIVER EDUCATION 2022-2023

Georgette Taylor, Lecture Instructor (\$1,500/session)

HEARING OFFICER (\$600/per diem)

George Christopher Marzuk, effective January 3, 2023

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER (AMENDED) (\$130 per diem)

*Daria Majkrzak, effective January 6, 2023 (amend start date), student teacher

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER (\$130 per diem)

Joseph Blackton, effective January 6, 2023
*Milton Bonilla, effective January 6, 2023
*Jowita Capobianco, effective January 6, 2023
Ty Carpinello, effective January 6, 2023
Taylor Davies, effective January 6, 2023
*Kaia DiVisconti, effective January 6, 2023
William Dodenhoff, effective January 6, 2023
*Nicholas Donarumma, effective January 6, 2023
Joseph Falcon, effective January 6, 2023
*Emma Foster, effective January 6, 2023
Alexandra Gagliardi, effective January 6, 2023
Kaileigh Gagliardi, effective January 6, 2023
Gianna Garelli, effective January 6, 2023
Brett Harvey, effective January 6, 2023
Kayla Hassett, effective January 6, 2023
Harold Heffernan, effective January 6, 2023
Catroina Jablonski, effective January 6, 2023
Jennifer Kane, effective January 6, 2023
Tyler Kennedy, effective January 6, 2023

Patrick Konarski, effective January 6, 2023
Sean Martin, effective January 6, 2023
*Isabella Martone, effective January 6, 2023
*Alec Miller, effective January 6, 2023
*Kelly O'Connor, effective January 6, 2023
Dorothy Palm, effective January 6, 2023
*Mark Palm, effective January 6, 2023
Kylie Panzner, effective January 6, 2023
Victoria Recenello, effective January 6, 2023
*Logan Robertson, effective January 6, 2023
Wilhelmina Suarez, effective January 6, 2023
*Dorothy Tripp King, effective January 6, 2023
Darcie Wallace, effective January 6, 2023
*Riley Wallace, effective January 6, 2023
Brook Zecchini, effective January 6, 2023
Mikayla Ziems, effective January 6, 2023

*Conditional pending fingerprinting clearance

CURRICULUM:

Mrs. Morrison informed the audience that Grade 2 teachers would be receiving training on the Foundations Program, and the rollout of Standard Based Grading is progressing at the elementary level and report card practice on Standard Based Grading would be reviewed in the spring. There will be a Parent Academy on Wednesday, 1/11, at 6:00 p.m. in the Paul J. Bellew auditorium and the Equity Committee had their first meeting on 12/5 with an overview of the importance of ensuring all students are supported in the school environment. The next meeting will be on 2/13. The DEI Parent Academy will take place on Thursday, 1/12, at 7:00 p.m. in the Beach Street MS Auditorium and going forward, minutes from the meetings will be posted on the district website.

Mrs. Morrison advised that in December 1300 students from 28 schools in Suffolk County competed in DECA's Virtual Regional Competition and 14 DECA students from West Islip HS placed in the top ten of the events they entered. Mrs. Morrison congratulated the high school DECA students for their accomplishments and Mrs. Saadat, the DECA high school advisor.

Education Committee: Richard Antoniello reported on the meeting held 1/3/23. Items reviewed included BOCES requirements for the 2023-2024 school year, WI Cares website, AimsWeb Progress Monitoring: Grades 3-8, 9th grade orientation 1/23, Apple Teacher Certification Program and Most Likely to Succeed Film Screening.

Finance Committee: Grace Kelly reported on the meeting held on 1/3/23. Items reviewed included the November treasurer's report, November payroll summary, December internal claims report, December system manager audit report, payroll certification form, surplus, request for proposal, and resolutions and contracts. Mrs. Pellati discussed the Request for Proposal and how there was one response and Suffolk Transit Service, Inc. was awarded a five-year contract. Mrs. Pellati also discussed the income eligibility for real property tax exemptions for persons 65 and older and persons with disabilities and limited income. The Town of Islip increased the maximum income limit for a 50% exemption from \$29,000 to \$50,000 in October 2022. The West Islip school district has current maximum income limits of \$24,000 for both exemptions. The committee agreed that the district would increase the income limit from \$24,000 to \$29,000 through a board resolution after a public hearing on February 9, 2023. The change will take effect for the 2023-24 tax year.

Special Education Committee: Debbie Brown reported on the meeting that took place on 1/4/23. Items reviewed included an update to student placements, budgeting for next school year, and annual reviews will begin over the next few weeks. The committee also discussed parent concerns from the last Board meeting regarding the ICT program and Mrs. Brown advised that the board is having active discussions on programs that can meet the needs of all students. Mrs. Brown also shared her experiences regarding the special education tour on 12/12. The next meeting will take place on February 8 at 8:30 a.m.

Mr. Tussie acknowledged Mr. Jablonski who runs the Student Senate Holiday party. Mr. Tussie spoke about what a wonderful event this party was for the special education elementary and middle school students. Mr. Tussie thanked Mr. Jablonski and the students for putting the party together.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve 2022-2023 Capital Fund budget transfers 4268-4269.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Request for Proposal #2300 School Bus/Van Transportation.

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: Donna Geffner, Ph.D, CCC-SP/A Consultant Services; Long Island Tutorial Services Consultant Services; Pal-O-Mine Equestrian, Inc. Consultant Services; South Huntington UFSD Agreement.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Surplus - Timpani drum - West Islip High School.

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 Resolution: Receipt of the Independent Accountant's Reports on Information Technology Detailed Testing dated November 18, 2022 and the Risk Assessment Update Report dated December 8, 2022 from Cullen & Danowski, LLP.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Resolution: Recommendation that the Board of Education approve the Corrective Action Plans in response to the internal auditors reports' dated November 18, 2022 and December 8, 2022, submitted by the Superintendent for Business.

I. RESOLUTIONS

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the West Islip School District acknowledges receipt of the Independent Accountant's Reports on Information Technology Detailed Testing dated November 18, 2022 and the Risk Assessment Update Report dated December 8, 2022 from Cullen & Danowski, LLP.

Recommend the Board of Education approve the Corrective Action Plans in response to the internal auditors' reports dated November 18, 2022 and December 8, 2022, submitted by the Assistant Superintendent for Business.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Resolution: State Environmental Quality Review Act – SEQRA Resolution - replacement and upgrade of existing fire alarm devices and associated wiring at West Islip High School; and the construction of a new parking lot addition at Paul J. Bellew Elementary School.

SEQRA RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the West Islip Union Free School District desires to embark upon the following capital improvements at the District's facilities as set forth herein and as listed in the working budget: (1) the replacement and upgrade of existing fire alarm devices and associated wiring at the West Islip High School.; and (2) the construction of a new parking lot addition at the Paul J. Bellev Elementary School (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Projects"); and

WHEREAS, said capital improvements are subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(1)); and

WHEREAS, replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or a facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building or fire codes, unless such action meets or exceeds any of the thresholds in section 617.4 are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(2)); and

WHEREAS, routine activities of educational institutions, including expansion of existing facilities by less than 10,000 square feet of gross floor area are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(10)); and

WHEREAS, the purchase or sale of furnishings, equipment or supplies...other than the following: land, radioactive material, pesticides, herbicides, or other hazardous materials are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(31)); and

WHEREAS, the SEQR Regulations declare Type II Actions to be actions that have no significant impact on the environment and require no further review under SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, as the only involved agency, has examined all information related to the capital improvement projects and has determined that the Projects are classified as Type II Actions pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(1)(2)(10) and (31) of the SEQR Regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby declares itself lead agency in connection with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby declares that the Projects are Type II Actions, which require no further review under SEQRA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby shall forward an official copy of this Resolution to the New York State Education Department.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Personnel for Special District Meeting - January 24, 2023.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Romanelli informed the audience that he is looking forward to a great 2023 for the students, staff and families of West Islip and is excited about a great year ahead.

Dr. Romanelli spoke about visiting Bayview Elementary with Mrs. Morrison and how they read "The Pigeon Rides the Rollercoaster" to all the kindergarten and first grade classes and are planning on setting up some other activities at the other elementary schools.

Dr. Romanelli also spoke about the “Most Likely to Succeed” screen filming and how it is an event the district is very excited about. He spoke about the administrative team and teachers across the district reading the book “What Schools Could Be” and how this book is a continuation of the film and what happens when you have a conventional school system in an innovative world. Dr. Romanelli talked about all the different ideas we can take as a community to come together and talk about what we want our education system to look like and what skills we want our graduates to possess when they go on to college, the career fields or armed forces. Dr. Romanelli expressed how the district is very excited about this event on 3/2/23 at 7:00 p.m. and all parents, staff, middle school and high school students are invited.

REMINDERS:

Mr. Tussie reminded everyone that the Capital Proposition Vote will take place on Tuesday, 1/24/23, from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the high school.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:14 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 9:28 p.m. on motion by Richard Antonello, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m. on a motion by Richard Antonello, 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.