

# AGENDA



## PLANNING SESSION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

August 29, 2023

Beach Street Middle School  
17 Beach Street  
7:30 p.m.

Submitted by:  
Dr. Paul Romanelli  
*Superintendent of Schools*

**A G E N D A**  
**PLANNING SESSION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**August 29, 2023**

*Beach Street Media Center*

*West Islip, New York*

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- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. QUORUM COUNT
- III. MINUTES: A motion is needed to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2023 Regular Meeting.
- IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS
  - A) Policies
    - Second Reading*      No. 3411      Unlawful Possession of a Weapon Upon School Grounds
    - Second Reading*      No. 7360      Weapons in School
- V. PERSONNEL
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: *The Board will adjourn during the course of the meeting for an Executive Session, at the conclusion of which, the Board will reconvene/ act upon any such items as may be necessary prior to discussion of the next agenda item, or adjournment, as the case may be.*
- VII. CLOSING – Adjournment

*The Board may adjourn during the course of the meeting for an Executive Session, at the conclusion of which, the Board will re-convene/ act upon any such items as may be necessary prior to discussion of the next agenda item, or adjournment, as the case may be.*

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**August 17, 2023 – West Islip High School**

PRESENT: Mr. Tussie, Mr. McCann, Mr. Antonello, Mr. Bedell, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Marks

ABSENT: Mrs. Kelly

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

ABSENT: None

ATTORNEY: Mr. Vigliotta

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

A) District Safety Plan:

Dr. Romanelli spoke about the many discussions the district had regarding armed guards. He discussed the research that was done, and was presented to the community and how data showed that from 2000-2001 there were 30 attacks and in 2021-2022 there was an increase to 327 attacks. The research found that attacks took place in 1-2 minutes and response times were much longer. There was a big meeting for the public on 4/19/23 regarding this data along with a Q&A with Suffolk County Deputy Commissioner Carter.

Dr. Romanelli spoke about the District Safety Plan and advised that the plan is on the district website in draft form. There is also a google form to provide feedback from the community for the next 30 days.

B) Policies:

First Reading No. 3411 Unlawful Possession of a Weapon Upon School Grounds  
First Reading No. 7360 Weapons in School

Dr. Romanelli spoke about how the district must follow civil service guidelines and how these policies should be approved before appointing armed guards. Dr. Romanelli discussed adding a Planning Session meeting on 8/29/2023 so these policies and armed guard appointments can be approved for the start of the school year and the Board agreed. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Tussie thanked Dr. Romanelli for all the work he has done and the data provided that led to the decision to hire armed guards.

C) District Accountability Status

Dr. Romanelli spoke about the recent district accountability status and feels it was an unfair designation for the district. This status came about due to a small group of Manetuck students with disabilities in Grade 3-5 going back to the 2021-2022 school year. This small group of students took the ELA and Math assessments at the end of the pandemic and many had never taken an assessment before. They scored in a low-level range placing Manetuck school with a Target Support and Improvement school designation. The district did file an appeal and it was denied. The district is taking this designation seriously and has formed a committee. There will be interventions and benchmarks put in place and the district will receive state funding for academic interventions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2023 Annual Reorganizational Meeting and the July 11, 2023 Regular Meeting.

PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Erin Gorey-Gonzales, elementary, effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027 (Oquenock; Step 4<sup>4</sup>, new position).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Taylor Troyano Gonzalez, elementary, effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027 (Bayview; Step 4<sup>4</sup>, new position).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Christie Rendino-Cusanelli, Special Education effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027 (Manetuck; Step 1A<sup>1</sup>, new position).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Karen Borst, Mathematics, effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027, (Udall; Step 7<sup>4</sup>, replacing James Como {retired}).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Victoria Jablonski, Mathematics, effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027 (Beach; Step 7<sup>5</sup>, replacing Brittany Probst {reassigned}).

*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 Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: REGULAR SUBSTITUTE RESIGNATION: Christie Rendino-Cusanelli, Special Education, effective September 1, 2023 (Manetuck).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the following T-3, T-4:

**T-3**

**REGULAR SUBSTITUTE**

Alyssa Bertolino, Elementary  
Effective September 1, 2023 through January 1, 2024  
(Manetuck, Step 1A<sup>1</sup>; replacing Jodie Abelson-Sommer {LOA})

Gianna Capanelli, Special Education  
Effective September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024  
(Manetuck; Step 1A <sup>1</sup>; replacing Amanda Felix-Milks {LoA})

Alessia Tocco, Family and Consumer Science  
Effective September 1, 2023 through December 4, 2023  
(Beach & High School; Step 0.5 <sup>3</sup>, replacing Janine Lalia {resigned})

**T-4**

**PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT (AMENDED)**

Kristen Bergin, Elementary  
Effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027  
(Bayview; change in Step from Step 1A <sup>3</sup> to Step 1A <sup>2</sup>)

Alessia Tocco, Family and Consumer Science  
Effective September 1, 2023 through August 30, 2027  
(Beach & High School; amended to regular substitute)

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANTS: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Kathleen Slayback, Special Education, effective September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2023 (Beach; Step 1 new position).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANTS: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Jillian Ruffo, Special Education, effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024 (Manetuck; Step 5; new position).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANTS: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Maria Pascarella, Special Education, effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024 (Manetuck; Step 5; replacing Kathryn Ginty {resigned}).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANTS: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Kaitlin Graff, Special Education, effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024 (Udall; Step 5; replacing Collette Davies {resigned}).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANTS: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: \*Jenelle Moran, Special Education, effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024 (Oquenock; Step 1; replacing Christie Rendino {resigned}). \*Conditional pending certification

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANTS: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Liam McGarvey, STEM, effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024 (Paul J. Bellew; Step 1; replacing Mollie Healey {resigned}).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANTS: RESIGNATION: Kimberly Creitz, Pre-K, effective July 1, 2023 (Paul J. Bellew).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANTS: RESIGNATION: Katherine Keller, Computer, effective July 31, 2023 (High School).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CL-1, CL-2:

**CL-1**

**CHANGE IN TITLE**

Charlene DiCicco, Special Education Aide  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(Beach Street; Step 2; change from Cafeteria Aide; new position)

Jennifer Fortune, Building Aide  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(Paul J. Bellew; Step 9; change from Library Aide; new position)

Lori Grimandi, Health Office Aide  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(Oquenock; Step 6; change from Cafeteria Aide; replacing Cara Wenk {Senior Office Assistant})

Julie Holub, Teacher Aide  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(Paul J. Bellew; Step 5; change from Cafeteria Aide; replacing Ryan O'Connell {resigned})

Kate Klarikaitis, Special Education Aide  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(Beach Street; Step 2; change from Cafeteria Aide; replacing Diana Harkin {resigned})

Danielle Pozzini, Special Education Aide  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(Manetuck; Step 2; change from Cafeteria Aide; replacing Kayla DiMino {resigned})

Christina Robiglio, Building Aide  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(Manetuck; Step 2; change from Cafeteria Aide; new position)

Barbara Tricoukes, Building Aide  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(Paul J. Bellew; Step 7; change from Cafeteria Aide; replacing Christine Mott {reassigned})

**CL-2**

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE, unpaid**

Jean Dunau, School Nurse  
Effective October 2, 2023 through June 26, 2024  
(Bridges Academy)

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Pyper Ahrens, Special Education Aide, effective September 1, 2023 (Manetuck; Step 1; new position).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Samantha Barnes, Cafeteria Aide, effective September 1, 2023 (Paul J. Bellew; Step 1 replacing Julie Holub {reassigned}).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: \*Sabina Collins, Special Education Aide, effective September 1, 2023 (Manetuck; Step 1; new position. \*Conditional pending fingerprinting clearance

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Danielle Gottlieb, School Nurse, effective September 18, 2023 (Paul J. Bellew; Step 1; replacing Melanie Jo Earl{resigned}).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Katherine Keller, Network & Systems Technician, effective August 1, 2023 (District Wide; \$55,000; new position).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Rosemarie Maggio, Special Education Aide, effective September 1, 2023 (Beach Street; Step 1; replacing Kathleen Slayback {reassigned}).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Amanda Neilson, Bus Attendant, effective September 1, 2023 (Transportation; Step 2; replacing Sue DiGrigoli {retired}).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Wendy Parks, Special Education Aide, effective September 1, 2023 (High School; Step 1; new position).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: \*Erin Scileppi, Special Education Aide, effective September 1, 2023 (Beach Street; Step 1; replacing Nancy Corso {resigned}). \*Conditional pending fingerprinting clearance.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Theresa Smith, Cafeteria Aide, effective September 1, 2023 (Paul J. Bellew; Step 1; replacing Barbara Tricoukes {reassigned}).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Cara Wenk, Senior Office Assistant, effective August 29, 2023 (District Office; Step 1; replacing Carol Churpita {resigned}).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: RESIGNATIONS:

Margaret Cioffi, Health Aide, effective August 7, 2023 (Paul J. Bellew)  
Nancy Corso, Special Education Aide, effective July 27, 2023 (Paul J. Bellew)  
Kayla DiMino, Special Education Aide, effective August 18, 2023 (Manetuck)  
Melanie Jo Earl, School Nurse, effective July 12, 2023 (Paul J. Bellew)  
Matthew Ferro, Substitute Custodian, effective August 18, 2023 (District Wide)  
Katherine Griesmeyer, Part-Time Food Service Worker, effective July 12, 2023 (Paul J. Bellew)  
Diana Harkin, Special Education Aide, effective August 2, 2023 (Beach Street)  
Kimberly Koehler, Part-Time Food Service Worker, effective August 7, 2023 (High School)  
Madison Mills, Special Education Aide, effective August 9, 2023 (High School)  
Ashleigh Nieves, Part-Time Food Service Worker, effective July 17, 2023 (Beach Street)  
Belinda Rios, Senior Office Assistant, effective August 11, 2023 (Udall)  
Kathleen Slayback, Special Education Aide, effective August 14, 2023 (Beach Street)  
Cara Wenk, Health Office Aide, effective August 1, 2023 (Oquenock)

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: RETIREMENT: Warren Seaman III, Custodial Worker II, effective August 19, 2023 (43.57 years).

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Tussie congratulated Mr. Seaman on his retirement and expressed how very grateful the district is for all his years of service.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the following CL-6, CL-7, CL-8 and Other as listed below:

**CL-6**                    **SUBSTITUTE CLERICAL** (\$15.00/hr)

\*Patricia Denninger, effective August 18, 2023

*\*Conditional pending fingerprinting clearance*

**CL-7**                    **SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIAN** (\$15.00/hr)

Kate Klarikaitis, effective August 18, 2023

**CL-8**                    **SUBSTITUTE PARAPROFESSIONAL** (\$15.00/hr)

Nancy Corso, effective September 1, 2023  
Irene Curto, effective September 1, 2023  
Linda Kennedy, effective September 1, 2023  
Carla LaBombard, effective September 1, 2023



**OTHER**

**PERMANENT SUBSTITUTE TEACHER** (\$150 per diem)

Emily Gillen, Bayview Elementary  
Effective September 1, 2023 through June 26, 2024

Craig Perrino, Beach Street  
Effective September 1, 2023 through June 26, 2024

Jordan Slobodow, Manetuck Elementary  
Effective September 1, 2023 through June 26, 2024

**PERMANENT SUBSTITUTE TEACHER RESIGNATION**

Kristen Bergin, Bayview  
Effective June 24, 2023

Paige Gillespie, Bayview  
Effective June 24, 2023

Destiny Parsons, Beach Street  
Effective June 24, 2023

**PREFERRED SUBSTITUTE RESIGNATION**

Darren Shekailo  
Effective July 1, 2023

**PREFERRED SUBSTITUTE**

Jake Rossi  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(High School; \$175.27/day; replacing Darren Shekailo {resigned})

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

\*Samantha Lovizio, effective August 28, 2023, *student teacher*  
Destiny Parsons, effective September 1, 2023

*\*Conditional pending fingerprinting clearance*

**SPECIAL EDUCATION – ESY RELATED SERVICE PROVIDERS**  
**SUMMER 2023**

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Nurse</u>
Lindsay Simonton	Karen Arigoni

**SUMMER SCHOOL 2023**

Mary Claire Yoder, English

**FALL 2023 MIDDLE SCHOOL COACHES**

**FIELD HOCKEY**

Hailey Fiordiliso, 7-8 Beach Coach

**BOYS SOCCER**

Louis Riley, 7-8 Udall Coach

**SUMMER RECREATION CAMP 2023 (AMENDED)**

Kyle Alicca, Camp Counselor  
(change in name from Kyle Shierant to Kyle Alicca)

**HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION COORDINATOR 2023-2024**

James Grover

**ADULT EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS FALL 2023**

Alexandra Bergin (Zumba) \$45/hr  
Lenny Butler (Community CPR/First Aid) \$35/hr  
Jake Caramico (How Money Works) no cost to West Islip  
Kim Crichton (Yoga, Stretch, Body Sculpt) \$45/hr  
James Grover (Basketball) \$45/hr  
Matthew Haszinger (Volleyball) \$45/hr  
Phyllis Hintze (Ballroom Dancing) \$35/hr  
Caylee Klimuszko (Lifeguard) \$25/hr  
Evan Levy (Social Security Planning) no cost to West Islip  
Bruce Lieberman (Defensive Driving) no cost to West Islip  
Jane Loehle (Aquacise) \$45/hr  
Kaitlin Murphy (Lifeguard) \$25/hr  
Kathryn Mushorn (Lifeguard) \$25/hr  
Corey Sasone (Lifeguard) \$25/hr  
Nizza Tasayco (Volleyball) \$45/hr  
Richard Tesoro (About Boat Safety) no cost to West Islip  
Robert Watts (Introduction to Guitar/Piano) \$40/hr

**ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL INSTRUCTORS 2023-2024**

Jill Culver, Art	1 section/full year
Evelyn Hanlon, Counseling	1 section/full year
Ryan Vollmuth, Counseling	1 section/full year
Dina Barone, English	1 section/full year
Heather Enright, English	1 section/full year
Dawn Divisconti, English	1 section/full year

**ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL INSTRUCTORS 2023-2024 - continued**

Anthony Yuli, Health	1 section/ full year
Christina Bivona, Math	1 section/ full year
Kelly Weisenseel, Math	1 section/ full year
Brian Cameron, Physical Education	1 section/ full year
Joseph Nicolosi, Physical Education	1 section/ full year
Rebecca Silva, Psychology	1 section/ full year
Robyn Southard, Psychology	1 section/ full year
Brian Daniels, Science	1 section/ full year
Kristie Ferruzzi, Science	1 section/ full year
Michael Hazelton, Social Studies	1 section/ full year
Edward Jablonski, Social Studies	1 section/ full year
Eric Rao, Social Studies	1 section/ full year
Dennis Montalto, Special Education	1 section/ full year

**CURRICULUM:**

Mrs. Morrison advised that the district welcomed 25 new teachers and professional staff members. Teacher orientation will include various instructional technology platforms utilized throughout the district. Stop the Bleed and Active Shooter training will take place and teachers will be meeting with principals and directors in their home building. There will also be an overview of the teacher mentor program, special education, curriculum and instruction, human resources and a bus tour of the district.

Summer School ended on August 17 with the administering of Regents exams on 8/16 and 8/17/23. Students took at least one of the exams being offered. Superintendent Conference Days will take place on Friday, 9/1 and Tuesday 9/5/23. There will be a motivational speaker, John Perricone. Teachers will review district safety plans, the IEP/504 documents of students and complete training.

The district looks forward to welcoming students back on September 6<sup>th</sup>.

**REPORT OF BOARD COMMITTEES**

Education Committee: Richard Antonello reported on the meeting held 8/16/2023. Items reviewed included Foundations implementation timeline, standards based grading K-5, curriculum review K-12, code of conduct PD and parent academies, cell phone committee for 2023-24, high school: weighted/unweighted courses and profile of a graduate. Other items reviewed were Manetuck Elementary School Targeted Support and Improvement status, high school attendance and the 2022-2023 high school testing data review dates.

Finance Committee: Christina Marks reported on the meeting held 8/16/2023. Items reviewed included the May treasurer's report, May and June extra-curricular report, May payroll summary, May financial statements, June and July internal claims audit report, June and July system manager audit reports, payroll certification forms, surplus, 2023-2024 tax levy and contracts. Mrs. Pellati discussed 2023-2024 school lunch prices with the committee. A \$0.25 increase was recommended for the elementary and secondary schools for the 2023-24 school year. This increase was based on the USDA's Paid Lunch Equity tool, other local school district lunch prices and the rising cost of food supplies. The committee also discussed the nine summer camps that are run through the district. The district's internal auditors have suggested having these summer camps run as

independent camps to reduce liability of the school district. As of 2024-2025, the only camps that will be run through the district are instructional swim, gymnastics and wrestling. The remaining camps will return to operating as an independent athletic camp.

Buildings & Grounds Committee: Peter McCann reported on the meeting held 8/17/23. Items reviewed included a presentation by BBS Architects regarding the high school pool reconstruction project. The pool is 60 years old and the project would be a bond proposal. Various construction projects were also discussed: Beach generator, Beach rotunda delayed, Bellew parking lot will have 27 new spots and there will be fencing in front of the school, and air conditioning should be up and running by the start of the school year. Mr. McCann gave an update regarding Masera. He advised that BOCES is an interested party and may pay for renovations, more information to come. He spoke about the possibility of a vocational school but that would cost \$30 million due to the poor condition of the building and he advised there is still the option to knock down the school and have athletic fields.

Debbie Brown informed the audience that the district will be expanding dyslexia screening to all students.

#### FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve 2022-2023 General Fund budget transfers 4315-4319.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve 2023-2024 Contracts: Complete Rehabilitation PT, OT, SLP of the Hamptons, PLLC Consultant Services; Health Source Group, Inc., (HSG) Consultant Services; Home Care Therapies, LLC d/b/a Horizon Healthcare Staffing Consultant Services; East Moriches UFSD Instructional Services July 1, 2023- August 31, 2023.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Surplus: Pan Rack – Udall Road Middle School; Miscellaneous items – Beach Street Middle School; 8 door pass through refrigerator Udall Road Middle School and Teacher Desk-High School; Miscellaneous I.T. items – High School, Beach Street Middle School, Udall Road Middle School, Bayview Elementary School, Paul J. Bellew Elementary School and District Office.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve resolution re: Tax Levy 2023-2024.

#### **RESOLUTION: 2023-2024 TAX LEVY**

*WHEREAS, the estimated expenditures for the West Islip Union Free School District, for the school year 2023-2024 in the amount of \$134,220,230 proposed in accordance with Section 1716 of the Education Law, were approved by the voters of the District on May 16, 2023, and,*

*WHEREAS, the estimated expenditures for the West Islip Public Library, for the fiscal year 2023-2024 in the amount of \$4,325,300, proposed in accordance with Section 259 of the Education Law, were approved by the voters of the District on April 4, 2023 for a total approved budget of \$138,545,530 therefore,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2023-2024 tax levy in the amount of \$92,077,197 for the West Islip Union Free School District and \$4,250,300 for the West Islip Public Library, for a combined tax levy of \$96,327,497 be approved and levied upon the real property of the District.*

*(The tax levy of \$92,077,197 for the School District plus \$42,143,033 other income as estimated on July 1, 2023, including State Aid, \$1,350,000 Appropriated from Reserves and \$850,000 of Appropriated Fund Balance equals a budget of \$134,220,230. The tax levy of \$4,250,300 for the Public Library plus \$75,000 other income as estimated on July 1, 2023 equals a budget of \$4,325,300).*

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve resolution re: proposed School Lunch Prices 2023-2024 – Elementary- \$2.50 and Secondary \$3.00.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Final Contract for Eastern Suffolk BOCES Cooperative Educational Services 2022-2023.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Stipulation of Settlement and Release Student A.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Memorandum of Agreement re: West Islip Paraprofessional Chapter of WITA Negotiated Agreement effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027.

Mr. Tussie gave some of the highlights to the Memorandum of Agreement:

Salary increases each year will be 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 1% and a maximum 2%. Effective July 1, 2023 two additional steps will be added to the salary schedule. Longevity payments were increased for Years 10, 15 and 20 to \$626, \$900 and \$1,175 respectively. The unit will now be eligible to receive dental insurance. The district will pay \$500 per employee per year toward the district-offered plan. This results in no cost to the employee for individual coverage in 2023-2024. The unit will receive one additional paid holiday (Juneteenth). The number of sick days was increased from 8 to 10. The payout upon retirement or separation of service was increased to up to 45 accumulated sick days at the rate of \$65 per day for a maximum of \$2,925.00.

Mr. Tussie thanked everyone in the unit for all their efforts on behalf of the district.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Appointment of Board Committees/Liaisons 2023-2024.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve PERB case No. U-37253: Resolved the Board of Education hereby approves a settlement agreement dated July 19, 2023 in connection with PERB case No. U-37253, and authorizes the Board President to execute it on behalf of the District.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Romanelli spoke about the Global Leadership conference he attended in Germany and how it was an incredible experience. He had the opportunity to reflect with educators from across the world and spoke about students who presented projects to thousands of people. The winning team will have their project featured at the Nobel Prize Museum in Sweden and it was wonderful to see the amazing excitement these students experienced. Dr. Romanelli also spoke about the German people and how they own their history and learn from tragedies to become a better society. Dr. Romanelli thanked the board for their support and allowing him to attend this conference.

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

Doreen Hantzschel – Mrs. Hantzschel thanked the district for their work regarding hiring armed guards and hopes West Islip does become a model for other districts. Mrs. Hantzschel spoke about the importance of schools teaching American history as well as the importance of weighted averages. She feels the academic gifts of students should be valued. Mrs. Hantzschel also spoke about community service and feels it should not be mandated and only students who really want to do community service should do it. Dr. Romanelli advised that there are options for students and they can speak with their advisors.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello 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 9:14 p.m. on motion by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve resolution: re: MOA with WITA

*Be it resolved, that the Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Agreement with WITA concerning Ms. Kroll's attendance at the International Science and Engineering Fair in May of 2023 and authorizes the Board President to sign the agreement.*

Meeting adjourned a 9:15 p.m. on motion by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello 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.

**SUBJECT: UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF A WEAPON UPON SCHOOL GROUNDS**

It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly possess any weapon as defined as any dangerous instrumentality, firearm, dangerous chemical, or explosive device, upon school grounds or in any District building without the express written authorization of the Superintendent or his/her designee.

Unlawful possession of a weapon upon school grounds may be a violation of the New York State Penal Law, and is a violation of School District policy and the Student Discipline Code of Conduct.

Penal Law Sections 265.05 and 265.06

NOTE: Refer also to Policies #7360 – Weapons in School and #7361 – Gun-Free Schools.

*Revised and approved by the Board of Education 9/7/2023*



**West Union Free School District**  
*The Michael and Christine Freyer Administration Building*  
 100 Sherman Avenue · West Islip, New York 11795  
 TEL: (631) 930-1764 · FAX: (631) 893-3212



**School Resource Officer/Armed Guard Checklist**  
**Form to be kept in Human Resources Office and Superintendent's Office**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Credentials and Certificates:**

Law Enforcement Credential: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NYS Armed Guard License ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Annual Firearm Qualification Certificate: \_\_\_\_\_ Issued: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NYS Pistol License # \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Make and Model of Firearm: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Serial # \_\_\_\_\_

Initial each line below:

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I have been authorized by the Superintendent of Schools to carry my firearm on school district property only while on duty in my capacity as a School Resource Officer for the West Islip Public Schools.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I have only been authorized to carry the above named firearm.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I am authorized to conceal carry and that my firearm will be maintained in a retention holster at all times while on duty in the West Islip Public Schools.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the above approved firearm will only be utilized when there is an imminent threat of deadly force against myself or others.

**School Resource Office**

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources**

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Required written authorization form as per BOE Policy #3411*



**SUBJECT: WEAPONS IN SCHOOL**

The Board of Education, cognizant of its responsibilities to provide for a safe and healthy environment wherein students can learn, sets forth and establishes a policy prohibiting dangerous instrumentalities instrumentalities and weapons in school with the following guidelines:

- a) No student or staff member shall possess upon school premises any dangerous instrumentality, firearm, dangerous chemical, explosive device, or weapon and law enforcement who are exempt under section 265.20 1 B of the Penal law. ~~except duly appointed security personnel who are exempt under section 265.20 1 B of the Penal Law.~~
- b) For the purpose of this policy, a firearm is any weapon, including a starter gun, which will, or is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; the frame or receiver of such weapon; any firearm muffler or silencer; or any destructive device. The term firearm does not include an antique firearm.
- c) A weapon is defined as any instrument capable of inflicting bodily harm. Included within the definition of weapon, but not intended as a limitation on the definition, are switchblade knives, gravity knives, pilum ballistic knives, cane swords, electronic dart guns, chukka sticks and Kung-Fu stars. The aforestated enumeration of weapons is not intended to be exhaustive but merely illustrative. Dangerous instrumentalities are defined as items or implements which under the circumstances in which such instrumentalities are used, attempted to be used, or threatened to be used are readily capable of inflicting bodily harm.
- d) School premises shall mean school grounds, buildings and/or facilities, whether owned by the School District or leased to the School District and shall also include school buses.
- e) An exception to the prohibition set forth in this policy may be made with prior approval and arrangements made with the Principal, in an instance where a weapon is part of a dramatic or music performance, or is used as an artifact in an instrumental unit.
- f) ~~New York State peace officers, police officers, sworn federal agents and appointed security personnel with written authorization pursuant to Policy 3411 are the only individuals permitted.~~ ~~New York State peace officers, police officers and sworn federal agents are the only individuals permitted~~ upon school premises to have a weapon, dangerous instrumentality or firearm in their possession and only with the prior express permission of the District.
- g) After a hearing pursuant to New York Education Law Section 3214, any student having been found guilty of bringing a firearm upon school premises shall, as a penalty, be suspended for a period of one year, provided that the Superintendent, after considering the totality of the circumstances surrounding the offense, and the student's previous record, shall have the authority to modify the one year penalty on a case-by-case basis. Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed as a limitation upon the discretionary power of the Superintendent to recommend or impose disciplinary penalties in regard to any infraction of this policy which involves possession of dangerous instrumentalities or weapons which are not firearms. Further, nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit any rights possessed by students classified as disabled.

NOTE: Refer also to Policies #3411 -- Unlawful Possession of a Weapon Upon School Grounds and #7361 -- Gun-Free Schools.

*Revised and approved by the Board of Education 9/7/2023*  
~~Revised and approved by the Board of Education 6/9/2016~~

PERSONNEL:

Consider recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools on the following items:

**TEACHERS**

**T-1                    PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT (AMENDED)**

Taylor Troyano Gonzalez, Elementary  
Effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2026  
(Bayview; change in date from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027)

**T-2                    REGULAR SUBSTITUTE**

Craig Perrino, Health  
Effective September 1, 2023 October 27, 2023  
(Beach; Step 1A<sup>1</sup>; replacing Shanan Mauro {LOA})

**TEACHING ASSISTANTS**

**TA-1                    PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT**

Maureen Pike, Pre-K  
Effective September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2027  
(Paul J Bellew; Step 1; replacing Kimberly Crcitz {resigned})

**TA-2                    PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT (AMENDED)**

Kathleen Slayback, Special Education  
Effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027  
(Beach; Change in date from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023 )

Jillian Ruffo, Special Education  
Effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027  
(Manetuck; change in date from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024 )

Maria Pascarella, Special Education  
Effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027  
(Manetuck; change in date from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024)

Kaitlin Graff, Special Education  
Effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027  
(Udall; change in date from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024)

\*Jenelle Moran, Special Education  
Effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027  
(Oquenock; change in date from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024)

Liam McGarvey, STEM  
Effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2027  
(Paul J Bellew; change in date from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024)

TEACHING ASSISTANTS, continued

TA-2                    RESIGNATION

Kayleigh O'Connor, Special Education  
Effective August 24, 2023  
(High School)

CIVIL SERVICE

CL-1                    CHANGE IN TITLE

Elaine Napoleon, Custodial Worker I  
Effective August 30, 2023  
(Udall; Step 1; change from Part-Time Food Service Worker; replacing Robert Smith  
{reassigned})

Kristine White, Health Office Aide  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(Paul J. Bellew; Step 8; change from Special Education Aide; replacing Margaret Cioffe  
{resigned})

CL-2                    PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

Richard Conroy, Custodial Worker I  
Effective August 30, 2023  
(Beach Street; Step 1; replacing Warren Seaman III {retired})

\*Kailey Gross, Special Education Aide  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(Paul J. Bellew; Step 1; replacing Maureen Pike {reassigned})

Beth Hughes, Leave Replacement School Nurse  
Effective October 2, 2023 through June 26, 2024  
(Bridges Academy; Step 1; replacing Jean Dunau {leave})

Alexander Ruffini, Library Aide  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(Paul J. Bellew; Step 1; replacing Jennifer Fortune {reassigned})

*\*Conditional pending fingerprinting clearance*

CL-3                    RESIGNATION

Kimberly Degere, Special Education Aide  
Effective August 22, 2023  
(Paul J. Bellew)

Maureen Pike, Special Education Aide  
Effective August 22, 2023  
(Paul J. Bellew)

CIVIL SERVICE, continued

CL-3

RESIGNATION, continued

Angelica Ruden, School Nurse  
Effective August 21, 2023  
(District Wide)

George Santiago, Guard  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(District Wide)

CL-4

SUBSTITUTE NURSE

Angelica Ruden  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(District Wide; \$150/per diem)

Beth Hughes  
Effective September 1, 2023  
(Bridges; \$180/per diem)

OTHER

PERMANENT SUBSTITUTE TEACHER (\$150 per diem)

Shannon Feminella, Beach Street Middle School  
Effective September 1, 2023

PERMANENT SUBSTITUTE TEACHER RESIGNATION

Danielle Ferruggiari, Paul J. Bellew  
Effective August 24, 2023

Craig Perrino, Beach  
Effective August 24, 2023

PREFERRED SUBSTITUTE RESIGNATION

Savannah Rinne  
Effective August 18, 2023