

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
July 11, 2023 – West Islip High School

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

ABSENT: None

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

ABSENT: None

ATTORNEY: Mr. Vigliotta

Meeting called to order at 7:45 p.m. followed by the Pledge.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Anthony Tussie advised that the Board approved the WITA Memorandum of Agreement at the June 20, 2023 Planning Session meeting.

This is a four-year agreement beginning 7/1/2023 through June 30, 2027. The salary increases each year are based upon the allowable levy growth factor with a minimum of 1% and a maximum of 2%. In year 3, step 21 will be unfrozen and an additional step at 2% will be added to the end of the schedule. In year 4, step 20 will be unfrozen and an additional step at 2% will be added to the end of the schedule. Pre-K teachers will now be paid off the regular teacher salary schedule (they were previously 75% of the regular teacher salary schedule). All coaching and extra-curricular stipends will be increased by 2% each year of the contract. Teachers' contributions toward health insurance will increase to 19%, with a 0.5% increase in year 1 and a 0.5% increase in year 2.

There will now be three Superintendent Conference Days in total, two at the beginning of the year and one in November.

Discussion of Student Delegates

Dr. Romanelli spoke about student delegates being involved at board meetings. Students from different leadership groups would go up to the podium at the beginning of the board meeting and report on various things that are going on. Dr. Romanelli asked the Board if they were in agreement with this. The Board agreed and this item will be placed on future board agendas.

Dr. Romanelli also had a discussion with the Board regarding the Buildings & Grounds committee meetings for the 2023-2024 school year. The Board agreed to have the committee meeting separate from the other committee meetings and hold this meeting on the same night as the Planning Session meeting. The reason for this is that the B&G committee has a large agenda with many items to discuss.

Dr. Romanelli also spoke about needing several slots for policy committee meetings as needed since there are many policies to review this year.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2023 Planning Session.

PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the following TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENTS:

Brandon Cohen, Psychologist, effective September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2027 (High School; Step 1A⁴, replacing John Guerriero {Resigned}).

Danielle Sadusky, Special Education, effective September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2027 (Manetuck; Step 5⁸, replacing Megan Rooney {Reassigned}).

Amanda Maglione, Special Education, effective September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2027 (Manetuck; Step 1⁴, replacing Kristen Florea {Reassigned}).

Ashley Caldone, Elementary, effective September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2027 (Bayview; Step 13⁷, replacing Suzanne Sciarrino {Retired}).

Danielle Corcione, Elementary, effective September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2027 (Bayview; Step 3⁴, replacing Denise Campasano {Retired}).

Sara Pollack, Elementary, effective September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2027 (Manetuck; Step 1A⁴, replacing Daria Solano {Manetuck}).

Tara Campbell, Elementary, effective September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2027 (Manetuck; Step 1A⁴, TBD).

Kristen Bergin, Elementary, effective September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2027 (Bayview; Step 1A³, replacing Pamela Cooke {retired}).

Paige Gillespie, Elementary, effective September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2027 (Bayview; Step 1A³, new position).

Mollie Healey, Elementary, effective September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2027 (Paul J. Bellew; Step 1A², new position).

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 Peter McCann and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the following 7/11/2023 Personnel Agenda items T-2, T-3, T-4 and TA-1 as listed below:

T-2

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT (AMENDED)

Cara Douglas, Elementary
Effective August 31, 2021 to August 30, 2025
(Paul J Bellew; change in effective date from August 31, 2021 to August 30, 2024)

Louis Riley, Elementary
Effective August 31, 2021 to August 30, 2025
(Manetuck; change in effective date from August 31, 2021 to August 30, 2024)

T-3

LEAVE OF ABSENCE (unpaid)

Amanda Felix-Milks, Special Education
Effective September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024
(Manetuck)

T-4 REGULAR SUBSTITUTE

Tracy Suzewski, English
Effective September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024
(Udall; Step 1¹; Replacing Jaclyn Jacobs {LoA})

Christie Rendino-Cusanelli, Special Education
Effective September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024
(Manetuck; Step 0.5¹; Replacing Amanda Felix-Milks {LoA})

Catherine Seale, Social Worker
Effective September 1, 2023 through January 2, 2024
(Paul J Bellew; Step 0.5⁴; Replacing Rachel Russell {LoA})

Grixon Moreira, World Languages
Effective September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024
(High School; Step 1¹; Replacing Elizabeth Daddi {LoA})

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

TA-1 RESIGNATION

Christie Rendino, Special Education
Effective July 1, 2023
(Oquenock)

Mollie Healey, Science
Effective September 1, 2023
(Paul J Bellew)

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the following CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENTS:

Justine Gonzales, Part-Time Food Service Worker, effective August 31, 2023 (Manetuck; \$16.22/hr.; replacing Jennifer Mackin {reassigned}).

*Ashleigh Nieves, Part-Time Food Service Worker, effective August 31, 2023 (Beach Street; \$16.22/hr. replacing Charlene DiCicco {reassigned}).

AnnMarie Pecorella, Part-Time Food Service Worker, effective August 31, 2023 (Oquenock; \$16.22/hr. replacing Olga Alma Cruz {reassigned}).

*Donna Vasaturo, Part-Time Food Service Worker, effective August 31, 2023 (Oquenock; \$16.22/hr.; replacing Olga Alma Cruz {reassigned})

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: RESIGNATION: Jessica Churpita, Cafeteria Aide, effective June 24, 2023 (Paul J. Bellew).

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: RETIREMENT: Susan DiGrigoli, Cafeteria Aide & Bus Matron, effective July 15, 2023 (15.86 years).

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: RETIREMENT: Ralph T. Fabrizio, Head Custodian, effective August 31, 2023 (23 years).

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the remaining items on the Personnel agenda CL-4, CL-5, CL-6, CL-7 and OTHER.

CL-4 SUBSTITUTE CLERICAL (\$15.00/hr)

Margaret Scharf, effective July 29, 2023

CL-5 SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIAN (\$15.00/hr)

Robert Schwartz, effective July 12, 2023

CL-6 SUBSTITUTE PARAPROFESSIONAL (\$15.00/hr)

Laura Sciortino, effective July 12, 2023

CL-7 CHANGE OF TITLE

John Barclay, Acting Head Custodian
Effective May 31, 2023 through July 9, 2023
(Manetuck; Step 7; change from Custodial Worker I)

John Barclay, Custodial Worker I
Effective July 10, 2023
(Manetuck; Step 8; change from Acting Head Custodian)

*Conditional pending fingerprinting clearance

OTHER

NEW TEACHER PROGRAM 2023-2024

Michelle Walsh, Coordinator

REGENTS REVIEW SUMMER 2023

Kayla Reynolds, Algebra 1
Kristie Ferruzzi, Science
David Moglia, Social Studies

SUMMER INVESTIGATIONS PROGRAM 2023

Aides

Anne Marie Bello
Jeannine DiMaio
*Danielle Minieri
Althea Shono

SUMMER RECREATION AND SPORTS ACADEMY CAMPS
HOURLY RATES 2023

Director/Co-Director, \$75
Assistant Director, \$60
Lead Coach, \$40
Coach, \$30

Lead Counselor, \$20
Counselor, \$15
Nurse, \$30
Aide, \$22

SUMMER RECREATION CAMP 2023

Camp Counselors

Olivia Antonello Summer Carosella
Daniella Baloga

WEST ISLIP SPORTS ACADEMY SUMMER CAMPS 2023

GYMNASTICS

Leah Bilozur, Counselor
Ava Bomberger, Volunteer Counselor
Juliet LeClaire, Volunteer Counselor
Katelyn Mercorella, Volunteer Counselor

SWIM PROGRAM AND SWIM TEAMS 2023-2024

Ryan Carlson, Lifeguard
Alex Rutigliano, Lifeguard

**Conditional pending fingerprinting clearance*

CURRICULUM:

Mrs. Morrison congratulated and welcomed all the new hires and looks forward to working with all them.

Mrs. Morrison advised that the Summer Investigations program for Grades 1-5 is up, running and approximately 140 students are attending the program, and the students are engaged in Foundations and various math activities. The district received the AP and IB results from the June exams and the results will be reviewed and a report given at a future meeting. The review of the data will be utilized to create the district instruction for the 2023-2024 school year.

Teacher orientation will take place at the end of August and Superintendent Conference Days will be held on 9/1/23 and 9/5/23.

REPORT OF BOARD COMMITTEES

Policy Committee:

1. Annual Review:
 - No. 5412 Purchasing Procedures
 - No. 5421 Procurement of Goods and Services
 - No. 5610 Insurance
 - No. 5623 Use of School Owned Materials and Equipment
 - No. 5683 Districtwide Safety Committee
 - No. 6150 Alcohol, Drugs and Other Substances {School Personnel}
 - No. 7320 Alcohol, Drugs and other Substances {Students}

2. Code of Conduct – Second Reading

Dr. Romanelli went over some of the changes to the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct has been compiled into a K-12 Code of Conduct instead of the previous elementary, middle school and high school code of conduct. The “if you do this you get that” type of language was removed, and the district is shifting to an individualized approach and looking at the whole child. The range of penalties for infractions have been updated and specific violations to include remote learning situations, electronic devices and synthetic marijuana, etc. Parents will be educated on the Code of Conduct, and it will be distributed to the students and posted on the district website. The DASA form is also included to file any type of complaint and is now easy to locate.

Dr. Romanelli advised that he met with the administrative team and legal team regarding what the best practices were legally regarding the Code of Conduct. Dr. Romanelli and Mrs. Morrison also had discussions with high school staff at faculty meetings and a collaborative effort by everyone was made to update the policy.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve 2022-2023 General Fund budget transfers 4308-4314.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Tax Anticipation Resolution re: Authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$25,000,000 Tax Anticipation Notes in anticipation of the receipt of taxes levied or to be levied for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

**TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE RESOLUTION OF WEST ISLIP UNION
FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, NEW
YORK, ADOPTED JULY 11, 2023, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF
NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000,000 TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES IN
ANTICIPATION OF THE RECEIPT OF TAXES LEVIED OR TO BE
LEVIED FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024**

RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF WEST ISLIP UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Tax Anticipation Notes (herein called “Notes”) of West Islip Union Free School District, in the County of Suffolk, New York (herein called “District”), in the principal amount of not to exceed \$25,000,000, and any notes in renewal thereof, are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the provisions of Sections 24.00 and 39.00 of the Local Finance Law, constituting Chapter 33-a of the Consolidated Laws of the State of New York (herein called “Law”).

Section 2. The following additional matters are hereby determined and declared:

(a) The Notes shall be issued in anticipation of the collection of real estate taxes levied or to be levied for school purposes for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024, and the proceeds of the Notes shall be used only for the purposes for which said taxes are levied.

(b) The Notes shall mature within the period of one year from the date of their issuance.

(c) The Notes are not issued in renewal of other notes.

(d) The total amount of such taxes remains uncollected at the date of adoption of this resolution.

Section 3. The Notes hereby authorized shall contain the recital of validity prescribed by Section 52.00 of the Law and shall be general obligations of the District, and the faith and credit of the District are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on the Notes and unless the Notes are otherwise paid or payment provided for, an amount sufficient for such payment shall be inserted in the budget of the District and a tax sufficient to provide for the payment thereof shall be levied and collected.

Section 4. Subject to the provisions of this resolution and the Law, and pursuant to Sections 50.00, 56.00, 60.00 and 61.00 of the Law, the power to sell and issue the Notes authorized pursuant hereto, or any renewals thereof, and to determine the terms, form and contents, including the manner of execution, of such Notes, and to execute tax certifications relative thereto, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer of the District.

Section 5. The Notes shall be executed in the name of the District by the manual signature of the President of the Board of Education, the Vice President of the Board of Education, the District Treasurer, the District Clerk, or such other officer of the District as shall be designated by the chief fiscal officer of the District, and shall have the corporate seal of the District impressed or imprinted thereon which corporate seal may be attested by the manual signature of the District Clerk.

Section 6. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Board Member Peter McCann and duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

AYES: 7

NOES: 0

The resolution was declared adopted.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Requests for Proposal: RFP# 632 Bagels; RFP#625 Bread; RFP#623 Coffee with Equipment; RFP# 612 Dairy; RFP#608 Direct Diversion; RFP#591 Dishwasher Diversion; RFP#617 Groceries; RFP#630 Frozen; RFP#609 Ice Cream with Equipment; RFP#615 Meat; RFP# 616 Paper, Disposables&Cleaning Supplies; RFP#618 Snacks-Smart; RFP #619 Snack - Non-Compliant; RFP#611 Student Beverages without Equipment.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve 2023-2024 Contracts: Access 7 Services Inc. Consultant Services; Brookville Center for Children's Services, Inc. Special Education; Center for Developmental Disabilities Consultant Services; DaVinci Education and Research, LLC Consultant Services; Developmental Disabilities Institute Consultant Services; Eden II School for Autistic Children Special Education; Hilary Gomes, Ph.D. Consultant Services; Kidz Educational Services SLP, OT, PT, LMSW, Psychology, Audiology PLLC Consultant Services; Long Island Developmental Consulting, Inc., (LIDC) Consultant Services; Metro Therapy Consultant Services; Milestones in Home Care, Inc., Consultant Services; Nassau Suffolk Services for the Autistic, Inc./The Martin C. Barell School Consultant Services; Nassau Suffolk Services for the Autistic, Inc./The Martin C. Barell School Special Education; NYSARC, Inc., Suffolk Chapter Special Education; Tender Age Pediatric Therapies Consultant Services; United Cerebral Palsy Association of Greater Suffolk, Inc. Special Education.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Surplus: Chemistry books – West Islip High School; Miscellaneous books – Beach Street Middle School; Baritone horn – Manetuck Elementary; Pizza warmer – West Islip High School.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP 2023-2024 Engagement Letter.

July 11, 2023

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve resolution re: Section 103a of the Public Officers Law authorizing the West Islip Board of Education to authorize the use of videoconferencing to conduct its public meetings.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Eastern Suffolk BOCES Shared Services Request 2023-2024.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Romanelli informed the audience that the district is preparing for the new school year and is very busy with the hiring process so everyone is in place for the start of the school year. Dr. Romanelli welcomed James Cameron as the district's new Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and congratulated all the new hires and is happy to have them all on board.

Dr. Romanelli gave an update and advised that it was decided at the last board meeting, that the district would be pursuing armed guards and is now in the hiring process and will have armed guards in place for the 2023-2024 school year. A posting for School Resource Officers has been prepared and posted. The district is also on track to have air conditioning in the classrooms for the start of the school year.

Dr. Romanelli expressed how thankful he is to the Board for allowing him to attend the Global Leadership Conference in Berlin. The conference will be a collaboration of great minds, great thinkers and he is excited to hear from students and leaders from across the world and to bring some ideas back to the district and a report will be given at the August meeting.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 9:17 p.m. on motion by Richard Antonello, seconded by Peter McCann 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: Amendment #1 to Ms. Pellati's terms and conditions of employment for the 2023-2024 school year.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the West Islip UFSD hereby approved Amendment #1 to Ms. Pellati's terms and conditions of employment for the 2023-2024 school year and authorizes the Board President to sign the Agreement.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve resolution re: Special Education recommendations.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the recommendations of the Special Education Committee of students as listed in the District's backup and authorizes the District to arrange for appropriate services.

Meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m. on a 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.