

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**December 7, 2023 – Beach Street Middle School**

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

ABSENT: Mr. McCann

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:

Student Representative Report

High School students Jessica Berstein, Kaitlyn Malone, Alex Montes, Kevin Mauri, Krista Williams, Kaitlyn Mahon and Tadhg O’Sullivan-Bakshi under the direction of Advisor, Kristie Ferruzzi, gave a presentation on the West Islip Thirst Project. West Islip is the biggest chapter of the Thirst Project in the country. These students have helped combat the water crisis and led initiatives saving 8,000 lives. West Islip has been the golden standard raising \$190,000 in donations that came from the community, businesses, friends, social media and word of mouth. The district is extremely proud of the hard work and commitment of these students.

Mr. Tussie thanked the students for representing the community and for their leadership and dedication to the Thirst Project.

DISCUSSION

1. Mr. Tussie spoke about a safety issue and a request to extend the sidewalk three blocks on Muncey Road in West Islip. The district has looked into this request and will be sending a letter to Mr. Thomas Owen, Commissioner of Public Works for the Town of Islip, requesting to extend the sidewalk for the safety of students.
2. Mr. Tussie advised that the Board will be reapproving the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) from the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) audit that took place during school year 2021-2022. During the 2021-22 OSC audit the Chief Examiner of the OSC instructed the district to complete a response letter and CAP and have these Board approved and submitted to the OSC by June 30, 2022. The district complied and the Board approved the CAP at the June 21, 2022 Board Planning Session and the documents were submitted to the NYSED in advance of the OSC deadline. The final OSC audit report was dated July 2022. NYSED notified the District on November 27 that the CAP must be reapproved by the Board because it was approved prior to the final OSC report date. The Board is reapproving the original CAP that was submitted to NYSED in 2022 to comply with this technical requirement.

RECOGNITION

Scope National School Development Council Award for Academic Growth and Student Leadership in Learning – Rocco Carpinello and Caitlyn Salus.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Debbie Brown, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2023 Planning Session.

PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Debbie Brown and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Jessica Phillips, Psychologist, effective January 3, 2024 through January 2, 2028 (St. John the Baptist; Step 34; replacing Christopher Hachmann (resigned)).

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Debbie Brown, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the personnel consent agenda T-2, CL-1, CL-2, CL-3, CL-4, CL-5, CL-6, CL-7, CL-8 and Other as listed below:

**TEACHERS**

T-2

**REGULAR SUBSTITUTE (AMENDED)**

Alessia Tocco, Family and Consumer Science

Effective September 1, 2023 through January 5, 2024

(Beach & High School; change in date from September 1, 2023 through December 4, 2023)

**CIVIL  
SERVICE**

CL-1

**CHANGE IN TITLE**

Kim Landhauser, Assistant Cook

Effective December 8, 2023

(High School; Step 9; change from Part-Time Food Service Worker; replacing Cathy Weingarten {terminated})

CL-2

**PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT (AMENDED)**

Nicole Rosenberg, Part-Time Food Service Worker

Effective December 8, 2023

(Beach Street; change in effective date from November 15, 2023)

**CIVIL  
SERVICE,**  
continued

**CL-3**                    **PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT**

\*Imee Acevedo, Part-Time Food Service Worker  
Effective December 8, 2023  
(Manetuck; \$16.22/hr; replacing Joanna DeRosa {retired})

Eileen Ayers, Part-Time Food Service Worker  
Effective December 8, 2023  
(Oquenock; \$16.22/hr; replacing Elaine Napoleon {reassigned})

Christina Chiarelli, Special Education Aide  
Effective December 8, 2023  
(Oquenock; Step 1; new position)

Michelle Colletti, Cafeteria Aide  
Effective December 8, 2023  
(Oquenock; Step 1; replacing Amanda Neilson {reassigned})

**CL-3**                    **PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT**

Michael DeBatt, Head Custodian  
Effective December 26, 2023  
(Bayview; Step 10; replacing Pasquale Romeo {resigned})

Gissel Heredia, Cafeteria Aide  
Effective December 8, 2023  
(Manetuck; Step 1; replacing Jessica Pujia {terminated})

Lissette Rodriguez, Special Education Aide  
Effective December 4, 2023  
(Beach Street; Step 1; replacing Ryan Perry {reassigned})

**CL-4**                    **RESIGNATION**

Johanna Amantia, Cafeteria Aide  
Effective December 1, 2023  
(Bayview)

Michelle Lecchi, Cafeteria Aide  
Effective November 22, 2023  
(Oquenock)

Katherine Martino, Special Education Aide  
Effective December 12, 2023  
(Beach Street)

*\*Conditional pending fingerprinting clearance*

**CL-5**                    **RETIREMENT**

Timothy Maes, Guard  
Effective December 1, 2023  
(10.22 years)

**CL-6**                    **SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIAN** (\$15/hr)

Jennifer Wormuth, effective December 8, 2023

**CL-7**                    **SUBSTITUTE FOOD SERVICE WORKER** (\$15/hr)

Nicole Perchetti, effective December 8, 2023

**CL-8**                    **SUBSTITUTE GUARD** (\$23.73/hr)

Timothy Maes, effective December 8, 2023

**OTHER**

**CLUBS/ADVISORS 2023-2024**

DISTRICTWIDE

Combined Elementary Band, James Kraus  
Jazz Lab, High School, David Kaufman

HIGH SCHOOL (AMENDED)

Mock Trial, Daniel Gschwind and Edward Jablonski (shared)  
(change in Advisor from Edward Jablonski)

OQUENOCK

Little Farmers Club, Lisa Brush and Nicole Cagno Angerame (shared)

OQUENOCK (AMENDED)

Fitness Club, Melinda Monahan and Debbie Throo (shared)  
(change in Advisor from Melinda Monahan)

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

Nickole Aponte, effective December 8, 2023  
Grace Beshlian, effective December 8, 2023  
Mirasol Blanco, effective January 8, 2024, student teacher  
John Blank, effective December 8, 2023  
Olivia Capitano, effective December 8, 2023

**OTHER**,  
continued

**SUBSTITUTE TEACHER** (\$130 per diem)  
Sophia Clark, effective December 8, 2023

Julia Costello, effective January 8, 2024, student teacher  
\*Kamryn Cinotti, effective December 8, 2023  
\*James Dobbins, effective January 22, 2024, student teacher  
Giavanna Dushaj, effective December 8, 2023, student teacher  
Jack Dyer, effective December 8, 2023  
Samantha Fahey, effective December 8, 2023  
Jennifer Kane, effective January 22, 2024, student teacher  
Samantha Luvera, effective December 8, 2023  
Danielle Marino, effective December 8, 2023, student teacher  
Paige Martin, effective January 16, 2024, student teacher  
Lauren McCann, effective December 8, 2023  
Destiny Parsons, effective January 24, 2024, student teacher  
Angela Paton, effective January 29, 2024, student teacher  
Nicole Perchetti, effective December 8, 2023  
\*Jillian Rinne, effective December 8, 2023  
\*Giulianna Sambone, effective January 22, 2024, student teacher  
Jill Solomon, effective December 8, 2023  
\*Melissa Stillman, effective March 4, 2024, student teacher  
\*James Walker, effective January 22, 2024, student teacher  
\*Victoria Westenberg, effective March 11, 2024, student teacher

### **ADULT EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS FALL 2023**

Matthew Triglia (Lifeguard) \$25/hr, effective November 21, 2023

### **NYS SEAL OF BILITERACY ADVISORS**

Katlyn Colace  
Elyse Patti-McDonald

*\*Conditional pending fingerprinting clearance*

### **CURRICULUM REPORT**

Mrs. Morrison informed the audience that prekindergarten and kindergarten registration will take place from January 16 to February 16. Information regarding the registration process and procedures will be sent out prior to the December break.

Mrs. Morrison congratulated Ms. Morgigno, who is a Business Teacher at the high school, and was recently recognized by the West Islip Chamber of Commerce for her dedication and contributions to the school community. Ms. Morgigno goes above and beyond to ensure that students engage in productive, real world learning experiences. Mrs. Morrison also congratulated Ms. Ferruzzi. Ms. Ferruzzi is a Science Teacher at the high school and was recently selected as a New York State Master Teacher. As a master teacher, Ms. Ferruzzi will engage in ongoing professional development experiences that will continue to bring authentic and impactful learning opportunities to her students. West Islip is extremely fortunate to have Ms. Ferruzzi and Ms. Morgigno as part of the district's instructional team.

Mrs. Morrison wished everyone Happy Holidays!

### **REPORT OF COMMITTEES:**

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Health & Wellness Alliance: Grace Kelly reported on the meeting that took place on 11/14/23. Items discussed included financial report; the success of the 2023 Halloween Hustle; exploring options for the next community event; winter newsletter; the second annual gingerbread house decorating party; Health & Wellness scholarships for two seniors; and the committee was enlightened regarding the district's Effective Schools Solutions Mental Health Services. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. in the cafeteria at P.J. Bellew Elementary School.

Safety Committee: the Board delayed the committee report until the January 3, 2024 Board meeting.

Buildings and Grounds: Christina Marks reported on the meeting that took place on 11/14/23. Items reviewed included update on construction projects: Beach rotunda is almost finished, air conditioning connected; science lab being finished; waiting on delivery of windows for PJ Bellew; high school fire alarm installation will start this month; district office vestibule will start in February; excess steam at high school addressed; high school pool has new problems with air leaks; and talks regarding a possible tenant at Masera continue and an offer/proposal should be made in two weeks.

Education Committee: Richard Antoniello reported on the meeting held 11/28/2023. Items reviewed included a request from the Board to discuss 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra Regents and 9<sup>th</sup> grade Living Environment Regents and if there is something that can be done as a district so students are not in need of tutors; New York State Graduation Measures Initiative - November 2023 recommendations from the Blue Ribbon Commission were discussed and the district's Profile of a Graduate is in line with these recommendations; Weighted/Unweighted courses were discussed and the committee not ready to make a recommendation yet; updates on cell phone and attendance committees.

Finance Committee: Grace Kelly reported on the meeting held 11/28/2023. Items reviewed included the October treasurer's report; October extra-curricular report; October payroll summary; October financial statements; October claims audit report; November system manager audit trail; payroll certifications and budget transfers. Mrs. Pellati advised that the Audit Committee meeting with the internal auditors, Cullen & Danowski, is scheduled for December 7, 2023 to discuss the results of the detailed testing on staff attendance, the STAC system and results of the annual risk assessment. Mrs. Pellati also discussed the additional 2023-2024 engagement letter from R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP relating to the preparation of financial statements.

Special Education Committee: Debbie Brown reported on the meeting held 12/6/23. Items discussed included approval of IEP's based on CSE and CPSE recommendations being approved this evening; preliminary 2024-2025 special education budget; special education students attending a program at Argyle Theatre; social workers contributed Thanksgiving baskets to families in need; the Board received an update on the success of the ESS Program at the high school; the Board recently completed tours of Special Education classes at P.J. Bellew, Manetuck, Beach Street and the High School and visited the 8:1:1 and 15:1 classrooms, resource room, sensory rooms, and observed structural literacy lessons. The next SEPTA meeting will be on 1/24 at Bayview at 7:00 p.m. Events are planned at Dave & Busters on 1/31 and SEPTA Bowl on 4/13/24 in West Babylon at 7:00 p.m.

Audit Committee: Anthony Tussie reported on the meeting that took place on 12/7/23. Items reviewed included the detailed testing on staff attendance, the STAC system and results of the annual risk assessment.

Policy Committee: James Cameron advised that at the recommendation of the Suffolk County Department of Health, Policy 6140 be updated to include blood testing since skin testing is not as accurate. A First Reading took place and the next policy meeting will be on February 6.

1. First Reading No. 6140 Health Examinations

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Debbie Brown and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve 2023-2024 General Fund budget transfers 4335-4336.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Debbie Brown, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve 2023-2024 Contracts: Half Hollow Hills Central School District Special Education Contract and revised Mid Island Associates SEDCAR Contract.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Richard Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve RFP#2400 – External Independent /Auditing Firm Services.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Debbie Brown, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the following Change Orders:

1. Stalco Construction, Inc. – \$9,368.06 West Islip High School
2. Stalco Construction, Inc. – (\$1,000.00) Beach Street Middle School
3. Stalco Construction, Inc. – (\$1,000.00) Udall Road Middle School
4. Stalco Construction, Inc. – (\$8,922.56) Bayview Elementary School
5. Stalco Construction, Inc. – (\$1,000.00) Manetuck Elementary
6. Stalco Construction, Inc. – (\$1,000.00) Oquenock Elementary
7. Stalco Construction, Inc. – (\$1,000.00) Paul J. Bellew

#### PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Debbie Brown and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the addendum to the R.S. Abrams engagement letter for auditing services for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Debbie Brown and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve resolution re: destruction of unused ballots and full ballot booklets from the May 16, 2023 school budget vote.

#### *Resolution*

*Upon the order of the commissioner of education per Education Law §2034(6), when a period of six months from the date of election has elapsed without any proceeding being commenced in regard to such election, the board of education may by written resolution order the destruction of unused ballots and full ballot booklets.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves, the destruction of unused ballots and full ballot booklets not used at the May 16, 2023 election.*

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Debbie Brown and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve SEQRA resolution re: Fire Alarm Systems.

All board members present voted - 6 Yays 0 Nays

#### **SEQRA RESOLUTION**

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**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) Replacing the existing fire alarm system with a new and improved fire alarm system at the Beach Street Middle School; and (2) replacing the existing fire alarm system with a new and improved fire alarm system 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 SEQR; 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 SEQR; 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 Debbie Brown and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve revised resolution re: Special District Meeting – January 23, 2024



**BOARD RESOLUTION  
NOTICE OF SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING  
OF THE WEST ISLIP UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT,  
SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of the West Islip Union Free School District, Town of Islip, Suffolk County in the County of Suffolk, New York, adopted a resolution on November 14, 2023, authorizing a Special District Meeting of the qualified voters of said School District to be held on Tuesday January 23, 2024, at the West Islip High School, 1 Lions Path, West Islip, New York, 11795, between the hours of 7:00 am and 9:00 pm, prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by paper ballot upon the following Bond Proposition:

BOND PROPOSITION

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Board of Education of the West Islip Union Free School District, in the County of Suffolk, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to expand the existing 5-lane indoor pool to a new 6-lane pool, including all mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and construction requirements, at the West Islip High School, substantially as described in a report prepared for the District by BBS Architects, Landscape Architects & Engineers, P.C., which report is on file and available for public inspection at the office of the District Clerk, the foregoing is to include the original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus and ancillary or related site, demolition and other work required in connection therewith; and to expend therefor, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and to the financing thereof, an amount not to exceed the estimated maximum cost of \$13,850,574;
- (b) that a tax is hereby voted in the aggregate amount not to exceed \$13,850,574 to pay such cost, said tax is to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by said Board of Education; and
- (c) that in anticipation of said tax, bonds of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount not to exceed \$13,850,574; and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said bonds as the same shall become due and payable.

Such Bond Proposition shall appear on the ballot used for voting at said Special District Meeting in substantially the following condensed form:

BOND PROPOSITION

YES

NO

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Board of Education of the West Islip Union Free School District, in the County of Suffolk, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to expand the existing 5-lane indoor pool to a new 6-lane pool, substantially as described in a report prepared for the District by BBS Architects, Landscape Architects & Engineers, P.C., and to expend therefor, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and to the financing thereof, an amount not to exceed the estimated maximum cost of \$13,850,574; (b) that a tax is hereby voted in the aggregate amount of not to exceed \$13,850,574 to pay such cost, said tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by said

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Board of Education; and (c) that in anticipation of said tax, bonds of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of not to exceed \$13,850,574 and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said bonds as the same shall become due and payable.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that personal registration of voters is required either pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law, or pursuant to Article 5 of the Election Law. If a voter has heretofore registered pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law and has voted at an annual or special district meeting within the last four (4) calendar years, he or she is eligible to vote at this Special District Meeting. If a voter is registered and eligible to vote under Article 5 of the Election Law, he or she is also eligible to vote at this Special District Meeting. All other persons who wish to vote must register.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, the voters may register with the Clerk of said School District at her office in the District Administration Office, 100 Sherman Avenue, West Islip, New York 11795, between the hours of 8:00 o'clock A.M. to 4:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) when school is in session at any day prior to January 18, 2024 to add any additional names to the Register to be used at the aforesaid Special District Meeting, at which time any person will be entitled to have his or her name placed on such Register provided that at such meeting with the Clerk of said School District he or she is known or proven to the satisfaction of the Clerk of said School District to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at such Special District Meeting for which the Register is prepared. The Register so prepared pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law will be filed in the Office of the District Clerk, at her office in the District Administration Office, 100 Sherman Avenue, West Islip, New York 11795, and will be open for inspection by any qualified voter of the District beginning on and after Thursday, January 18, 2024, between the hours of 8:00 o'clock A.M. to 4:00 o'clock P.M., (Prevailing Time), on Saturday, January 20, 2024 by prearranged appointment only between the hours of 10:00 o'clock A.M. and 1:30 P.M. (Prevailing Time), and on January 23, 2024, the day set for the Special District Meeting except Sunday, and at the polling place(s) on the day of the vote.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that applications for early mail ballots and absentee ballots are obtainable at: [www.wi.k12.ny.us](http://www.wi.k12.ny.us) and will be obtainable during school business hours from the District Clerk beginning Tuesday, January 2, 2024; completed applications must be received by the District Clerk no earlier than December 26, 2023. For in-person applications, applications must be received by the District Clerk no earlier than January 2, 2024, at least seven (7) days before the Special District Meeting, January 16, 2024, if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the Special District Meeting, January 22, 2024, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Early mail ballots and absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk not later than 5:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) on Tuesday, January 23, 2024.

A list of persons to whom early mail ballots and absentee ballots are issued will be available for inspection to qualified voters of the District in the Office of the District Clerk on and after Thursday, January 18, 2024, on each day prior to the day set for the Special District Meeting, except Sunday, on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 8:00 o'clock A.M. and 4:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time), on Saturday, January 20, 2024 by prior appointment only between the hours of 10:00 o'clock A.M. and 1:30 P.M. (Prevailing Time), and at the polling place on January 23, 2024, the day set for the Special District Meeting. Any qualified voter then present in the polling place may object to the voting of the ballot upon appropriate grounds by making his or her challenge and the reasons therefore known to the Inspector of Election before the close of the polls. A challenge to an absentee ballot may not be made on the basis that the voter should have applied for an early mail ballot.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that military voters who are not currently registered may apply to register as a qualified voter of the District. An application for registration as a military voter can be requested from Mary Hock, District Clerk, West Islip Union Free School District, 100 Sherman Avenue, West Islip, New York 11795 by mail or e-mail [m.hock@wi.k12.ny.us](mailto:m.hock@wi.k12.ny.us) Monday through Friday when school is in session from 8:00 o'clock A.M. to 4:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time), the application for registration must be received in the office of the clerk no later than 5:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) on December 21, 2023, which is the day before the last day for the transmission of military ballots. In the request for an application for registration, the military voter is permitted to designate his/her preference for receiving the application for registration by mail, facsimile transmission or electronic mail.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that military voters who are qualified voters of the District may submit an application for a military ballot from Mary Hock, District Clerk, West Islip Union Free School District, 100 Sherman Avenue, West Islip, New York 11795 by mail or e-mail [m.hock@wi.k12.ny.us](mailto:m.hock@wi.k12.ny.us) Monday through Friday when school is in session from 8:00 o'clock A.M. to 4:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time); in order to receive a military ballot, the military ballot application must be received no later than 5:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) on December 21, 2023, which is the day preceding the last day for transmission of military ballots. In the request for an application for a military ballot, the military voter is permitted to designate his/her preference for receiving the application for a military ballot, and the military ballot, by mail, facsimile transmission or electronic mail. All qualified military voters' ballot application and military ballot must be returned by mail or in person. Ballots for military voters shall be distributed to qualified military voters no later than December 22, 2023. Military ballots must be received by the District Clerk (1) before the close of the polls, on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, and must show a cancellation mark of the United States postal service or a foreign country's postal service, or must show a dated endorsement of receipt by another agency of the United States Government, or are signed and dated by the voter and one witness thereto with a date which is ascertained to be not later than the day before the election, January 22,

2024 and which must be received in the office of the clerk of the school district not later than 5:00 o'clock P.M. on the day of the

election in order to be canvassed.

BY THE ORDER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dated: November 29, 2023  
Mary Hock, District Clerk

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Debbie Brown and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve resolution re: 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.

Resolution

*Be it resolved, that the Board of Education of the West Islip UFSD 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.*

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Debbie Brown and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve resolution re: recommending the Board of Education to approve the Corrective Action Plan in response to the Office of the State Comptroller's Report of Examination on financial Management for the audit period July 17, 2017 through October 31, 2021.

Resolution

*Recommend the Board of Education to approve the Corrective Action Plan in response to the Office of the State Comptroller's Report of Examination on financial Management for the audit period July 17, 2017 through October 31, 2021.*

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Romanelli thanked the orchestra students for playing in the lobby as everyone entered the auditorium for the Board meeting and wished a Happy Hanukkah to all staff and families celebrating.

Dr. Romanelli spoke about the High School Aquatic Center and the upcoming Special District Meeting/Bond Vote taking place on 1/23/2024 in the high school gym from 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. He advised that the district would be sending out information regarding the vote after the holidays to everyone in the community. The district will also have public meetings and will be going on a PTA tour. There will also be a video, newsletter and postcard regarding the vote. The pool bond cost is 13.85 million dollars and the pool will go from five lanes to six lanes, and the district will potentially receive between three to five million in aid.

Dr. Romanelli explained how the timing for the bond vote is perfect since there is debt dropping off and the project should be cost neutral to taxpayers. He explained how a January vote would allow the district to obtain state approval and if approved, the project would start the summer of 2025. The district would also like to minimize the length of time the pool is closed to students and outside organizations.

Dr. Romanelli shared some reflections since this was the last board meeting of the year. He spoke about how proud he is of the district and the focus on application of learning, core education classes and how this will

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strengthen mastery of learning for students. He also spoke about the Blue Ribbon Commission and changes in graduation recommendations. He explained how the work coming from the state is similar to what the Profile of a Graduate, civil engagement, and performance-based assessment work is and how West Islip is leading the way in this work across the state. In the upcoming year, Dr. Romanelli would like to have more opportunities to showcase student work for parents and community, and show the great learning taking place across the district.

Dr. Romanelli expressed how thankful he is for all the dedicated students, teachers, parents and administrators that give 100% every day and how the theme for the upcoming year is continued collaboration. Dr. Romanelli expressed how he feels very fortunate to be working for the district and wished everyone a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and Kwanza.

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

Doreen Hantzschel - Mrs. Hantzschel had concerns regarding the district's revised Code of Conduct policy. Mrs. Morrison advised that there is a lot more to the policy revision and asked that Mrs. Hantzschel give her a call and she would go through the policy with her.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Christina Marks and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:34 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 9:12 p.m. on motion by Richard Antonello, seconded by Christina Marks and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Motion was made by Richard Antonello, seconded by Christina Marks and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Super Executive Session at 9:15 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, and/or litigation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m. on motion by Richard Antonello, seconded by Christina Marks 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.