

A REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education of the West Babylon Union Free School District, of the Town of Babylon, Suffolk County, New York was held on Tuesday, November 10, 2015, in the Board Room of the Administration Building.

Those present: Trustees Lucy Campasano, John Evola, Ray Downey, Cathy Gismervik, Diane Klein, Dennis Kranz, Jennifer Longo, Peter Scarlatos (left at 7:23 p.m.) and Jennifer Wandasiewicz

Also present: Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent; Mrs. Christine Tona, Executive Director for Curriculum & Instruction; Mrs. Michele Psarakis, Executive Director for Finance and Operations; Mr. Shawn Hanley, Executive Director for Human Resources, Mr. William C. Morrell, Attorney; Mrs. Amy E. Jones, District Clerk; and residents

The President opened the meeting at 6:02 p.m. and led those present in the salute to the flag.

Presentation: West Babylon Heroes — Kyra Duke — Grade 8

Dr. Farrelly spoke on behalf of Central Administration and the Board of Education and thanked our veterans for their service. She said "We are eternally grateful for the sacrifices that have been made by veterans and their families. Although tomorrow is national "Veterans' Day" I remind everyone that every day is Veterans' Day". She introduced Kyra Duke, an 8th Grade Student at the Junior High School. Dr. Farrelly said that Kyra came to visit her a few months ago to share her work about local veterans. R. Farrelly emphasized "her work, not a homework assignment or a school project, her OWN research" on West Babylon alumni veterans. Dr. Farrelly turned the meeting over to Kyra to explain her project. Kyra explained that she wanted to learn more about West Babylon alumni veterans. Kyra presented her research about local veterans, which she will also be presenting tomorrow at the Sgt. John Sardiello Post 1634 of the American Legion in West Babylon in honor of Veterans' Day. After the presentation Board President Lucy Campasano thanked Kyra and said that the presentation touched her heart. She noted that she had gone to school with John Smith and Anthony Signa, veterans in Kyra's presentation and she knew of several of the other veterans. The Board took a ten minute recess to view Kyra's presentation photographs and materials.

Trustee Wandasiewicz seconded by Trustee Gismervik made a motion to enter Executive Session for WBTA contract negotiations, legal and personnel matters at 6:23 p.m.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

The public portion resumed at 7:23 p.m.

Trustee Wandasiewicz seconded by Trustee Kranz made a motion to approve the minutes of October 27, 2015.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

Statement of the Superintendent and/or Board of Education:

Dr. Farrelly shared that 8th grade student Kyra Duke had a wonderful presentation earlier this evening honoring our West Babylon alumni veterans. On behalf of Central Administration and the Board of Education she again thanked our veterans for their services, adding that we are eternally grateful.

Dr. Farrelly asked what the trustees thought about the BOE pamphlet and asked for any suggested changes. Board President Campasano noted that the names of the Board of Education were not on the pamphlet which Dr. Farrelly said she will have corrected. With no other changes, Dr. Farrelly said she will have the names added and she will proceed with their printing and have them available during the next Board meeting.

Statement of the WBTA:

WBTA President Jo Poio delivered the following statement:

This statement is for our students: Last week in my classroom I asked my first period students, "So, how do you like the Junior High so far? They replied that it's more fun than being in elementary school. "How so?", I asked. A student replied, "Well, there we did math for three hours a day, we never did science and our teachers were stressed". Another student chimed in, "It was like being in prison". As a teacher, to hear this was heartbreaking. I wish they could have been elementary students when I started teaching twenty years ago. West Babylon's goal in their mission statement was to create, Life Long Learners. The way to foster lifelong learners is to create a love of learning. The way to create a love of learning is through creativity and educational appropriateness, and the teacher's presence in their classrooms. The flawed Common Core implementation put a stop to that in our elementary schools. Having rigor and standards is not an issue, but teaching to a state test that's flawed is. The Task Force put together by the Governor acknowledges that the Common Core tests are flawed, the modules are flawed, and Engage New York is flawed. Students and teachers are being set up to fail. And yet we continue. On the average in New York State teachers are out of their classrooms 25% of their year due to state tests. And yet we continue. The common core way of teaching math has erased an entire community of people that is needed to help these students afterschool because they cannot do it the common core way. And yet we continue. Something is very wrong when a child's two parents who are both CPA's, are not able to help their third grader with math homework. The teachers knew this wasn't right from the very beginning, just like they knew how awful Math A and Math B was, but it seems no one cares what they have to say. The WBTA cares about our students and about our teachers and we cannot put our heads in the sand anymore. We at the WBTA are going to be taking an active role to help fix this flawed system. Governor Andrew Cuomo once said that these tests are not about the students, they're about the teachers. How sadly wrong he was. It is damaging the whole educational experience for these students. Years that cannot be redone. Twenty years later, students from West Babylon have grown up to be Doctors, Lawyers, Sanitation workers, Engineers, Educators, Nurses, Hairstylists, Stay at Home Parents, Bus Drivers, Board of Ed members, etc. All productive citizens of our society. All without learning the Common Core way.

Board President Lucy Campasano thanked Ms. Poio and said that the Board of Education cares very much about the students and the teachers. She said that even though they may agree with the teachers' concerns, the Board must follow the letter of the law.

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|--|-------------|
| <u>Statement of CSEA Representative:</u> | None |
| <u>Statement of Student Association Representative:</u> | None |
| <u>STATEMENT OF RESIDENTS (Agenda Items)</u> | None |

Report of the Superintendent:**Finance & Operations Update:**

Mrs. Psarakis provided an overview of the finance and operations topics highlighted in this Friday's News & Notes #19. She explained that the underground fuel tank at Santapogue School needed to have a sensor replaced and it was discovered that there were approximately 70 gallons of fuel in the outer tank. The fuel was removed and the district will wait a couple of weeks to determine if it will need further repair which could cost the district between \$20,000 and \$50,000. In response to Trustee Evola's question, Mrs. Psarakis said that insurance would not likely cover the cost of the repair, there would need to have been a separate rider in place.

Mrs. Psarakis said that the TRS has proposed a reduction of rates which would mean a savings of 1.2 million dollars. However, the district still needs to come up with an additional 1.4 million dollars in reductions, so there is a long way to go until next year's budget. Mrs. Psarakis will be sending the first draft of the budget to the buildings on December 1. She said that she is hopeful that she will receive the CPI number by Monday, and anticipates a low to zero number. She noted that the State may increase their aid amount because it is beginning to realize that it is hard to function with a 0% tax levy increase. She also noted that the proposed ERS reduction would provide approximately \$200,000 to the district. Mrs. Psarakis said that a proposed state plan to increase the minimum wage to \$15.00 an hour could have a devastating impact on future budgets.

Local Assistance Plan ("LAP") Presentation: JoAnn Scott, South Bay Principal**Continuous Improvement Report Presentation: Charles Germano, Tooker Avenue Principal**

Dr. Farrelly said that this evening Mrs. Scott and Mr. Germano will be presenting their continuous improvement reports. She said that the district has a lot about which it can be proud at both Tooker Avenue School and South Bay School. She said that West Babylon has dedicated instructional and non-instructional staff members who are committed to providing an enriching, exceptional learning experience for our students. The district's focus is on continuous improvement and communicating/sharing what we are doing to continuously improve. She introduced Mrs. JoAnn Scott, Principal of South Bay Elementary School and Mr. Charles Germano, Principal of Tooker Avenue Elementary School.

Local Assistance Plan ("LAP") Presentation: JoAnn Scott, South Bay Principal

Mrs. Scott shared the data which led to South Bay School's designation of being a "LAP" school by the NYS Education Department. South Bay School scored 5 points below the cut point for focus schools in Math PI and ELA in the 2013-2014 school year. Mrs. Scott discussed the report and the information she will be providing to the state in her diagnostic self-review document and report template. Through a PowerPoint presentation she explained the plans that she and the staff at South Bay will be implementing in the future. She also explained that there has been a change to the student culture over the years. There are more students in need of ESL and other services, with some students moving in to the district for only a short period of time and then moving out after assessments all have been taken, and parents working unusual hours, are impacting the assessment results. She said maybe it is time for the district to focus on the specific students' needs, who is being taught? Board President Campasano said that Mrs. Scott's ambitions are lofty and impressive and she hopes that they can be accomplished. Mrs. Campasano asked about the implementation of these ideas in other district elementary buildings. Dr. Farrelly said that each of the elementary buildings students has differing needs, and the staff at each building will make their changes according to those needs, while also sharing best practices with each of the other buildings. Mrs. Scott added a few words to honor her favorite veteran, her father. The report is on file in the District Clerk's office.

Continuous Improvement Report Presentation: Charles Germano, Tooker Avenue Principal

Mr. Germano noted that the presentations of the principals in the other buildings will be a little different than Mrs. Scott's presentation due to South Bay's LAP designation and the form Mrs. Scott had to complete. He shared his building's CIR through a PowerPoint presentation. He said that Tooker Avenue School has many strengths, and added that it has not been easy to be an educator the last few years. Mr. Germano said that all of the staff is doing their very best every day. He added that the staff does try to make school as fun for kids as they possibly can. The staff in his building is focusing on small group instruction because what is being taught is hard stuff for the students. He said his staff is focusing on good instruction, not just the assessments and he said it is their hope that the good instruction will have a positive impact on the assessments. Mr. Germano said the staff is more focused than ever, which has a calming effect. He also highly praised the district's recent hire; Curriculum Specialist Jennifer Hoffman, and her work with the staff on professional development. He also thanked the trustees for increasing the amount of permanent substitutes in his building from one to two. Mr. Germano also shared that he has implemented a tennis extra-curricular program in his building for 4th & 5th graders before school, which he personally teaches in two 16 week programs; one for each of the grades. He said the goal at Tooker Avenue School is for growth and improvement for the students, teachers and administrators.

Trustee Gismervik seconded by Trustee Wandasiewicz made a motion to approve the **Consent Agenda**

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

BOARD OF EDUCATION**#BE-1**

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following school district to provide special education services, to West Babylon School District resident students, for the 2015-2016 school year:

#BE-2

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the establishment of a new Senior High School Club called "Students Promoting Equality for Women". Amy Zipkas, Senior High School social studies teacher, will be the club advisor on a voluntary basis.

#BE-3

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Local Assistance Plan for South Bay Elementary School.

PERSONNEL

#PE-1

RESOLVED: that the following schedules, as attached, are approved:

- 15-A-3 Board of Education
- 15-P-8 Professional Personnel
- 15-C-8 Civil Service Personnel

SCHEDULE 15-A-3, BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE

I. BOARD OF EDUCATION APPOINTMENTS

| POSITION | SALARY | NAME | 2015-2016 |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Extra Curricular Activities Co-Treasurer/HS | \$4,000. (prorate) | Katharine Reilly-Johnson | 9/1/15 - 11/10/15 |
| Extra Curricular Activities Co-Treasurer/HS | \$4,000. (prorate) | Walter Shiners | 11/11/15 - 6/30/16 [repl. K. Reilly-Johnson] |

IV. The following administrator is authorized to represent the school district and the Board of Education, regarding special funding applications and/or legal compliance:

Data Privacy Officer - Stephanie Nocerino

SCHEDULE 15-P-8 Professional Personnel Schedule

| NAME | POSITION | SCHOOL/ AREA | STEP/ SALARY | BEG/END APPT. | COMMENTS |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Cunningham, David | Elementary Tchr. | SA | | 11/3/15 - | Family Medical Leave |

Salary Adjustments:

Smith, Kerry PT/Elementary Tchr. JH FROM: Step A-5-1/ \$58,511. (prorate @ 60%) TO: Step A-8-1/ \$66,313. (prorate @ 60%) **Retroactive to 9/1/15:**

Conte, Joseph Science Tchr. HS FROM: Step A-7-9/ \$84,111. TO: Step A-9-9/ \$90,451.

Mattson, Alexandra Mathematics Tchr. HS FROM: Step A-6-1/ \$61,071. (prorate) TO: Step A-7-1/ \$63,631. (prorate) **Effective 10/6/15:**

A.C.T. Proctors:

| | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------|----------|
| Dombo, Stephen | | \$22.47/hr. | 10/24/15 | 5 hrs. |
| Ruiz, Lawrence | | | | 5.5 hrs. |
| Hickey, Susan | | | | 6 hrs. |
| Iaquinto, Christine | | | | 6 hrs. |
| McArdle, Patrick | | | | 6 hrs. |
| McGrath, Steven | | | | 6 hrs. |
| Amaya, Idalia | | | | 8 hrs. |
| Satriano, Paul | | | | 8.5 hrs. |
| Thomas, Stephanie | ACT Coordinator | | | 8.5 hrs. |

SCHEDULE 15-P-8 Professional Personnel Schedule

| NAME | POSITION | SCHOOL/ AREA | STEP/ SALARY | BEG/END APPT. | COMMENTS |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Coaches: | | | | Winter, 2015 - 2016 | |
| Levy, Steven | JHS Head | Basketball (B) | \$4,170. | | |
| Hartranft, Greg | JHS Head | Basketball (G) | \$4,170. | | |
| Mattson, Alexandra | JV Head | Cheerleading | \$4,170. | | |
| Jones, Ebony | JHS Head | Cheerleading | \$2,469. | | |
| Hartranft, Greg | JHS Head | Volleyball (G) | \$4,170. | | |
| Medina, Israel | Varsity Head | Wrestling | \$7,176. | | [pending FA/CPR/AED] |
| Wilkinson, John | JV Head | Wrestling | \$5,867. | | [pending FA/CPR/AED] |
| Russo, Michael | JHS Head | Wrestling | \$2,085. | | |
| Theo, Harry | JHS Head | Wrestling | \$2,085. | | |
| Coaches: | | | | Spring, 2015 - 2016 | |
| TBA | Varsity Head | Baseball | \$6,484. | | |
| TBA | JV Head | Baseball | \$5,189. | | |
| TBA | JHS Head | Baseball | \$4,170. | | |
| Hennessy, Kevin | Varsity Head | Lacrosse (B) | \$6,484. | | |
| TBA | Varsity Asst. | Lacrosse (B) | \$5,189. | | |
| Hagans, Connor | JV Head | Lacrosse (B) | \$5,189. | | |
| Hartranft, Greg | JHS Head | Lacrosse (B) | \$4,436. | | |
| TBA | Varsity Asst. | Lacrosse (G) | \$5,189. | | |
| TBA | JV Head | Lacrosse (G) | \$5,189. | | |
| TBA | JHS Head | Lacrosse (G) | \$4,436. | | |
| Torres, Nicole | Varsity Head | Softball | \$6,484. | | |
| TBA | JV Head | Softball | \$5,189. | | |
| TBA | JHS Head | Softball | \$4,170. | | |
| TBA | JV Head | Tennis (B) | \$4,170. | | |
| TBA | JHS Head | Tennis (B) | \$4,170. | | |
| Ging, Frank | JHS Head | Track & Field (B) | \$4,436. | | |
| Klein, Brendan | JHS Head | Track & Field (G) | \$4,436. | | |
| Student Teachers/Observers/Interns: | | | | 2015 - 2016 | |
| Errico, Karen | Psychology | DW | | Fall & Spring | |
| Walsh, Sean | Psychology | TA | | Fall & Spring | |
| Ferretti, Heather | Special Education | HS | | Fall | |
| Lucivero, Christina | Special Education | SB | | Fall | |
| Per Diem Substitutes: | | | | 2015 - 2016 | |
| Schapira, Sarah | | DW | \$110./day | | [cert: Visual Arts] |
| Torres, Nicole | | | | | [2 days/week-Tues./Thurs.only] |

SCHEDULE 15-C-8 Civil Service Personnel Schedule

| NAME | POSITION | SCHOOL/ AREA | STEP/ SALARY | BEG/END APPT. | COMMENTS |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Robertson, Kathleen | Clerk Typist | BO | | 10/5/15 - | Family Medical Leave |
| Munch, Theresa | Paraprofessional (hall monitor) | HS | | 10/9/15 - 12/14/15 | Leave of Absence |
| Curley, Susan | Clerk Typist | HR/Athletics, Health, & Physical Ed. | Step 1/ \$30,534. (prorate) | 11/12/15 | Probationary Appt. [C.S. List of Eligibles #13-0021-023] |

SCHEDULE 15-C-8 Civil Service Personnel Schedule

| NAME | POSITION | SCHOOL/ AREA | STEP/ SALARY | BEG/END APPT. | COMMENTS |
|-------------------|--|-----------------|------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Randolph, Paula | Paraprofessional (special ed. aide) | JH | Step 1/ \$13.64/hr. | 11/12/15 | Probationary Appt. |
| *Cassell, Jasmine | Paraprofessional (classroom aide) | SA | Step 1/ \$13.64/hr. | 11/30/15 | Probationary Appt. |

Per Diem Substitute: DW \$9./hr. 2015 - 2016 Food Service Worker

*Cusimano, Giuseppe

*Emergency Conditional Appointment

FINANCE

#FI-1

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the September, 2015 Treasurer's Report.

#FI-2

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the correction action plan ("CAP") in response to the findings contained in the 2014-2015 Financial Statement Audit. The Executive Director for Finance & Operations will file a copy of the CAP with the State Education Department pursuant to NYCRR Section 170.12(e)(4).

#FI-3

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education authorizes the emergency transfer of \$24,500 into the District's equipment code for the purchase of a security vehicle. This purchase will replace Security Vehicle #3. The required repairs to the vehicle are expensive and based on an overall condition, are not feasible.

#FI-4

WHEREAS: SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANTS, INC. was the lowest qualified bidder on the December, 2014 budget proposition project, to act as Construction Manager, for the West Babylon Union Free School District ("District"); and

WHEREAS: the District and SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANTS, INC. are in negotiations for the completion of a contract for services by SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANTS, INC., to act as Construction Manager, which contract has not been yet completed; and

WHEREAS: Due to prospective weather conditions and the need of the District for the use of portions of the bond issue project to be completed as quickly as possible, it is

HEREBY RESOLVED: that in accordance with the recommendation of the District Executive Director for Finance & Operations, after discussion with the District Claims Auditor, it is agreed that the District pay to SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANTS, INC. the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand and 00/100 (\$75,000.00) Dollars owed to SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANTS, INC. for the satisfactory performance of completed *quantum meruit* services and that such payment be credited by District to the account of SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANTS, INC. for approved professional services rendered as of October 31, 2015; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED: that this payment is made subject to further audit by the District and/or its auditors and/or the State of New York.

STUDENT SERVICES

#SS-1

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education.

POLICY:

Trustee Klein seconded by Trustee Wandasiewicz made a motion to waive reading and move the following policies to second time discussion:

- File: 5300.65 Visitors to the Schools**
- File: 9530.1 Non-Instructional Personnel**

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

November 10, 2015

'15-77

The following regulations were on the agenda for Board Review - no motion needed - just ask if everyone has reviewed the regulations.

File: 5300.65 - R Visitors to the Schools - Administrative Regulations

File: 6830-R Expense Reimbursement - Administrative Regulations

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Downey asked if it would be possible for the district's parent portal to be "live" at all times. He noted that some teachers update their portals regularly while others do so less frequently. Dr. Farrelly and Ms. Tona said that the parent portal is already capable of being live. They said that they will look into the idea and talk about the possibility of making minimum update requirements and deadlines to make the parent portals more uniform and with more consistent updates.

Statement of Residents: None

Trustee Gismervik seconded by Trustee Evola made a motion to adjourn at 9:00 p.m.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

District Clerk