

November 13, 2012

(Tonight's agenda was from the October 30, 2012 meeting – cancelled due to Hurricane Sandy)

'12-69

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 13, 2012, in the Board Room of the Administration Wing adjacent to the Senior High School.

Those present: Trustees Lucy Campasano (left at 8:30). Wendy DeGaetano, Cathy Gismervik, Diane Klein, Diane Thiel, Stacy Villagran and Jennifer Wandasiewicz

Absent: Trustees James F. Bocca and Peter Scarlatos

Also present: Mr. Anthony Cacciola, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Yiendhy Farrelly, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Mrs. Christine Tona, Executive Director for Curriculum and Instruction; Mrs. Jennifer Buscemi, Executive Director for Finance & Operations; Mrs. Amy E. Jones, District Clerk; Mr. William C. Morrell, Attorney; and residents (audience of approx. 9).

The president opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m. and led those present in the salute to the flag.

Trustee Gismervik seconded by Trustee Klein made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:02 pm. to discuss contract negotiations, personnel and legal matters.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present.

Trustee Wandasiewicz seconded by Trustee Villagran made a motion to end Executive Session at 7:33 pm.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present.

The meeting reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

Trustee Klein seconded by Trustee Wandasiewicz made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of October 11, 2012.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present.

Statement of the Superintendent and/or Board of Education:

Mr. Cacciola explained that the agenda being used this evening is the same agenda originally planned for October 30. The only change is the Board Recognition portion. He recommended holding Board Recognition at the December 11 meeting.

Mr. Cacciola said that it has been a crazy two weeks and he spoke on behalf of the Board and Administrators when he extended prayers to those going through extremely difficult times as a result of Hurricane Sandy. He thanked the Board and Administrators and the many groups involved in helping those devastated by the hurricane. Mr. Cacciola said that there are approximately 165 families that have been displaced by the storm. He thanked Ryan Case, Coordinator of K-12 Student Data & Instructional Technology for making the calls and tweets to keep everyone abreast of the closings, etc. He thanked Mr. Bianco for doing an unbelievable job of arranging the special transportation of the displaced students.

Mr. Cacciola said that he is not sure how the lost days will impact the calendar. He said he is awaiting a decision from SED, the Commissioner and/or the legislature. He noted that schools are to be in session for 180 days in order to receive state aid. He discussed various possibilities for making up the lost days, including using winter recess. In response to Trustee Campasano's question he said that if the district needs another snow day, conference days currently in the calendar could be used if absolutely necessary. Mrs. Tona said that the school year could also be extended if absolutely necessary, as well. Mr. Cacciola said that an e-mail to staff had been sent letting them know that they should not make vacation plans until this is settled. He said that he may send a message to parents, too.

Mr. Cacciola congratulated the Varsity football team for making history. Their win Saturday, against West Islip, was the first time in Long Island history that the 8th place team beat the 1st place team. He said that the team will play Riverhead on November 17.

Mr. Cacciola said that the Town of Babylon has requested use of the PAC to hold a benefit fundraiser for victims of Hurricane Sandy. They are requesting a waiver of the fees. He said that Mr. Ralph Rienzo President of the Alumni Association is present this evening and is also going to request use of the PAC and a waiver of fees for another benefit.

Mr. Cacciola reviewed the calendar changes for various events for this year.

Statement of West Babylon Teachers Association: **None**

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Statement of West Babylon Administrators' Association:

Mr. Sean Hanley said that the WBAA is working with the staff and unions to help those affected by the hurricane. He said the association wishes the best for the community. He added that throughout this terrible ordeal, seeing the community come together to help in any way they can makes him proud to be a part of the West Babylon family.

Statement of CSEA Representative: None

Statement of Student Association Representative: None

Statement of PTA Council Representative: None

Statement of Residents (Agenda Items):

Trustee Villagran seconded by Trustee DeGaetano made a motion to waive the agenda order and allow residents to address any topic at this time.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

Alumni Foundation President Ralph Rienzo said that he has never seen such a terrible time in his history in West Babylon. He said he hears more stories everyday of the impact the hurricane has had on the community. He said the community pulling together to provide supplies and assistance has been inspirational. To that end he said the Alumni Foundation is planning a benefit comedy show and music event to help those affected by the storm. He said that former alumnus Stephen Rizzo, a comedian and motivational speaker will donate his talent and MC the event and Copper Line, a James Taylor tribute band will perform. Funds from this event have not been "key holed" yet. The holidays are approaching and money will be set aside for those needs. He requested use of the PAC and a waiver of the fees for November 26.

Mr. Cacciola said that in addition to the Alumni Foundation the Town of Babylon is also requesting a fee waiver for the PAC for December 1st for another benefit.

Trustee Campasano seconded by Trustee Villagran made a motion to waive the PAC fees for the Alumni Foundation's November 26, 2012 benefit and for the Town of Babylon's December 1st benefit.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

Resident Stephanie Russell complimented members of the teaching staff for going door to door to check on students and their families after the storm. She also praised students who came by to bring hot soup. She noted that when her children saw the teachers coming to their home, it was the first smile she had seen on their faces in days.

Superintendent's Report/Educational Presentation:

Strategic Plan Update:

Anthony Cacciola, Superintendent

Mr. Cacciola said that the Board had a major accomplishment in January 2010 when they adopted a long range strategic plan. He said that it was unfortunate that several unforeseen factors such as the South Bay School fire; the tax cap, APPR and Common Core Standard put many other items from the plan on the back burner. He shared the 2012-2013 district goals, and shared components of the plan. He also praised Ralph Rienzo and Diane Thiel for their efforts with the community engagement portion of the plan. Mr. Cacciola said that all in the district are responsible for the success of the district and should all be aware of their own role in achieving success. He shared the focus for 2012-2013. The strategic plan is available on the district's website.

Summer Reading and Math Program Results:

Christine Tona, Executive Director for Curriculum & Instruction and Carol Varsalona, Director of Language Arts & Testing

Mrs. Tona shared results of a teacher survey about their feelings about the programs and the possible changes that could or should be made. The results in the elementary level for reading showed that the majority of teachers prefer an optional program with a minimum of 10 books to be read, logged and turned in during the first 3 days of school. Participants would be rewarded with a special celebration and names on display in the school. Elementary math results showed that the majority preferred the math packet be optional and using IXL with specific directions, a requirement of 5 hours of IXL to be completed and participants being rewarded in the same fashion as the reading program.

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At the JHS and HS level a mandatory program was preferred with 1 book and 1 packet to be completed by the 10th day of school. AP students would not have to complete the general assignment; they would complete the AP assignment. The students would be given a quiz, and those who participated would receive a minimum score of 75, and those not completing would receive a 0 for quiz grade. There was also a suggestion of an optional second book and packet could be read and participants could receive a bonus of 1-3 points on their 1st quarter average. Trustees shared their feelings about the change. In response to Trustee DeGaetano's concern, Mrs. Tona explained that the rationale for changing the program to optional was because the teachers are spending a lot of time the first few weeks of school on these summer assignments instead of other class work. The district cannot mandate work over the summer, there must be time during the school year to complete the assignments. Trustee Wandasiewicz said that she felt this was a positive change. Trustee Villagran said that she believed the program was initiated to instill a love of reading and if that is the intent, the writing assignment may conflict with the intent. After discussion about the pros and cons of changing the current format, the trustees unanimously endorsed the changes. Mrs. Tona said that there is no perfect answer and changes could be made after next year's results.

Trustee DeGaetano seconded by Trustee Villagran 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 accepts the Services Agreement between the West Babylon Union Free School District and Focused Fitness effective October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013.

#BE-2

RESOLVED: that the following Junior High School clubs are approved for the 2012-2013 school year:

| JHS School Club | Advisor | Student President | Student Treasurer |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| School Store | Ms. RoseLyn Cipparulo | Danielle Comparato | Deborah Joy Witt |
| Cheerleading Team | Ms. Autumn Matthews | Lauren O'Brien | Jackie Teufel |

#BE-3

BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with a letter from an employee dated October 22, 2012 requesting to extend such employee's probationary term to June 30, 2013, the probationary term of the employee referenced therein is hereby extended from November 18, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

#BE-4

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the inter-municipal agreement for cooperative transportation services with the North Babylon Union Free School District for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year. Both districts desire to cooperate in the provision of bus transportation services for three students for the purpose of receiving cost savings. These students are residents of the parties' respective school districts, but attend non-public schools currently serviced by both school districts.

PERSONNEL

#PE-1

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

12-P-8 Professional Personnel

12-C-8 Civil Service Personnel

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SCHEDULE 12-P-9 Professional Personnel Schedule

| NAME | POSITION | SCHOOL/ AREA | STEP/ SALARY | BEG/END APPT. | COMMENTS |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Mackenzie, Mary Ellen | Special Ed. Tchr. | JH/HS | | 10/1/12 - | Family Medical Leave |
| Zuhlke Perry, Lisa | Music Tchr. | FA/SB | | 10/17/12 - end of First Semester | Leave of Absence |
| Delaney, Wendy | Special Ed. Tchr. | JH | | 10/29/12 - end of First Semester | Leave of Absence |

S.A.T. Proctors:

\$22.13/hr. 10/6/12

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|----------|
| Connors, Lucia | | | | | 5.5 hrs. |
| Borgo, Danielle | | | | | 6 hrs. |
| Cafiero, MaryAnn | | | | | 6 hrs. |
| Carson, Jeffrey | | | | | 6 hrs. |
| Iaquinto, Christine | | | | | 6 hrs. |
| Mucaria, Donna | | | | | 6 hrs. |
| Ruiz, Lawrence | | | | | 6 hrs. |
| Amaya Velasquez, Idalia | | | | | 6.5 hrs. |
| Goodwin, Deborah | | | | | 6.5 hrs. |
| Heaton, Bryan | | | | | 6.5 hrs. |
| Heaton, Elise | | | | | 6.5 hrs. |
| McArdle, Patrick | | | | | 6.5 hrs. |
| Simone, Linda | | | | | 6.5 hrs. |
| Powers, Brian | | | | | 7 hrs. |
| Montalvo, Andrea | | | | | 9 hrs. |
| Montalvo, Christina | Test Supervisor | | | | 9 hrs. |

Alternative Evening High School:

\$34.85/hr. 2012-2013

Johnston, Carissa Science

SCHEDULE 12-P-9 Professional Personnel Schedule

| NAME | POSITION | SCHOOL/ AREA | STEP/ SALARY | BEG/END APPT. | COMMENTS |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|----------|
| <u>Student Teachers/Observers:</u> | | | | Fall, 2012 | |
| Franklin, Allison | Special Education | TA | | | |
| Macchia, Nikki | Special Education | HS | | | |
| Walsh, Erin | Library Media | TA | | | |

Per Diem Substitutes:

DW \$90./day 2012-2013

Crisci, Michael
D'Agosto, Nicolina
Johnson, Danielle
Torre, Andrew
Twardy, Eric

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SCHEDULE 12-C-9 Civil Service Personnel Schedule

| NAME | POSITION | SCHOOL/ AREA | STEP/ SALARY | BEG/END APPT. | COMMENTS |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Viverito, Donna | Senior Clerk Typist | HS | | 9/6/12 - | Family Medical Leave |
| Uveno, Theresa | Cook | JH | | 9/7/12 - | Family Medical Leave |
| Quinn, James | School Bus Driver | Trans. | | 10/31/12 - 10/29/13 | Leave of Absence |
| Francesco, Lucy | Paraprofessional (hall monitor) | HS | | 10/9/12 | Resignation to Retire |
| McDermott, Matthew | PT/School Bus Driver | Trans. | | 10/9/12 | Resignation |

The following position is established per Civil Service desk audit effective 10/31/12:

(1.0) Personnel Assistant - Administration

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--------|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Holm, Marie | Personnel Assistant | Adm. | Step 6/ \$55,776. (prorate) | 10/31/12 | C.S. Desk Audit [reclassification SCT to Personnel Asst.] |
| Meyer, John | Auto Mechanic III | Trans. | Step 3/ \$51,432. (prorate) | 10/31/12 | [promoted from Auto Mech. II] |
| Carucci, Frances | Paraprofessional [special ed. aide] | SB | Step 1/ \$13.37/hr. | 10/31/12 | Probationary Appt. |
| <u>Per Diem Substitute:</u> | | DW | \$10./hr. | 2012-2013 | Custodian |

*Jordan, Jamale

*Emergency Conditional Appointment

CURRICULUM

#CU-1

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education declares 42 second grade books, located in John F. Kennedy Elementary School, obsolete:

| <u>Title</u> | <u>Publisher</u> | <u>Copyright</u> | Number <u>of Copies</u> |
|--------------|------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| "Neighbors" | American Book Company | 1982 | 21 |
| "Science" | Silver Burdett Company | 1985 | 21 |

#CU-2

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education declares 1,537 books/materials, located in the Forest Avenue School library, obsolete. The books/materials are to be declared obsolete for the following reasons: the information is no longer correct or relevant; the items were damaged (torn or missing pages); and the items had a poor circulation history having not been signed out of the library during the past 5 years.

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FACILITIES

#FA-1

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education gratefully accepts the following donations from two West Babylon residents:

1. 12 ladies golf clubs from Mrs. Cathy Toner
2. Assorted volleyball nets from Mr. Louis Beaudrot

These items will be used by the Athletic Department.

POLICY REVIEW:

2310 – Regular Board Meetings – Third Time Adoption

8412 – Student Transportation to Certified or Licensed Day Care Facilities – Third Time Adoption

8412.1 – Student Transportation Services to Non-certified or Unlicensed Day Care Facilities - Third Time Adoption

Board President Diane Thiel noted that the policies were on the agenda for Third Time Adoption.

Trustee Villagran seconded by Trustee Wandasiewicz made a motion to adopt the policies.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

Regular Board Meetings

File: 2310

In order to perform its duties in an open and public manner, and in accordance with state law, the Board of Education shall hold regular business meetings in accordance with the adopted school district calendar.

The time, dates and place of regular Board of Education meetings shall be established at the annual organizational meeting. All regular Board meetings are open to the public, and meeting facilities shall provide access to persons with disabilities.

Representatives of associations of teaching, administrative, non-teaching employees, and of students and community groups shall be welcome and encouraged to attend meetings of the Board.

In addition to the members of the Board, the following individuals will regularly attend the business meetings of the Board; the Superintendent of Schools, the Assistant Superintendent, Executive Directors and other specified personnel as deemed necessary.

Cross-ref: 2210 Board Organizational Meeting

Replaces in whole or in part former policy BDA

Adopted: 12/08/2009

Revised: 11/13/12

**Student Transportation to Certified
or Licensed Child Care Facilities**

8412

The Board of Education recognizes there are students in the schools of West Babylon who are enrolled in certified and/or licensed child care facilities and attend these centers on a regular basis directly after school hours. These students are eligible for after school transportation to the certified and/or licensed child care facilities given that the facilities have shown evidence of certification and/or licensure, pursuant to Section 390 of Social Services Law, are within the boundaries of the West Babylon UFSD, in accordance with the District's mileage limits.

Legal References:

New York State Education Law, § 3635 (1)(b)(ii)(e)
Chapter 665 of the Laws of 1990

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Section 390 of Social Services Law

Cross Reference: Policy 8400

Adopted: 4/13/92
Reviewed: 2/26/01
Reviewed: 11/20/06
Revised: 11/13/12

**Transportation Services to Non-certified or
Unlicensed Child Care Facilities**

8412.1

The district may provide transportation for any child attending kindergarten through eighth grade between the youngster's school and before and/or after school child care locations. This transportation is limited to child care locations that are within the attendance zone of the child's school, where the distance between the school attended and the child care facility is in accordance with the district's mileage limits.

District application of the parent or legal guardian, must be submitted not later than the first day of April preceding the next school year. Applications received after April first will be reviewed on a case by case basis. The district may require up to thirty (30) days to initiate any changes.

Legal References:

New York Education Law § 3635 (1)(b)(ii)(e)
Chapter 665 of the Laws of 1990

Cross Reference: Policy 8400

Revised: 11/13/12

COMMITTEES:

Trustee Klein read the minutes of the Operations Committee Meeting (on file in the District Clerk's Office).

Trustee Thiel said that she will read the minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting at the November 27, 2012 meeting. She explained that the policies she will be discussing will be on the agenda for that evening.

In response to Trustee DeGaetano's question about rescheduling committee meetings cancelled due to Hurricane Sandy, Mrs. Thiel said that the curriculum committee will have to reschedule and the policy committee will not need to reschedule. Policy Committee will meet in December.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

Statement of Residents:

In response to resident Daienna Edmunds' questions Mrs. Tona said the APPR Parent Information Workshop has been rescheduled to January 3, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. and Mr. Cacciola said that he will place the Strategic Plan information on the website. Mrs. Edmunds added that she was pleased with the changes that will be implemented for next year's summer reading and math programs. She said she prefers encouraging children to read to teach them to love reading as opposed to making them read something that is not of interest to them.

Resident Dennis Brodmerkel that he whole heartedly agrees with the proposed changes to the reading program. He said that his son and other students are capable of reading and have problems with comprehension, often frustrating the students. He said that the current practice is not

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instilling a love of reading in his son. Mr. Brodmerkel suggested that students be able to select books appropriate to their reading ability rather than just by grade level. Mrs. Tona said that she can look into that suggestion.

In response to resident Eva Donahue's question, Mrs. Tona said that the district will look into options for students reading choices. Mrs. Donahue also commended the BOE and Administration for adding to the recent pot luck dinner for those affected by the hurricane. She said she was pleased that there was more food than mouths to feed. Mr. Cacciola said that it was his intention to provide the food through C&J. However, C & J's owner, Joe Germano, donated all of the food. She also noted Panera Bread's generosity during this difficult time.

Other upcoming local dinners for those affected by the storm, including Monsoon Restaurant in Babylon on Thanksgiving Day and Our Lady of Grace Thanksgiving dinner on Sunday were discussed.

Mrs. Thiel wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and said that she hopes everyone can find a little bit of happiness through this difficult time.

Trustee Wandasiewicz seconded by Trustee Villagran made a motion to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

Attested to: _____
District Clerk