

MINUTES OF SPECIAL VIDEO CONFERENCING BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2020

****Please be aware that as a result of a technical issue, the video recording of the meeting did not save.****

A SPECIAL VIDEO CONFERENCING MEETING of the Board of Education of the West Babylon Union Free School District, Town of Babylon, Suffolk County, New York, was held on Monday, March 30, 2020, through Zoom.com-Meeting ID# 195 736 559.

Board of Education Members present

Trustees: Lucy Campasano, Cathy Gismervik, Peter Scarlatos, Raymond Downey, John Evola, Diane Klein, Christopher Paolillo, and Jennifer Longo. Trustee Jennifer Wandasiewicz was not able to participate.

Also present

Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Shawn Hanley, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Mrs. Michele Psarakis, CPA, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations; Mr. Scott Payne, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction; William C. Morrell, Esq., School Attorney; and Ms. Barbara A. Burrows, District Clerk. There were approx. 16 residents who logged in to the meeting.

1. OPENING OF MEETING & EXECUTIVE SESSION-1:30 PM

Procedural: A. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Procedural: B. Call to Order by Presiding Officer

Information: C. Executive Session-No Executive Session took place.

2. PUBLIC SESSION-1:35 PM

Procedural: A. Statement of the Board and/or Superintendent

Dr. Farrelly said this abbreviated Board meeting is being recorded and will be placed on our website. She started off by stating we miss seeing everyone in person. We miss our students, staff, faculty. We all crave some sort of normalcy. Things are different for all of us - both on the work and family level. She said she is confident that as a work and family team we will get through these unprecedented times. She thanked the Board for coming together for this abbreviated meeting to approve a few consent agenda items.

3. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT AND/OR EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

Information: A. Statement-Update: Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Farrelly provided the following updates:

Our Breakfast/Lunch distribution program - is going well. Dr. Farrelly extended a huge thank you to Mrs. Frabizio, Mrs. Psarakis, Terry Lennon and all others who have assisted with this program. We have a great system in place. Families drive over, names are cross-referenced in the system and we practice social distancing throughout the distribution. Regarding the rumor that, if the district is closed for an extended period of time, we would not have sufficient food for the families; please know, this is not the case. If we are closed for the remainder of the school year, we will be able to continue to provide breakfast and lunch for our families.

Child Care Update - Dr. Farrelly was able to enter into a partnership with the Babylon School District and SCOPE for our emergency care/first responders to have access to child care for students ages 5 and older. Information can be found on our website www.wbschools.org. As a county, we developed a childcare partnership utilizing Suffolk county sites, for the childcare of infants to 4-year-olds, for our emergency care/first responder families. Again, if you need childcare, please visit our website for contact information.

Curricular and Instructional Plans - The two-week instructional plans that were developed by our teachers were posted online and mailed to families. Unfortunately, due to this health crisis, our closure has been extended by the Governor. As a result, our teachers, administrators and Mr. Payne are working on developing Google classrooms. Google works on any device that families/students currently have. Families who do not have a computer at home will be borrowing district computers with pickup dates of tomorrow and Wednesday - according to a schedule that was sent out. This information can be found on our website as well. Social distancing will be practiced throughout this pickup. If you or your child have a question regarding the paper curricular packets or curriculum posted via Google classroom, please reach out to your child's teacher, principal or Mr. Payne - if it can't be addressed at the building level.

Grades 3-8 State Assessments have been suspended by the State Education Department.

A decision regarding regents exams has not been determined yet by SED.

Mental Health Resources - Our student services staff has begun to reach out to our students. We want to stay connected. Our Director of Guidance and Director of Student Services emailed out a list of mental health resources. Please utilize those resources if needed. This information has also been posted on our website.

Budget Vote/Trustee Election - I included a draft budget presentation for the Board to begin to review. We were going to present this presentation during the April BOE meeting. However, earlier today we were informed that the budget vote/trustee election will now be occurring in June. Once we have a handle on all the new timelines/requirements, we will share this information via email and on our website. We will adhere to all new budget vote/trustee elections procedures/timelines - once we receive this information.

Common Questions:

1. **Where do I find the information you've sent out to us? I can't find an old email you sent?**
 1. **All letters/emails have been posted on our website.**
2. **What is happening with Regents Exams?**
 1. **The State Education Department will determine what occurs with regents exams.**
3. **When do you anticipate we will return?**
 1. **I do not know. Due to the health crisis, we will reopen/continue to close based on the Governor's Executive Orders.**
4. **How will the teachers determine the 3rd and 4th quarter grades?**
 1. **Districts throughout are waiting to receive direction on regents exams, grades and other similar school district topics from the State Education Department.**
5. **How come we cannot access school playgrounds?**
 1. **Our playgrounds are closed. County playgrounds are also closed. The reason for this is because the County and School Districts cannot have someone onsite at all playgrounds all the time to clean a surface immediately after it is cleaned. In an effort to promote social distancing and do all we can to keep children safe and away from commonly used public surfaces, school playgrounds are closed.**
6. **I have questions relating to the curricular packets or Google classroom, who should I contact?**
 1. **Please contact your child's teacher or principal via email.**

Dr. Farrelly closed by asking all to please continue to check your email and the district website for updates. Please practice social distancing, wash your hands often and adhere to all health-related directives. Please continue to send your building principals pictures of your children...we love seeing their smile and would love to continue to post positive messages on Twitter, Facebook, and our website. Be well...Stay positive. I look forward to seeing you all in person soon!

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Action (Consent): A. Approval of the Consent Agenda Motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion by Peter Scarlatos, second by Cathy Gismervik.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Lucy Campasano, Cathy Gismervik, Peter Scarlatos, Ray Downey, John Evola, Diane Klein, Jennifer Longo, Christopher Paolillo

5. BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action (Consent): A. Authorization for the Superintendent of Schools to sign the SCOPE Emergency Child Care Services Program Agreement

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to sign the SCOPE Emergency Child Care Services Program Agreement. The term of this agreement shall be for the period March 23, 2020 through April 1, 2020. By mutual agreement of the Parties, this agreement may be extended should the New York State Governor extend the requirements of Executive Order 202.4

Action (Consent): B. Authorization for the Superintendent of Schools to make Emergency Instructional and Staffing Decisions Necessary to meet the NYS Executive Orders Requirements

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to make emergency instructional and staffing decisions necessary to meet the requirements of the NYS Executive Orders and necessary to protect and preserve District students and staff as well as to safeguard District property during the COVID-19 pandemic, or until such authorization is rescinded by the Board of Education. The Superintendent of Schools will notify the Board of Education of such actions as soon as practicable thereafter.

Action (Consent): C. Authorization for the use of Fund Balance to comply with the Governor's Executive Orders related to Coronavirus

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the use of Fund Balance to comply with the Governor's Executive Orders on school closures, distance learning, child care directives and facility needs. The amount of Fund Balance approved for this purpose shall not exceed \$300,000.

Action (Consent): D. Hourly & Part-time Employees Compensation as a result of COVID-19 School Closure

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order 202, the Governor of the State of New York issued a declaration of emergency for the entire State of New York as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive also declared a local state of emergency and ordered the closing of schools for student instruction as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the extraordinary and unprecedented circumstances that caused the declarations of emergency warrant the School District to fairly and consistently compensate its employees during this period of crisis in the best interests of the community at large; and

WHEREAS, the School District is desirous of avoiding the costs associated with employees filing claims for unemployment compensation during this time period, and is also desirous of retaining employees who might otherwise seek other employment if not being paid during this time.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the salary payments of hourly and part-time employees during this emergency for the entire State of New York as a result of COVID-19 based upon their customary standard hours of employment, provided that compensation shall not be provided to the extent the District calendar is amended to provide for additional work days for said employees during the balance of the 2019/2020 school year as required by the New State Education Department or the operation of law pertaining to State aid; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that nothing contained herein precludes the Superintendent of Schools, or his/her designee(s) from requiring part-time or hourly employees from working during these periods of school closure if deemed necessary by the District.

Action (Consent): E. Approval of 2019-2020 Abilities, Inc. d/b/a Korneich Technology Center Services Agreement

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the services agreement with Abilities, Inc. d/b/a Kornreich Technology Center, to provide Assistive Technology & Augmentative/Alternative Communication evaluations, training and consultation services, to West Babylon School District resident special education students, for the 2019-2020 school year.

Action (Consent): F. Approval of 2019-2020 Summit School Service Agreement

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves the service agreement with Summit School, to provide educational and residential services to West Babylon School District resident special education students, for the 2019-2020 school year.

Action (Consent): G. Approval of 2019-2020 Student Services RFP Listed Educational Services Vendors

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Vendors listed on the RFP Agreement to provide Educational Services, to West Babylon School District resident students with disabilities, during the 2019-2020 school year. All vendors already have approved contracts.

6. PERSONNEL - BOARD OF EDUCATION 18-A (N/A)

7. PERSONNEL - PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL 18-P-14

Action (Consent): A. 2020-2021 LOA Returnee

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Durbin	Andrea	Science Teacher			9/1/20	Returning from LOA

Action (Consent): B. Resignation - JK

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education accepts the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Campbell	Sarah	Library Media Specialist	JK		6/30/20	Resignation

Action (Consent): C. Resignation - JHS

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education accepts the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
McKeon	Daniel	Principal	JHS		6/30/20	Resignation [effective 7/1/20]

Action (Consent): D. Retirement - HS

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education accepts the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Peraza	Rosemary	Science Teacher	HS		6/30/20	Resignation to Retire [eff. 7/1/20]

Action(Consent): E. Retirement - JK

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education accepts the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Steffens	Colleen	Elementary Teacher	JK		6/30/20	Resignation to Retire [eff. 7/1/20]

Action (Consent): F. Retirement - JH

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education accepts the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Bastidas	Susan	Reading Teacher	JH		6/30/20	Resignation to Retire [eff. 7/1/20]

8. PERSONNEL - CIVIL SERVICE PERSONNEL 18-C-14

Action (Consent): A. Appointment Start Date Adjustment - TA

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Start Date Adjustment:						
Bloodnick	Erin	Paraprofessional (school monitor)	TA	Step 1/ \$15.73/hr.	3/12/20	Probationary Appt. Emergency Conditional Appt.

Action (Consent): B. 2019-2020 Per Diem Substitute**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Per Diem Substitute:					2019-2020	
Hirshkowitz	Stewart	School Bus Driver	Trans.	\$17./hr.		School Bus Driver

9. FINANCE (N/A)**10. CURRICULUM (N/A)****11. FACILITIES (N/A)****12. POLICY REVIEW (N/A)****13. OLD BUSINESS****Information: Asphalt Repairs at Santapogue School-Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools**

Dr. Farrelly shared that during this school district closure period, the asphalt repairs, at Santapogue School, will continue to take place. The company has reassured Dr. Farrelly that under the Governor's regulations they are permitted to continue with the repair project through to completion. Upon completion, the Board of Education will have the opportunity to check out the finished work.

Board President Lucy Campasano asked, on behalf of a resident, what construction work is being done at Forest Avenue and Tooker Avenue Schools. Dr. Farrelly said throughout the next few weeks, various construction work is being done at locations throughout the school district. Also, Dr. Farrelly said all school district buildings were cleaned/sanitized throughout the district by an outside contractor.

14. NEW BUSINESS (N/A)**15. RESIDENTS STATEMENTS**

Procedural: A. Statements of Residents-No comments at this time. If a resident has a comment/question, please email Dr. Farrelly at yfarrelly@wbschools.org

16. ADJOURNMENT**Action: A. Adjourn Meeting****Motion to Adjourn the Meeting at 1:50 PM.**

Motion by Peter Scarlatos, second by Cathy Gismervik.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Lucy Campasano, Cathy Gismervik, Peter Scarlatos, Ray Downey, John Evola, Diane Klein, Jennifer Longo, Christopher Paolillo

Attest: _____
District Clerk