

## **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF JANUARY 23, 2024**

**\*\*\*The January 23, 2024 Board of Education Meeting can be viewed on YouTube accessed through the West Babylon School District website at [www.wbschools.org](http://www.wbschools.org).**

**The minutes of the Board of Education meeting summarize what took place. \*\*\* The January 23, 2024 Regular Board of Education Meeting, of the West Babylon Union Free School District, Town of Babylon, Suffolk County, New York, was held in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 10 Farmingdale Road, West Babylon, New York. The meeting was held in-person**

### **Members present**

Lucy Campasano, Chris Paolillo, Ray Downey, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Kristen Sciamè, Patti Neville

### **Also present:**

Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Shawn Hanley, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Mr. Scott Payne, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction; Mrs. Denise Gillis, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations; Christopher Venator, Esq., School Attorney and District Clerk Jailin Parada.

## **1. OPENING OF MEETING & EXECUTIVE SESSION-5:04 PM**

**Procedural: A. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

**Procedural: B. Call to Order by Presiding Officer**

### **Action: C. Executive Session**

**Motion to enter into executive session to discuss Individual Contract Negotiations, CSEA Paraprofessional Negotiations, SCOPE Recipient Nominations and a pending legal matter in relation to a CVA case.**

Motion by Chris Paolillo, second by Cathy Gismervik.

### **Final Resolution: Motion Carried**

Yes: Lucy Campasano, Chris Paolillo, Ray Downey, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Kristen Sciamè, Patti Neville

## **2. PUBLIC SESSION-7:00 PM**

**Action: A. Approval of Minutes of previous Meeting(s): Regular BOE Meeting of 1/09/24.**

**Motion to Approve the Minutes of Regular BOE Meeting of 1/09/24.**

Motion by Cathy Gismervik, second by Ray Downey.

### **Final Resolution: Motion Carried**

Yes: Lucy Campasano, Chris Paolillo, Ray Downey, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Kristen Sciamè, Patti Neville

### **Information, Procedural: B. Statement of the Board and/or Superintendent**

Dr. Farrelly thanked the community for attending. She began her report by referring to 2 unrelated incidents that occurred at the Senior High School last week - specifically, student fights that raised concerns about the overall safety within our HS school community.

Although the district is legally prohibited from discussing student or employee specific information at a Board meeting, the Board of Education and entire administration team would like the community to know that the district understands the concerns that exist. Physical altercations are unacceptable. The District

recognizes the importance of addressing these incidents promptly with all the students and families involved in accordance with our code of conduct and superintendent's hearing process.

The district has increased adult presence and supervision in the hallways during passing time in certain parts of the school building. Additionally, the high school administration team is in the process of meeting with the entire student body in small groups. The goal of those meetings is to strengthen communication channels between students, teachers and administrators and encourage the reporting of any concerns or potential issues before they escalate. They are also reiterating the code of conduct, emphasizing that physical altercations are unacceptable and have no place within our school community, as are phone recordings of any such incident - that only inflame these situations while they are occurring. The HS administration team is also reinforcing that actions have consequences.

Dr. Farrelly continued to express that the actions of a few do not represent our HS student body or the HS building. The District is proud of the great work that the HS students, staff and faculty have and continue to accomplish during the school day and in our co-curricular programs. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please reach out to a member of the administration team.

On another topic, Dr. Farrelly congratulated the following teams for receiving the New York State Public HS athletic Association Scholar Athlete Team Award. To receive a Scholar-Athlete Team Recognition with certificate, the team's average GPA for 75% of the roster must be 90.00 or higher.

- Congratulations to:
- Girls Gymnastics
- Boys and Girls Soccer
- Boys Golf Team
- Field Hockey Team
- Girls and Boys Volleyball team
- Girls Swimming Team
- Cheerleading Team
- Girls Tennis Team
- Girls and Boys Cross Country Team

#### **Procedural: C. Statement of West Babylon Teachers Association Representatives**

#### **Procedural: D. Statement of School Administrators Association Representatives**

#### **Procedural: E. Statement of C.S.E.A. Representatives**

#### **Procedural: F. Statement of Student Association Representatives**

#### **Procedural: G. Statement of PTA Council Representatives**

PTA Council President Josette Crean and 2nd Vice President Rachel Scelfo presented an award to (3) students for the Veteran's Day Essay Writing Contest. This year's theme was "Service" and what it means to them. The winners also received an Amazon gift card. At the elementary level, the winners were Salvatore Carollo of South Bay Elementary and Olivia Duryea of JFK Elementary. At the JHS level, student Caitlin Carlsen was not in attendance, but Dr. Falcon will be presenting Caitlin with her reward.

### **3. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT AND/OR EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION**

#### **Presentation: A. Presentation: Student Recognition - Tyler Sullo / Recycling Program**

Presentation is available at our school website [www.wbschools.org](http://www.wbschools.org)

#### **Presentation: B. Presentation: Junior High School Students Technology: Mr. Carlos Falcon, Junior High School Principal**

Presentation is available at our school website [www.wbschools.org](http://www.wbschools.org)

#### **Presentation: C. Presentation: American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grant Update, Mr. Scott Payne, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction**

Presentation is available at our school website [www.wbschools.org](http://www.wbschools.org)

**Presentation: D. Presentation: Proposed School Start & End Times for 2024-2025 School Year, Mr. Scott Payne, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction**

Mr. Payne presented to the board the changes that will be implemented for the 24-25 school year, there will be a 10 minute class period. Discussion took place between the board members and Mr. Payne. It was decided that Mr. Payne would provide the Board's feedback to the committee, specifically the SHS start time.

**4. STATEMENT OF RESIDENTS - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

**Procedural: A. Statement of Residents re: agenda items [15 minutes-limited to 3 minutes per speaker]**

None

**5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**Action (Consent): A. Approval of the Consent Agenda**

**Resolution: Motion to approve the consent agenda.**

Motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion by Cathy Gismervik, second by John Evola.

**Final Resolution: Motion Carried**

Yes: Lucy Campasano, Chris Paolillo, Ray Downey, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Kristen Sciame, Patti Neville

**6. BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Action (Consent): A. Authorization for Board President to Sign Retainer Agreement with Frantz Law Group, APLC and Ingerman Smith, LLP**

**RESOLVED** the Board of Education hereby authorizes the law firms of Frantz Law Group, APLC and Ingerman Smith, LLP to commence legal action against the parties identified on Confidential Schedule "A" with respect to the litigation discussed in executive session.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Board President is authorized to sign the attached retainer agreement with Frantz Law Group, APLC and Ingerman Smith, LLP and take all steps necessary to effectuate the litigation.

**7. PERSONNEL - BOARD OF EDUCATION 23-A-**

None

**8. PERSONNEL - PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL 23-P-12**

**Action (Consent): A. 2023-2024 Leave of Absence Requests - 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
Lambert	Christine	Reading	TA		2nd semester, 2023-2024	Leave of Absence Request [used max. amount of extensions] [LOA Ext. granted by BOE]
Gendron	Lynn	Elementary	TA		2nd semester, 2023-2024	"

**Action (Consent): B. Addition Section - HS**

**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
<b>Additional Section:</b>						

Cousins	Melissa	Special Education (.2)	HS	Step A-6-25/ \$117,870. +longevity (prorate @20%)	1/31/24-6/30/24, or sooner at district's discretion	[In Accordance with IEP Requirements]
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**Action (Consent): C. Probationary Appointment - JH****RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following:

**Pursuant to NYSED Regulations, Section 3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law, all teaching and supervisory staff appointed on or after July 1, 2015 must receive three (3) annual APPR composite ratings of Effective or Highly Effective in at least three (3) of the preceding four (4) years and cannot have an APPR composite rating of Ineffective in the last year of his/her probationary appointment to be granted or considered for tenure. Expected date of tenure 1/29/28. This applies to the following teacher:**

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Capellini	Nicholas	Technology	JH	Step A-1-1/ \$50,239. (prorate)	1/29/24	Probationary Appointment [pending Technology certification]

**Action (Consent): D. 2023-2024 Grant Funded Appointment - DW****RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following:

**Pursuant to NYSED Regulations, Section 3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law, all teaching and supervisory staff appointed on or after July 1, 2015 must receive three (3) annual APPR composite ratings of Effective or Highly Effective in at least three (3) of the preceding four (4) years and cannot have an APPR composite rating of Ineffective in the last year of his/her probationary appointment to be granted or considered for tenure. Expected date of tenure 2/14/28. This applies to the following teacher:**

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS	
<b>Grant-Funded Appointment:</b>						2023-2024	Title I Grant
Smith	Samantha	Elementary	DW/Title I School	Step A-6-1/ \$62,920. (prorate)	2/14/24	Grant Funded Appt. through June 30, 2024 [certs: ECE B-2, CE 1-6, SWD B-2 & 1-6, Literacy B-6]	

**Action (Consent): E. 2023-2024 Grant Funded Appointment - DW****RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following:

**Pursuant to NYSED Regulations, Section 3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law, all teaching and supervisory staff appointed on or after July 1, 2015 must receive three (3) annual APPR composite ratings of Effective or Highly Effective in at least three (3) of the preceding four (4) years and cannot have an APPR composite rating of Ineffective in the last year of his/her probationary appointment to be granted or considered for tenure. Expected date of tenure 2/25/28. This applies to the following teacher:**

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS	
<b>Grant-Funded Appointment:</b>						2023-2024	Title I Grant
Gilligan	Emily	Elementary	DW/Title I School	Step A-5-1/ \$60,283. (prorate)	2/25/24	Grant Funded Appt. through June 30, 2024 [certs: ECE B-2, CE 1-6, TA Level 1]	

**Action (Consent): F. 2023-2024 Student Teachers/Observers/Interns****RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
<b>Student Teachers/Observers/Interns:</b>				<b>2023-2024</b>	
Montoni	John	PE	JHS	Spring	
Puglia	Brianna	Elementary	JFK	Spring	

Rodriguez	Cailyn	Eementary	SA	Spring	
Scabatino	Kaitlyn	Eementary	SA	Spring	
Signore	Samantha	Elementary	SA	Spring	

## 9. PERSONNEL - CIVIL SERVICE PERSONNEL 23-C-11

### Action (Consent): A. Leave of Absence Request (Revised Dates) - JK

**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
Lerro	Lenora	Paraprofessional [classroom aide]	JK		3/13/24-6/30/24	Leave of Absence [revised dates]

### Action (Consent): B. 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
Sceppa	Georgette	Office Assistant	JH		3/15/24	Resignation to Retire [eff. 3/18/24]

### Action (Consent): C. Probationary Appointments - HS/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
Renz	Katie	Paraprofessional [hall monitor]	HS	Step 1/ \$18.48/hr.	1/24/24	Probationary Appt. [emergency conditional appt.]
Borland	John	Paraprofessional [school health aide]	TA	Step 1/ \$18.48/hr.	1/24/24	Probationary Appt. [emergency conditional appt.]

### Action (Consent): D. Training for School Bus Driver Endorsement- Trans.

**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
Barone	Michael	School Bus Driver	Trans.	Step 1/ \$24.12/hr.	2/1/24-2/29/24, or sooner at district's discretion	Ext. of training for S Endorsement for School Bus Driver position. Appt. contingent upon completion of S Endorsement

### Action (Consent): E. 2023-2024 PAC Technician Assistant - HS

**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
<b>Performing Arts Center:</b>						
Hernandez	Ashlyn	PAC Technician Assistant	HS	\$22.29/hr.	1/24/24-6/30/24	[Emergency Conditional Appt.]

## 10. FINANCE

### Action (Consent): A. Obsolete Equipment - SHS

**RESOLVED:** That the West Babylon Board of Education declares 1 Crane Merchandising Systems Sandwich Dispensing Vending Machine obsolete. The machine was not a good sales generator and has been unused for years.

- WB #20101541

### Action (Consent): B. Approval of Treasurer's Report - November 2023

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2023.

**Action (Consent): C. Claims Auditor Report - Fourth Quarter 2023**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Claims Auditor Report for the Fourth Quarter, 2023.

**Action (Consent): D. Approval of Auctions International, Inc. Contract**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Online Auction Contract with Auctions International, Inc. for the sale of Educational Institution Assets. The term and prices of this Contract shall remain in effect until June 30, 2024.

**Action (Consent): E. Approval of 2023-2024 West Islip School District Health Services Agreement**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Health Services Agreement with West Islip School District, to provide health services to West Babylon School District resident students, during the 2023-2024 school year.

**Action (Consent): F. Approval of 2023-2024 Seaford Union Free School District Health Services Agreement**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Health Services Agreement with Seaford Union Free School District, to provide health services to West Babylon School District resident students, during the 2023-2024 school year.

**Information: G. Schedule of Bills - January 10, 2024 Accounts Payable Check Run**

**Action (Consent): H. Approval of Budget Adjustment**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education authorizes a budget adjustment to code A5510.4510 (Bus Safety Program) based on check received from the New York State Bus Safety Program in the amount of \$24,617.00 to be used for the purchase of safety signs.

**Action (Consent): I. Approval of Change Order No. 1 - Watral Brothers, Inc.**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves Change Order No. 1 for Waltral Brothers, Inc. Site Contract at South Bay Elementary in the deduct amount of \$7,164.01. The new contract sum will now be \$1,126,835.99.

**Action (Consent): J. Approval of Change Order No. 1 - Byrne & Sons Irrigation, Inc.**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves Change Order No. 1 for Waltral Brothers, Inc. Site Contract at South Bay Elementary in the deduct amount of \$7,164.01. The new contract sum will now be \$1,126,835.99.

**11. CURRICULUM**

None

**12. FACILITIES**

**Action (Consent): A. Acceptance of Donation - Eagle Scouts Project - Santapogue Elementary**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education gratefully accepts a donation of \$1,000.00 (provided in the form of supplies and labor) from Boy Scouts of America Troop 104. This donation will be used to purchase supplies for the Garden Boxes as well as the labor to put in the Garden Boxes(which is the Boy Scout Eagle Project) to be installed in the courtyard of Santapogue Elementary. The Garden Boxes will be utilized for flowers and vegetables.

**13. POLICY REVIEW**

None

**14. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**15. NEW BUSINESS**

None

**16. RESIDENTS STATEMENTS**

**Procedural: A. Statements of Residents**

None

**\*\* The January 23, 2024 Board of Education Meeting can be viewed on YouTube accessed through the West Babylon School District website at [www.wbschools.org](http://www.wbschools.org). The minutes of the Board of Education meeting summarize what took place.\*\***

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

**Action: A. Adjourn Meeting (Should take place by 10:00 PM)**

**Motion to Adjourn the Meeting at 8:09pm.**

Motion by Patti Neville, second by Cathy Gismervik.

**Final Resolution: Motion Carried**

Yes: Lucy Campasano, Chris Paolillo, Ray Downey, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Kristen Sciame, Patti Neville