

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF APRIL 21,2024

*****The April 21, 2024 Board of Education Meeting can be viewed on YouTube accessed through the West Babylon School District website at www.wbschools.org.**

The minutes of the Board of Education meeting summarize what took place.

***** The April 21, 2024 Regular Board of Education Meeting, of the West Babylon Union Free School District, Town of Babylon, Suffolk County, New York, NY 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, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Kristen Sciame, 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, Trustee Downey and Jailin Parada, District Clerk were absent.

1. OPENING OF MEETING & PUBLIC SESSION-10:05 AM

Procedural: A. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Procedural: B. Call to Order by Presiding Officer

2. PUBLIC SESSION-10:05 AM

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

Dr. Farrelly thanked the community for joining.

Procedural: B. Statement of West Babylon Teachers Association Representatives

None

Procedural: C. Statement of School Administrators Association Representatives

None

Procedural: D. Statement of C.S.E.A. Representatives

None

Procedural: E. Statement of Student Association Representatives

None

Procedural: F. Statement of PTA Council Representatives

None

3. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT AND/OR EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

Dr. Farrelly reminded the community of dates pertaining to the school budget:

Information: A. 2024-2025 Budget Timeline Information: Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools

2024-2025 West Babylon School District Budget:

Budget Hearing:

May 7, 2024-- 6:00 PM -- Administration Building

District Budget Vote and Trustees Election:

May 21, 2024 -- 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM -- Administration Building & Santapogue School

Presentation: B. 2024-25 Budget Update: Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Farrelly provided a budget review, specifically:

Impacts to the 2024-2025 budget

- Health insurance cost increase
- Increased student services needs
- Increase in Teachers Retirement System rates
- Increase in Employee Retirement System
- Increased legal fees associated with CVA cases

Additionally, she provided a detailed overview of changes and all reductions made to this budget draft to reduce the budget and tax levy.

- 3 Administrator Positions

- 16 Full Time Equivalent Personnel Reductions
- Reduction in teachers due to collapsed sections as a result of declining enrollment
- Reduction of teaching sections due to restructuring of the administration building department support - (Department chairs will teach 5 sections)
- Restructuring of the elementary generalist/ AIS program (Decrease of 5 teaching positions - 4 by attrition due to retirements and 1 position will be abolished)
- No outside administrators conducting observations as lead evaluators (APPR)
- Reduction of 3 social workers and 1 guidance counselor (retirement)
- 2 Additional Social Workers will be moved from general budget to a special education grant
- Reduction in TRS, Health Insurance lines due to these personnel reductions and retirements
- Establishment of new in-house special education program

She also discussed what's included in the budget at a proposed 4.99% tax levy increase

- Full day Kindergarten
- All Athletics Programs
- Clubs and Co-Curricular programs
- Modified Elementary AIS Program
- Mental Health Personnel
- Districtwide Security
- Career and Technical Education BOCES programs
- 9th-grade Health program
- JHS Labs
- Secondary Electives and AP Offerings
- K-12 Chorus / Band / Orchestra / Art programs
- Integrated Special Education Setting

* Dr. Farrelly stated that a tax levy higher than tax cap requires a supermajority (60%) to pass the budget.

Additionally, she explained to the board and the community if the proposed budget does not pass on May 21 and the implications that it may have on the district.

4. STATEMENT OF RESIDENTS - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

None

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

Motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion by Cathy Gismervik, second by John Evola.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Lucy Campasano, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville

No: Chris Paolillo, Kristen Sciamè

6. BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action (Consent): A. Final 2024-2025 Budget Review & Adoption: Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Denise Gillis, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the West Babylon Union Free School District hereby adopts the proposed budget of expenditures for the 2024/2025 school year in the amount of \$136,882,275, and hereby authorizes the proposed budget to be submitted to the School District's voters at the Annual Meeting/School Election and Budget Vote on May 21, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the adoption of this budget requires an anticipated tax levy increase of 4.99% which exceeds the statutory tax levy increase limit of 2.013% for this school fiscal year and therefore exceeds the state tax cap and must be approved by sixty (60%) percent of the qualified voters present and voting.

Action (Consent): B. Approval of 2024-2025 Property Tax Report Card

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the 2024-2025 State Education Department Property Tax Report Card, as required by the New York State Education Department.

7. PERSONNEL - BOARD OF EDUCATION 22-A-9

None

8. PERSONNEL - PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL 23-P

None

9. PERSONNEL - CIVIL SERVICE PERSONNEL 22-C-19

Action (Consent): A. Resignation - Trans.

Motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion by Cathy Gismervik, second by John Evola.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Lucy Campasano, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville

No: Chris Paolillo, Kristen Sciamè

10. FINANCE

None

11. CURRICULUM

None

12. FACILITIES

None

13. POLICY REVIEW

None

14. OLD BUSINESS

None

15. NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Paolillo suggested that the Board add a budget review line to the format of the agenda to review once a month and any questions that may arise, the Superintendent is prepared to respond any questions more in detail and prepared. Motion was made by Trustee Paolillo and seconded by Trustee Geiger to add a budget review line on the agenda.

16. RESIDENTS STATEMENTS

Procedural: A. Statements of Residents

A community member expressed concern about the budget and asked the board to please reconsider the budget and distribution of funds as it will have a negative impact on the community and the district.

Another community member had a question about the special education program. Dr. Farrelly's response to the community member was that the program is in place / intact and will remain in place this year and next year.

***** The April 21, 2024 Board of Education Meeting can be viewed on YouTube accessed through the West Babylon School District website at www.wbschools.org. The minutes of the Board of Education meeting summarizes what took place. *****

17. ADJOURNMENT

Action: A. Adjourn Meeting (Should take place by 12:05PM)

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Motion by Chris Paolillo, second by John Evola.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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