

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING OF OCTOBER 1, 2024**

*****The October 1, 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 October 1, 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**

Members present

Chris Paolillo, Ray Downey, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville, Anthony Raccomandato, Stephan Maucere

Also present:

Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Shawn Hanley, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources & Mrs. Denise Gillis, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations. Mr. Scott Payne, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Mr. Christopher Venator, Esq., School Attorney, Ms. Jailin Parada, District Clerk. Trustee Downey arrived at 5:08pm. Trustee Gismervik left the board meeting at 8:07pm.

1. OPENING OF MEETING & EXECUTIVE SESSION-5:00 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 Contracts, Discuss Director of Special Education Interim Daily Rate and Discuss Board legal Updates and Requirements and CSEA Contractual Matters.

Motion by Cathy Gismervik, second by Patti Neville.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, Ray Downey, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville, Anthony Raccomandato, Stephan Maucere

2. PUBLIC SESSION-7:29 PM

Action: A. Approval of Minutes of previous Meeting(s): Regular BOE Meeting of 9/24/24.

Motion to Approve the Minutes of Regular BOE Meeting of 9/10/24.

Motion by Patti Neville, second by Cathy Gismervik.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, Ray Downey, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville, Anthony Raccamandato, Stephan Maucere

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

Board President, Chris Paolillo shared the following statement:

"Good evening. I cannot begin to express my feelings over the past several weeks. Nor would I attempt to do so while speaking on behalf of the entire Board of Education except to say I know this has affected us all, and our thoughts and prayers are surely with the families of this community who are struggling and grieving right now. This tragedy affects us all not because of whether or not we know these families directly but because of the few degrees of separation that bind us together. We are never too far removed from our neighbors, their family, or their loved ones. That's what a community is. A community—It's about coming together to celebrate; its about how we help each other in times of struggle or when we band together to help those grieving. Yet again, in these times, we have witnessed the best of us, from a community vigil organized by a group of moms within hours to our local officials and volunteer services that turned out in support and those blue and gold ribbons that seemingly appeared throughout our entire town. We thank you for demonstrating the best of West Babylon. We also want to take a moment to recognize our superintendent, who, between hospital visits, emotional phone calls, and working with local agencies, has once again had to transform a school district into a resource center for anyone in our community who needs support.

I would also be remiss in failing to thank those who help make this all possible, as she would have first. The administrative team, the faculty, and the entire district staff for making this happen and for their continued service to the community, especially in times like these. They have performed an exercise in necessity that has become all too familiar but is nonetheless greatly appreciated. We also thank and appreciate the neighboring school districts that reached out to offer their support, especially our Farmingdale neighbors, who continue to work through their own grieving process. We send our love and support to our West Babylon families. Rest assured, as the West Babylon Board of Education, we will continue to speak and engage on behalf of the safety and well-being of this community's students."

Procedural: C. Statement of West Babylon Teachers Association Representatives

None

Procedural: D. Statement of School Administrators Association Representatives

None

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

None

Procedural: F. Statement of Student Association Representatives

None

Procedural: G. Statement of PTA Council Representatives

None

3. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT AND/OR EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

Discussion, Presentation: A. Presentation: External Audit of Financial Statements; Mr. Michael J. Leone, Cullen and Danowski, LLP

Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly introduced Mr. Leone. He provided a district Financial Statement report along with the Independent Auditor's report ending on June 30, 2024.

Presentation: B. Presentation/ Discussion: Funds and Reserves; Mrs. Denise Gillis, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

Mrs. Denise Gillis, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, presented the Fund Balance and Reserves presentation to the Board. In the presentation, she highlighted the following topics:

- What is the fund balance?
- Fund Balance Categories
- What are reserve funds?
- District Restricted Reserves
- Assigned Fund Balance
- Unassigned Unappropriated Fund Balance
- Benefits of Maintaining Reserves
- The district's focus on the future

Presentation: C. Presentation/ Discussion: Capital Projects; Mrs. Denise Gillis, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

Mrs. Denise Gillis, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, presented the Capital Projects presentation to the Board. In the presentation, she highlighted the following topics:

- Districtwide 2015 Bond Projects
- Items Completed from B-List during the 2015 Bond
- 2015 Bond Current Status and available funds
- Additional Areas for Board Discussion from the B-List Project (2015 Bond)
- 2022 Bond Projects
- 2022 Bond Current Status
- B-List Projects 2022 Bond
- Capital Reserve Established 2023
- Facilities Planning Process

A discussion was held as there was \$515,896 available from the 2015 Bond Project. The funds can only be used on the B-List of items listed on the 2015 B-List Project. The B-List was presented to the Board, Mrs. Gillis mentioned that the new architects can provide pricing when the Board decides what's going to be done.

Additionally, in the 2022 Bond Project, there is a projected remaining balance of \$2,800,000. There are (3) areas that were approved as "B-List" projects that can be considered.

The Capital Reserve Fund established in 2023 has a current balance of \$1,000,000 plus \$46,793 in interest. Once approved by the Board, it must go to the community for voter approval.

Dr. Farrelly called the Board's attention to the 2015 B-List of items and they all agreed to work on the Casework (Family Consumer Science) classrooms and the Ceilings at Junior High School. For the 2022 B-List, they mutually agreed to consider resurfacing the JHS school tennis court. Dr. Farrelly advised that they will communicate the Board's wishes to the architects and then they will be invited to a Board meeting for further discussion.

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 Patti Neville, second by Anthony Raccomandato.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, Ray Downey, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville, Anthony Raccomandato, Stephan Maucere

6. BOARD OF EDUCATION

None

7. PERSONNEL - BOARD OF EDUCATION 23-A-

None

8. PERSONNEL - PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL 23-P-5

Action (Consent): A. 2024-2025 Part-Time Appointment - SB/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
McCaffrey	Shannon	PT/Speech (.8)	SB/TA	Step A-7-1/ \$66,540. (prorate @ 80%)	11/4/24-6/30/25, or earlier at district's discretion	[cert: Speech and

Action (Consent): B. 2024-2025 TOB Grant Funded Appointment - DW

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
Morris	Grace	Substance Abuse Counselor	DW	\$-0.- [Paid by TOB]	10/2/24-6/30/25	OASAS Grant Funded

Action (Consent): C. Additional Hours - UPK Preparation

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
Daly	Adair	Immunizations, New Entrants & UPK Prep	JK	\$50.46/hr.	9/9/24-9/13/24	[additional UPK class/3 hours]

Action (Consent): D. 2024-2025 Clubs and Advisors - 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
Clubs & Advisors:			HS		2024-2025	Contingent upon student participation
Hassett	Emily	Grade 10 Class Co Advisor		\$1,066.		[shared stipend] [Repl. Brianne Hyer]
Heaton	Bryan	String Quartet/Chamber Orchestra		\$1,356.		
Karatnytsky	Julia	Robotics		\$3,648.		

Action (Consent): E. 2024-2025 Per Diem Substitute Teacher

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 Teachers:			DW		2024-2025	
				\$150./day		
				\$175./day 11 + days		
Herron	Michele					
Swiatkowsky	Elizabeth					

Action (Consent): F. 2024-2025 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
Student Teachers/Observers/Interns:				2024-2025	
Butindall	Theresa	Elementary	FA	Fall	
Marshall	Summer	Elementary	SB	Fall	

Action (Consent), Procedural: G. 2024-2025 Annual Appointment - Stipend Adjustment**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENT
Annual Appointment:					2024-2025	
Alfano	Caitlin	Chair/Art (K-8)	Elementary/JHS	\$5,111.		[stipend adjustment]

9. PERSONNEL - CIVIL SERVICE PERSONNEL 23-C-4**Action (Consent): A. Leave of Absences - FA/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
Vargas	Elizabeth	Paraprofessional (special education aide)	FA		9/23/24-6/30/25	Leave of Absence
Nowakowski	Tina Marie	Paraprofessional (special education aide)	TA		10/10/24-6/30/25	Leave of Absence

Action (Consent): B. Resignations-JH/SA/TA/DW**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
Hammel	Liam	Custodial Worker I	HS		8/23/24	Resignation
Prendergast	Lauren	Paraprofessional	JH		9/4/24	Resignation
Bloodnick	Erin	Paraprofessional	TA		6/30/24	Resignation
Vogel	Charles	PT/Driver/Messenger	DW		9/24/24	Resignation to Retire
Vega Guillen	Karla	Food Service Worker 'B'	JH		9/30/24	Resignation
Pereira	Amanda	Clerk	HS		9/30/24	Resignation

Kuffo	Michael	Custodial Worker I	SA		10/15/24	Resignation
Roos	Adam	Custodial Worker I	JH		10/15/24	Resignation

Action (Consent): C. Reassignment - Food Service Worker

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
Diaz	Tania	Food Service Worker 'B'	TA	Step 10/ \$20.92/hr.	9/30/24	Reassigned to FSW 'B' [from FSW 'A' at FA-ending on 9/27/24]

Action (Consent): D. 2024-2025 PAC Technicians - DW

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
PAC Technicians:			DW	\$39.79/hr.	2024-2025	
DeGaetano	Daria					
Heaton	Bryan					
Henshaw	Kyle					
Hernandez	Ashlyn					[from Asst. PAC tech]
Lewis	Ryan					[from Asst. PAC tech]
Mecalianos	Peter					
Ragone	Ryan					
Rossomangno	James					[from Asst. PAC tech.]
Valenti	Joseph					

Action (Consent): E. Probationary Appointments-TA/JH

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
DeRosa	Nicole	Paraprofessional (school monitor)	JH	Step 1/ \$18.98/hr.	10/2/24	Probationary Appt.
Raduazzo	Stephanie	Paraprofessional (classroom aide)	TA	Step 1/ \$18.98/hr.	10/15/24	Probationary Appt.
Castaneda	Ena	Food Service Worker 'B'	JH	Step 1/ \$18.50/hr.	10/2/24	Probationary Appt.

Action (Consent): F. 2024-2025 Per Diem Substitutes-DW

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 Substitutes:			DW		2024-2025	
Maloney	Margaret	Food Service Worker		\$16./hr.		
Santana	Aurelia	Food Service Worker		\$16./hr.		[emergency conditional appt.]
Prendergast	Lauren	Clerical/Paraprofessional		\$16./hr.		
Misra	Sandrama	Food Service Worker		\$16./hr.		[emergency conditonal appt.]

10. FINANCE

Action (Consent): A. Acceptance of External Auditor's Report

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education accepts the Independent External Auditor's Report, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, as presented to the Audit Committee by Mr. Michael J. Leone, CPA Partner from the firm of Cullen and Danowski, LLP.

Action (Consent): B. Eastern Suffolk Boces Participant Resolution

WHEREAS, the West Babylon Union Free School District is a municipal or educational corporation participating in the Board of Cooperative Education Services, First Supervisory District of Suffolk County ("Eastern Suffolk Boces") Cooperative Bidding Program ("Program"); and

WHEREAS, the Participant is required to execute an Insurance and Indemnification Agreement as a condition of participation in any bid/request for proposal contract awarded through the Program.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Participant's Board of Education President or designee is hereby authorized to execute any Participant Insurance and Indemnification Agreement required to enter into any contract awarded through the Program.

11. CURRICULUM

None

12. FACILITIES

None

13. POLICY REVIEW

Action: A. Tabled from September 24, 2024 BOE Meeting: Second Time Reading and Adoption: New Policy 2300 Board Of Education Membership

Motion to waive Second Time Reading of Policy 2300 and adopt as revised.

Motion by Ray Downey, second by Anthony Raccmandato.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, Ray Downey, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville, Anthony Raccmandato, Stephan Maucere

Action: B. Tabled from September 24, 2024 BOE Meeting: First Time Reading: Policy 3220 West Babylon Schools Organization Chart 2024

Motion to waive First Time Reading and Adopt Policy 3220 as Revised.

Motion by Ray Downey, second by Anthony Raccomandato.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, Ray Downey, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville, Anthony Raccomandato, Stephan Maucere

Action: C. Tabled from September 24, 2024 BOE Meeting: Consolidation of: Policies 2210 BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING; 2310 REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS; 2320 SPECIAL MEETINGS; 2340 NOTICE OF MEETINGS; 2340-R NOTICE OF MEETINGS Regulations; 2342 AGENDA PREPARATION AND DISSEMINATION; 2350 AGENDA FORMAT; 2352 RULES OF ORDER; 2360 MINUTES; 2382 BROADCASTING AND TAPING OF BOARD MEETINGS; 2330 EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Motion to incorporate policies 2210 BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING; 2310 REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS; 2320 SPECIAL MEETINGS; 2340 NOTICE OF MEETINGS; 2340-R NOTICE OF MEETINGS Regulations; 2342 AGENDA PREPARATION AND DISSEMINATION; 2350 AGENDA FORMAT; 2352 RULES OF ORDER; 2360 MINUTES; 2382 BROADCASTING AND TAPING OF BOARD MEETINGS; 2330 EXECUTIVE SESSIONS into revised Policy 2350.

Motion by Ray Downey, second by Anthony Raccomandato.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, Ray Downey, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville, Anthony Raccomandato, Stephan Maucere

Action: D. Tabled From September 24, 2024 BOE Meeting: First Time Reading: Revised Policy 2350 Board Of Education Meetings; Types, Agendas, Procedures and Minutes

Motion to waive First Time Reading of Policy 2350 and move to Second Time Reading and Adoption.

Motion by Ray Downey, second by Roseann Geiger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, Ray Downey, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville, Anthony Raccomandato, Stephan Maucere

14. OLD BUSINESS

Discussion: Long Range Planning; Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Farrelly provided the board and community with an update on the district's long-range planning. She began her report by stating that the Board of Education asked her to explore ways to increase revenue and efficiencies and to explore the consolidation of our elementary schools. As a result, the district established a Long Range Planning Committee. The Long Range Planning Committee consists of parents, teachers, Town of Babylon historians, the district architect, administrators, and outside presenters. The Long Range Planning Committee held its first meeting. The charge and mission of the committee were discussed and clearly outlined. All members understand their charge is to research and ultimately present the information to the BOE in January for the Board of Education to make a decision. At the next LRP meeting, a BOCES representative will present our enrollment study to the committee.

The administrative team and principals are in the process of reporting all classroom usage in a shared database. The district is also in the process of meeting with a transportation specialist who will analyze the transportation impact of consolidating elementary schools into 4 schools - Princeton model and K-5 model.

STATEMENT OF RESIDENTS - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

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

None

15. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion: A. Discussion - PTA Policy and Security Exception Request; Board of Education

A discussion was held among board members regarding a request from the Parent Teacher Association to set aside \$9,000 for security at PTA events. The Board agreed to allow PTA presidents to request up to 6 hours of paid security coverage for after-school PTA events (such as the Fall Festival). Any requests beyond 6 hours of security coverage will be considered by the Board at the start of the spring semester.

The preparation time before and after a PTA event does not require security coverage, and events with fewer than approximately 200 attendees will not require security to be scheduled

16. RESIDENTS STATEMENTS

Procedural: A. Statements of Residents

The PTA President thanked the Board for considering this and expressed disappointment in the original PTA request not being approved. She asked if the Board's recommendation is effective now, as guidance is needed to prepare for the events. Dr. Farrelly responded that it is effective immediately and the PTA presidents will be receiving official correspondence from her with a summary.

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17. ADJOURNMENT

Action: A. Adjourn Meeting at (by 10:00 pm)

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting at 9:09pm.

Motion by Ray Downey, second by John Evola.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Chris Paolillo, Ray Downey, John Evola, Roseann Geiger, Cathy Gismervik, Chirsten Johnson Tymann, Patti Neville, Anthony Raccomandato, Stephan Maucere