

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MEETING OF JANUARY 28, 2025**

**\*\*\*The January 28, 2025 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 28, 2025 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 PAC Auditorium of the West Babylon Senior High School, 500 Great East Neck Road, West Babylon, New York  
The meeting was held in-person**

**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, Deputy Superintendent for Human Resources & Mrs. Denise Gillis, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations & Mr. Scott Payne, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction.

**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, Superintendent Evaluation, Special Education Student Placements and Heads and Chiefs Negotiations.**

Motion by John Evola, second by Anthony Raccomandato.

**Final Resolution: Motion Carried**

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

**2. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT AND/OR EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION**

**Discussion: A. Discussion: Long Range Planning - Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools**

Dr. Farrelly thanked the community for joining. Prior to initiating the presentation, she made a few acknowledgments regarding the district.

- The Junior High School Drama Club is very excited to perform The Lion King Jr. this year.  
The performances will be Thursday, January 30, 2025, and Friday, January 31, 2025 at 7:00 pm each evening.
- West Babylon High School Music Department and Drama Club will be presenting the musical comedy "SOMETHING ROTTEN" on Thursday, February 6th at 7 PM and Friday and Saturday 7th and 8th at 8 PM.

The community was encouraged to attend and show their support for the students. She then informed the community that she would be departing the meeting at 7 o'clock to attend a portion of my daughter's drama production.

Dr. Farrelly redirected the discourse to the long-range planning process. Subsequent to the initial presentation at the January 14th BOE meeting, the Board of Education requested a BOE workshop to address outstanding inquiries regarding the grade level model research that was presented on that date. As such, a period of time was allocated for the purpose of conducting a comparative analysis of the kindergarten-through-fifth grade model and the K - 2nd and the 3-5th grade model.

Dr. Farrelly informed the community that on February 10, the district will be conducting a Public Hearing in the PAC (Senior High School). During that hearing, a similar comprehensive presentation will be provided, encompassing all the information previously shared on January 14th, in addition to the inquiries and responses that have been posed by community members. During the public hearing session, community members will have the opportunity to make additional statements. The Board of Education will resume its discussion on the matter at the February 11 Board meeting.

Concluding her report, Dr. Farrelly invited Ms. VanLiew, the principal of JFK elementary and a member of the long-range planning committee, to review the two models that had been considered throughout the process.

Ms. VanLiew presented a comprehensive description on the merits and drawbacks of the K-2/ 3-5 and K-5 elementary models.

### **3. PUBLIC SESSION- 6:00 PM**

#### **Action: A. Approval of Minutes of previous Meeting(s): Regular BOE Meeting of 1/14/25.**

Motion to Approve the Minutes of Regular BOE Meeting of 1/14/25.

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

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

**None**

#### **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**

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

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

Mr. Paolillo motioned for an extension of the allotted time for residents to deliver their statements. The current limit of 15 minutes was increased to 30 minutes. This motion was initially put forth by Vice President Geiger, and subsequently seconded by Trustee Raccomandato.

A number of residents of the community have expressed concerns regarding the closure of Forest Elementary, as well as questions relating to the closure. Some community members discussed how the district's financial situation has impacted them, but has also expressed support for the decision to close the elementary school.

Dr. Farrelly exited the board meeting at 7:00pm.

#### **5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

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

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

\*\* Mr. Paolillo, the president of the board, elucidated that the availability of the Universal Prekindergarten (UPK) program will be contingent upon the level of financial support provided by the state government. The UPK is a state-funded initiative, and its implementation will be determined by the availability of state funding.

Mr. Paolillo inquired with Mr. Hanley, the Deputy Superintendent for Human Resources, as to whether he had any additional comments to offer. Mr. Hanley proceeded to address the inquiries that had been posed by the residents of the districts.

**6. BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Action (Consent): A. Authorization for Board President and Superintendent of Schools to sign Employment Agreement - M. Maddi - School Transportation Supervisor**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education authorizes the Board President and the Superintendent of Schools to sign an Employment Agreement, with Mr. Michael Maddi, School Transportation Supervisor, for the period February 3, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

**Action (Consent): B. 2024-2025 Service Contract - Variety Child Learning Center**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves Variety Child Learning Center to provide educational services to West Babylon Special Education students during the 2024-2025 school year.

**Action (Consent): C. 2024-2025 Service Contract - Half Hollow Hills Central School District (District of Location)**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves Half Hollow Hills UFSD as the District of Location for parentally placed West Babylon students to receive related services during the 2024-2025 school year.

**Action (Consent): D. 2024-2025 Service Contract - South Huntington UFSD**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon UFSD approve South Huntington UFSD to provide educational and related services to parentally placed West Babylon students during the 2024-2025 school year.

**7. PERSONNEL - BOARD OF EDUCATION 23-A-6**

**8. PERSONNEL - PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL 23-P-11**

**Action (Consent) A. Resignation - FA**

**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
Williams	Hannah	Teaching Assistant	FA		1/29/25	Resignation

**Action (Consent): B. Regular Substitute Appointments - SB/FA**

**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

Bonofiglio	Christina	Regular Substitute/ Special Education	SB	Step A-7-1/ \$66,540. (prorate)	Second Semester, 2024-2025, or sooner at district's discretion	[certs: SWD 1-6, Pre-K, Kgn. & Gr. 1-6]
DiMarco	Carlo	Regular Substitute/ Social Worker	FA/SB	Step A-5-1/ \$61,187. (prorate)	Second Semester, 2024-2025, or sooner at district's discretion	[cert: School Social Worker]

**Action (Consent): C. 2024-2025 Salary Adjustments**

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

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME		STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
<b>Salary Adjustments:</b>		<b>TO:</b>		2024-2025	
Benardos	Hannah	A-3-1/\$56,090. (prorate @ 30%)			Final transcript review Retroactive to 12/16/2024
Sirel	Lianna	A-3-1/\$56,090. (prorate)			Final transcript review Retroactive to 12/2/2024

**Action (Consent): D. 2024-2025 Additional Section Ended - 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
<b>Additional Section:</b>					2024-2025	
Lulkin	Tara	Mathematics (.1)	JH	Step A-9-21/ \$121,737. (prorate @ 10%)	12/20/24	[Additional Section Ended last day 12/20/24]

**Action (Consent): E. Winter/Spring Coaching, 2024-2025**

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

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	COMMENTS
<b>Coaches:</b>					2024-2025	Pending Certifications

Seale	Catherine	JV Assistant	Cheerleading	\$3,968.	Winter, 2024-2025	
Wegener	Christina	JHS Asst.	Gymnastics	\$3,968.	Spring, 2024-2025	

**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
<b>Student Teachers/Observers/Interns:</b>				<b>2024-2025</b>	
Minick	Hannah	English	JH	Spring	
Oppenheimer	Mark	Athletic Intern	DW	Spring	
Ronzetti	Joseph	Math	JH	Spring	
Rush	Danielle	Health	HS	Spring	
Walen	Rebecca	Art	JH	Spring	

**Action (Consent): G. 2024-2025 Per Diem Substitute Teachers**

**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>Per Diem Substitute Teachers:</b>					2024-2025	
				\$150./day		
				\$175/day 11 + days		
Beckerman	Hailey		SA			[cert; SWD 1-6; B-2; Childhood Ed 1-6; B-2]
Jonasson	Christopher	.2 PDS	HS	\$150./day (Prorate @20%)		[in addition to his current teaching position]
"	"	"	"	\$175./day 11 + days(Prorate @20%)	1/13/25-6/30/25	
Williams	Hannah		FA		1/30/25-6/30/25	

**9. PERSONNEL - CIVIL SERVICE PERSONNEL 23-C-10**

**Action (Consent): A. Leaves of Absence - JH/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

Wolk	Pamela	Paraprofessional (special education aide)	JH		1/13/25-6/30/25	Leave of Absence
Delvalle	Margie	Paraprofessional (special education aide)	JK		"	"

**Action (Consent): B. Resignations - SA/Trans./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
Flores Ramos	Sandra	Lead Food Service Worker	SA		1/21/25	Resignation
Tese	Patricia	School Bus Driver	Trans.		1/22/25	Resignation
Cabrera	Arlene	Paraprofessional	HS		2/11/25	Resignation

**Action (Consent): C. Probationary Appointments - JH/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
Bova	Tyler	Paraprofessional (school monitor)	JH	Step 1/ \$18.98/hr.	2/4/25	Probationary Appointment [emergency conditional appt.]
White	Roseann	Paraprofessional (10 Month Clerk)	HS/Print shop	Step 1/ \$18.98/hr.	2/26/25	Probationary Appointment [emergency conditional appt.]

**Action (Consent): D. Provisional Appointment - Transportation - Adjusted Start Date**

**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

Maddi	Michael	School Transportation Supervisor	Trans.	\$125,000. (prorate)	2/3/25	Adjusted Start Date Provisional Appointment [pending civil service approval] [emergency conditional appt.]
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**Action (Consent): E. Temporary Appointment - 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
Leoni-Newell	Adrianna	Office Assistant	Trans.	Step 1/ \$35,709. (prorate)	2/3/25-5/2/25, or sooner at district's discretion	Temporary Appointment [from pds] [pending approval from civil service]

**Action (Consent): F. Temporary Appointments End Date adjustments - HS/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
Neilson	Brian	Chief Custodian	HS	Step 2/ \$73,880. +750. (longevity) (prorate)	2/2/25-6/15/25, or earlier at district's discretion	[Temporary Appointment from CWII]
Sackett	Christopher	Acting Custodial Worker II	JH	\$2,100. (prorate)	2/2/25-6/15/25, or earlier at district's discretion	[from CWI-supervisor stipend]

**Action (Consent): G. 2024-2025 NYS Assessments - Exam Translator**

**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	Maria	Exam Translator		\$60./hr.	January, 2025	[up to 20 hrs.] [repl. Y. Flores]
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**Action (Consent): H. Prior Service Credit - SA**

**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
Buonocore	Jennifer	Office Assistant	SA	Step 3/ \$38,783. (prorate)	12/12/24	Prior Service Credit [experience verified]

**Action (Consent): I. 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
<b>Per Diem Substitutes:</b>				\$16.50/hr.	2024-2025	
Bredenkamp	Lenore	Office Assistant	BO		1/29/25-6/30/25	[Emergency Conditional Appointment]
Doerrbecker	Willem	Custodial Worker	DW		"	"
Figueroa	Spencer	Custodial Worker	DW		"	"
Flores Ramos	Sandra	Food Service Worker	DW		"	"

**10. FINANCE**

**Action (Consent): A. School Lunch Report November 2024**

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 (Consent): B. School Lunch Report December 2024**

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

**Information: C. Schedule of Bills - January 9, 2025 Accounts Payable Check Run**

**Information: D. Schedule of Bills - January 23, 2025 Accounts Payable Check Run**

**Action (Consent): E. Approval of 2024-2025 Seneca Consulting Group, Inc. Services Agreement**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves Seneca Consulting Group, Inc. as its authorized agent, to transmit specific information returns documents, to the IRS on behalf of the District.

**Action (Consent): F. Approval of Treasurer's Report - November 2024**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Treasurer's Report for the month of November, 2024.

**Action (Consent): G. Approval of Budget Transfer**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following budget transfer:

Account Code	Account Description	From	To
A9060.8000	Health Insurance	3,035.00	
A9063.8000	Retiree Half Opt Out		3,035.00
	Additional Retirees Late Submissions		

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

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the following budget transfer:

Account Code	Account Description	From	To
A1910.4490	Unallocated Insurance & Loss Fund	15,800.00	
A1670.4660-00-00	Postage Reserve Account		15,800.00
	Postage Needed for Year End Mailings		

**Action (Consent): I. Approval of Budget Transfers**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the budget transfers listed on the attachment.

**Action (Consent): J. Obsolete Equipment - SHS**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education declares 2 Blodgett Ovens at the Senior High School obsolete. The ovens were purchased on 7/1/1990 and are outdated and do not work properly.  
WB # 20072501 and 20072502

**Action (Consent): K. Acceptance of Donation - JK**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education gratefully accepts a donation, from the Stop and Shop Rewards Program, in the amount of \$52.00. This donation will be deposited into JFK's Trust and Agency account.

## **11. CURRICULUM**

**None**

## **12. FACILITIES**

**None**

## **13. POLICY REVIEW**

**None**

## **14. OLD BUSINESS**

**None**

## **15. NEW BUSINESS**

**None**

## **16. RESIDENTS STATEMENTS**

### **Procedural: A. Statements of Residents**

A second opportunity was provided for residents to share their statements. More residents and parents shared their concerns regarding the consolidation of elementary schools. One resident inquired about the possibility of allowing the community to vote on the consolidation of the elementary schools. School Attorney Mr. Christopher Venator clarified that the decision to consolidate the elementary schools, as per Commissioner directive, lies solely with the Board of Education. She also clarified some rumors that were circulating about Santapogue Elementary, emphasizing that the school is safe and that there is no evidence of a collapsing roof. Mr. Paolillo inquired about a few additional points, which Mr. Hanley addressed. Following the statement by the residents, Mr. Paolillo reiterated that the UPK is sponsored by SCOPE and SCOPE educators. The program's continuation is contingent upon state funding.

**\*\* The January 28, 2025 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 7:32pm.

Motion by Cathy Gismervik, second by Stephan Maucere.

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

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