

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING OF APRIL 22, 2025**

*****The April 22, 2025 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 22, 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 Board Room of the Administration Building,
10 Farmingdale Road, West Babylon, New York.
The meeting was held in-person**

Members present

Chris Paolillo, 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, Mr. Scott Payne, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Mrs. Victoria Galante, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations, Ms. Christine Durant, Esq. SchoolAttorney and Jailin Parada, District Clerk.

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 Heads and Chiefs Negotiations, Forest Avenue Lease Agreement and
Conduct Interviews for the Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations position.**

Motion by John Evola, second by Cathy Gismervik.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

2. PUBLIC SESSION-7:05 PM

Action: A. Approval of Minutes of previous Meeting(s): Regular BOE Meeting of 4/8/25.

Motion by Anthony Raccomandato, second by John Evola.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

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

Dr. Farrelly thanked the community for joining. Prior to commencing the presentations, Dr. Farrelly delivered a series of updates to the community:

Elementary Consolidation Update

- Notification letters sent on 4/11/25
- Parent Square message sent on 4/14/25
- Students entered into the Eschool Scheduling Year
- Room availability reviewed at each location - 4/11-4/12/25
- Building Principal meetings completed week of 4/11/25 to review sections and tentative staff relocation
- Forest Avenue Elementary staff relocation as of 3/31/25
- The majority of the staff have been notified of building locations and tentative grade assignments by phone. Letters will be sent within the next few days.
 - Support staff remains tentative in response to student needs at each location.
 - Elective areas remain tentative in response to the final master schedule
- Non-instructional staff second meetings to review building placement are being scheduled for this week.
- Student placements for ENL students and students recommended for special programs, such as integrated setting and self-contained special class programs, will receive notification of placement either during their upcoming CSE meeting or as a follow-up from the Student Services office.
- Questions relating to the attendance zone can be sent to Mr. Hanley, Mr. Payne, or me via email. FAQ Document being developed, which will be posted to our website.
- Specific student exception requests for BOE consideration have been shared with the BOE. A response will be sent accordingly.

Transportation for next year:

- Dr. Farrelly has received inquiries regarding transportation limitations. Accordingly, she provided a brief update on transportation limitations. Legislation stipulates that boards of education are obligated to provide transportation for students in kindergarten through eighth grade who reside between two and 15 miles from their school. Furthermore, students in grades nine through 12 who live between three and 15 miles from their school are also entitled to transportation.
- The West Babylon School District's Board of Education has authorized transportation for students residing in the school district. Transportation is available for all elementary school students residing between .5 and 15 miles from school, as well as all junior and senior high school students residing between .8 and 15 miles from school. (Policy 8400)

Budget:

BOE adopted the 2025-2026 proposed Budget on April 8, 2025. The proposed budget being presented to the community is \$136,150,120. Next year's proposed budget is \$199,155 less than this year's school budget. The proposed tax levy is at our tax cap of 2.06%. All required reporting/documentation is being completed. The budget hearing is scheduled to take place on May 13th in the Board Room. The district budget vote and trustee election will take place on May 20th from 6 am to 9 pm in the administration building and Santapogue.

BOCES is holding the 2025-2026 BOCES Budget Vote and BOCES Board Trustees Election: April 22, 2025 -- 7:00 PM -- Administration Building

The final budget presentation can be found on the district website. Questions relating to the budget may be sent to Mrs. Galante, Mr. Hanley (personnel), Mr. Payne (student programs), or directly to me.

Next Year's Elementary Enrichment Program:

Dr. Farrelly was pleased to inform that it was recently determined that there is sufficient staffing to reinstate a new enrichment program for students. This initiative will closely resemble last year's enrichment program. Once next year's schedule and programs are fully established (sections, elementary schedule, student criteria, student numbers, etc.), the district will provide a board presentation overview of the program.

Field Trips:

- During the current school year, the district did not allocate any budget funds for field trips. This was removed after last year's initial budget failed. For next year, 25-26, the budget was set at \$14,000 for field trips. Please note that transportation is not included in this budget line. This is exclusively to cover entrance fees for some school trips, including visits to notable locations such as Old Bethpage Restoration and Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery. The allocation will be distributed among the schools. It should be noted that this does not guarantee that every class will go on a trip. Trips such as the 11th grade trip to NYC 9/11 sites, visits to SUNY Colleges, or any trip that required transportation outside of our transportation department, midday timing, will not be included. Classroom field trips are organized by classroom teachers and approved by the building principal during the school year. They are not pre-planned by the Administration. Once the community has approved the budget, a field trip spreadsheet will be created and shared with the principals to ensure budgetary compliance.

UPK Update

The Universal Pre K (UPK) lottery is scheduled to take place on April 30th. Information regarding this matter can be found on the district website. At this time, it is anticipated that there will be approximately five UPK classes in the district and one with a local UPK provider. However, this is subject to change. The district will provide further details as this process progresses. Dr. Farrelly emphasized that the sustainability of the UPK program hinges on its ability to secure grant funding.

Thank you:

Dr. Farrelly concluded her statement by expressing her gratitude to everyone who reached out during this challenging period for her and her family. The expressions of kindness, gestures, love, support, and compassion have been deeply meaningful to her and her family. She expressed her gratitude to the community for their support and well-wishes. She also expressed her gratitude to Mr. Hanley, Mr. Payne, Ms. Galante, the administrators, the administration office assistants, and the Board of Education for their support.

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**Information: A. 2025-2026 Budget Timeline Information: Dr. Yiendhy Farrelly, Superintendent of Schools**

Dr. Farrelly reiterated that the budget vote and trustee election is scheduled for May 20th.

Presentation: B. Program Evaluation Presentations: Art Department

Ms. Alfano, in her capacity as chairperson, presented a comprehensive report on the art program. She divided it into three categories: She divided it into three sections: K–5, 6–8, and 9–12.

Presentation: C. Program Evaluation Presentations: Music Department

Mr. Doran, in his capacity as chairperson, presented a comprehensive report of the music program. He divided it into three categories:

- Music K-5
- Instrumental Music 4-5
- Music 6-8

Presentation: D. Presentation: Summer 2026 Capital Projects, Mr. John Grillo, AIA - JAG Architects

Mr. Grillo and Mr. Logiudice, our Facilities Director, delivered a joint presentation on our capital project. During the presentation, the team provided a comprehensive overview of the JHS exterior project, outlining the specific areas to be addressed, including the tennis court area, the seating area, the basketball courts, and the entranceway. They also presented the estimated project costs. Additionally, the plan was to allocate the Junior High

School's designated funds to renovate the FACS Rooms and Technology Rooms as part of the 2022 bond referendum project. Following a thorough discussion, it was determined that the FACS Room or Technology Rooms will not be feasible for the project. Mr. Grillo will be responsible for processing the surveys and will return to the board for final approval before documents are sent to the state.

4. STATEMENT OF RESIDENTS - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

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

A member of the community expressed their gratitude to the board for their volunteer work. She expressed her desire for the budget vote to be successful. If it does not pass, she acknowledges that the children will not benefit from that. During her statement, she respectfully requested that the board consider reinstating clubs and enrichment programs at the elementary level that do not require AIS, the Academic Center for the Junior High School, as well as offering more elective courses. Furthermore, she expressed her support for Mr. Moran's program evaluation presentation, which included a request for increased budgetary resources for music, the acquisition of additional instruments, and the appointment of specialized building instructors. Additionally, she voiced her concerns regarding the district's busing situation. She also proposed that the district release the time scheduled for the schools that the students would be attending earlier than August. This would alleviate the stress of seeking before and after care for parents. She concluded her report by expressing her gratitude to all those who facilitated the participation of the SHS student in the Blue and Gold event. She encouraged the Board to participate in these events.

Another community member inquired about the line-by-line budget document, particularly the zeroed-out TBA Forest items.

Another community member inquired with the board about the policy regarding parents' participation in paying for or contributing to field trips.

Dr. Farrelly provided a response to the community members' inquiries, addressing their concerns in a satisfactory manner. She indicated that once Forest employees are transferred to their new locations, the associated budget lines would be transferred to the new budget lines. The multi-year music instrument expenditure plan was paused last year as a result of the budget. It was confirmed by Mr. Doran that the priority music instruments were purchased by Mr. Doran. At some point in the near future, we do want to add to reinstate the academic center, proposed music instrument, and athletics multi-year replacement plan and other reductions previously made due to last year's failed budget.

Community members with questions regarding next year's proposed budget are encouraged to call a member of the central team.

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 Anthony Raccomandato, second by John Evola.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

**** After the consent of the agenda, Dr. Farrelly extended her congratulations to the following professionals regarding their tenure recommendations:**

Brutto	Carmela	Special Education
Dellaratta	Gina	Elementary
Montesion	Krystal	Elementary
Ohman	Jennifer	Speech
Sconone	Sean	School Guidance Counselor
Shulman	Michele	ENL
Smolin	Amanda	Elementary
Maio	Angela	Special Education

6. BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action (Consent): A. Authorization for Board President and Superintendent of Schools to Sign Employment Agreement - S. Payne

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education authorizes the Board President and the Superintendent of Schools to sign an Employment Agreement, with, Mr. Scott Payne, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, for the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028.

Action (Consent): B. Approval of CSEA Non-instructional Memorandum of Agreement - Sick Bank Days Donation

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the CSEA Non-Instructional Unit memorandum of agreement relating to the donation of sick bank days to an employee made known during executive session.

7. 2025-2026 Western Suffolk BOCES

Action (Consent): A. Approval of Western Suffolk BOCES 2025-2026 Administrative and Capital Budget

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Western Suffolk BOCES 2025-2026 Administrative and Capital Budget in the amount of **\$421,568**.

Action (Consent): B. Election of Western Suffolk BOCES Board of Education Trustees

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education will cast one vote for each of the three vacancies to serve on the Western Suffolk BOCES Board of Education:

One vote for: Brian Sales

One vote for: Peter Wunsch

One vote for: Ilene Herz, Esq.

8. PERSONNEL - BOARD OF EDUCATION 23-A-11

None

9. PERSONNEL - PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL 23-P-18**Action (Consent): A. Tenure Recommendations**

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following professional personnel who have successfully completed their annual reviews are appointed to tenure as listed below:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	SCHOOL/AREA	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS
Brutto	Carmela	Special Education	9/1/25	
Dellaratta	Gina	Elementary	"	
Montesion	Krystal	Elementary	"	
Ohman	Jennifer	Speech	"	
Sconone	Sean	School Guidance Counselor	"	
Shulman	Michele	ENL	"	
Smolin	Amanda	Elementary	"	
Maio	Angela	Special Education	10/6/25	

Action (Consent): B. 2024-2025 ENL/Science/Math 6/Special Education - Title I Grant Funded - JHS

"LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/AREA	STEP/SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	DESCRIPTION/COMMENT
2024-25			JHS	\$64.27/hr.	Remainder of the 2024-2025 school year	Title I Grant
ENL, Science, Math, Special Ed			JHS			Up to 20 hrs.
ENL Teachers			JHS			"
Salas	Kathryn		JHS			"
Shulman	Michele		JHS			"
Science Teachers			JHS			"
Behar	Tracy		JHS			"
Delaney	Kevin		JHS			"
Kowalik	Jennifer		JHS			"
Kronenbitter	Linda		JHS			"
Nettuno	Thomas		JHS			"
Niles	Jennifer		JHS			"
Ring	Mickla		JHS			"
Theo	Harry		JHS			"
Math 6 Teachers			JHS			"
Ging	Frank		JHS			"
Iliou	Athena		JHS			"
Riviezzo	Frank		JHS			"
Special Education			JHS			"
Asher	Samantha		JHS			"
Delaney	Wendy		JHS			"
DiRocco	Denise		JHS			"

Duca	Lauren	JHS	"
Ging	Lisa	JHS	"
Gordon	Pamela	JHS	"
Groel	Elaina	JHS	"
Henthorne	Debra	JHS	"
Maio	Angela	JHS	"
Muzio	Christine	JHS	"
Rodgers	Ian	JHS	"
Shaw	Lauren	JHS	"
Shein	Jaimie	JHS	"
Shield	Joanne	JHS	"
Torre	Andrew	JHS	"
Vento	Kristen	JHS	"
White	Nicole	JHS	"
Woods	Lauren	JHS	"

Action (Consent): C. 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
Coaching:						
Williams	Hannah	JHS Asst.	Lacrosse (G)	\$4,221. (prorate @ 50%)	Spring, 2024-2025 [working first half of season]	Resignation
Erhart	Alexandra	JHS Asst.	Lacrosse (G)	\$4,221. (prorate @ 50%)	2nd Half of Spring Season, 2024-2025	[repl. Hannah Williams]
Schlott	Darcie	Volunteer	Track & Field (G)	-\$0.-	Spring, 2024-2025	

Action (Consent): D. 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
Per Diem Substitute Teachers:			DW		2024-2025	
				\$150./day		
				\$175/day 11 + days		
Dallaris	Cleopatra					[cert pending; Max 90 days]

Mastandrea	Brianna					[cert; music]
Sanfilippo	Danielle					[cert: math 7-12]
Szatkowski	Samantha					[cert: physical education]

Action (Consent): E. 2025-2026 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:				2025-2026	
Lettieri	Robert	Social Work	HS	Fall/Spring	
Poulin	Kenneth	Social Work	HS	Fall/Spring	

10. PERSONNEL - CIVIL SERVICE PERSONNEL 23-C-17

Action (Consent): A. Leave of Absence Returnees - SA/SB

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
Cronin	Kristin	Paraprofessional (classroom aide)	SA		4/22/25	Returned from LOA
Zugajewicz	Antoinette	Paraprofessional (school monitor)	SB		5/1/25	Returning from LOA

Action (Consent): B. Leave of Absence Request - 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
Tullo	Doreen	Paraprofessional (special education aide)	HS		4/11/25-6/30/25	Leave of Absence

Action (Consent): C. Resignation - Trans.

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
Canales	Jaris	School Bus Driver	Trans.		4/26/25	Resignation

Action (Consent): D. Prior Service Credit - 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
Kilincarslan	Zuleyha	Cook	JK	Step 2/ \$27,233. (prorate)	3/3/25-6/30/25	Prior Service Credit [experience verified]

11. FINANCE

Action (Consent): A. Acceptance of Corrective Action Plan - Internal Controls of the Food Service Cycle and Risk Assessment Update

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education accepts the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for the Internal Auditors Report - Internal Controls of the Food Service Cycle and Risk Assessment Update for June 2024.

Action (Consent): B. Approval of Treasurer's Report - March 2025

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Treasurer's Report for the month of March, 2025.

Action (Consent): C. Approval of 2025-2026 Property Tax Report Card

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the 2025-2026 State Education Department Property Tax Report Card, as required by the New York State Education Department.

Action (Consent): D. Approval of Budget Transfers

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the budget transfers listed on the attachment to cover payroll encumbrances.

Information: E. Schedule of Bills - April 10, 2025 Accounts Payable Check Run

Action (Consent): F. Approval of 2024-2025 Amityville Union Free School District Health Services Agreement

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Health Services Agreement with Amityville UFSD, to provide health services to West Babylon School District resident students, during the 2024-2025 school year.

Action (Consent): G. Approval of 2024-2025 South Huntington Union Free School District Health Services Agreement

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education approves the Health Services Agreement with South Huntington UFSD, to provide health services to West Babylon School District resident students, during the 2024-2025 school year

Action (Consent): H. Award of Printing Services Bid T-476

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education awards Bid T-476 for printing services to Tobay Printing, as the lowest responsible bidder. This contract may be extended by mutual agreement on an annual basis for a maximum of four years.

12. CURRICULUM

Action (Consent): A. Obsolete SHS Library Books

RESOLVED: that the West Babylon Board of Education declares the attached list of 573 books, located in the Senior High School Library, obsolete. The content is outdated, certain books are worn and others have been replaced with updated editions.

13. FACILITIES

None

14. POLICY REVIEW

None

15. OLD BUSINESS

None

16. NEW BUSINESS

A conversation between Mr. Paolillo, Dr. Farrelly, and Mr. Hanley took place in relation to kindergarten enrollment and the stability of that number as students progress through the grades. At present, there are 209 kindergarten students enrolled, as well as 321 seniors.

A board member inquired about the district's YouTube videos. Mr. Paolillo, Dr. Farrelly and Mr. Hanley informed us that the videos are gradually being restored to the YouTube page. YouTube is currently working on restoring all of the videos to the page.

17. RESIDENTS STATEMENTS

Procedural: A. Statements of Residents

None

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18. ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion to enter into executive session to discuss Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations candidates.

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