

THE BOARD REPORTS

Highlights of the White Plains Board of Education Meeting

August 6, 2007

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Superintendent of Schools **Timothy Connors** asked for a moment of silence in memory of three retired staff members. **Norma Fish** worked in Business Administration for 12 years; **Eleanor Junghans**, Senior School Office Manager at Eastview, was with the district for 32 years; and **Adrienne Mazziotta** was Attendance Clerk at Highlands, with the district for 24 years.

SPECIAL EDUCATION APPOINTMENTS: **Dr. Heidi McCarthy** was appointed Director of Special Programs and Services and will assume her duties at the end of this month. She comes to White Plains from Hastings, where she was Director of Special Education Services for the last four years. **Dr. Lenora Boehlert**, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, described the comprehensive search leading to Dr. McCarthy's appointment.

Karen Kushnir was appointed Committee on Special Education Chairperson, Districtwide. She has served as teacher in the district for the last 18 years, most recently as Learning Facilitator at Mamaroneck Avenue School.

PERSONNEL: The Board accepted the resignation for the purpose of retirement of **Dr. Michael Passow**, Science Teacher at the Middle School-Highlands. Board Member **Sheryl Brady** said Dr. Passow has been an outstanding teacher and will be missed greatly. Mr. Connors commented on Dr. Passow's dedication to the district over the last 22 years.

Three new Probationary teachers were appointed: **Lisette Maniatis** will assume the position of School Psychologist at Post Road School; **Lauren Royce** will teach Elementary Education at Mamaroneck Avenue School; and **Domingo Cabrera** will teach Science at the High School.

TAX CERTIORARI REFUNDS: The Board approved a total of over \$3.2 million in tax refunds to eight different property owners. The Board was advised by counsel that the court is seeking to settle many other outstanding cases before the end of the calendar year.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Several members of the Havilands Lane neighborhood spoke about the removal of trees on the High School property, to make room for a new ball field. They faulted the district's communication and the lack of a plan for the project. Board members had not been aware of this project and expressed their disapproval over the loss of trees and the district's failure to communicate with the neighbors. They assured residents that all work has been stopped. Mr. Connors indicated that he would meet with the neighbors before any further action is taken and before making a recommendation to the Board.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: August 27: Special Meeting, Education House, 7:30 P.M.
September 10: Regular Meeting, Education House, 7:30 P.M.

Editor: Michele Schoenfeld

BOARD MEMBERS: Donna McLaughlin, President; Terry McGuire, Vice President; Peter Bassano; Sheryl Brady, Rosemarie Eller; Charlie Norris, William Pollak