

THE BOARD REPORTS

Highlights of the White Plains Board of Education Meeting

August 10, 2015

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Superintendent of Schools **Dr. Paul Fried** asked for a moment of silence in memory of three staff members and one student who passed away recently. **Marion Collins** was a Teaching Aide at Highlands School for 22 years before retiring in 2012. **Sandy Farduchi** was a Teaching Assistant at White Plains High School for 25 years until she passed away suddenly last week. **Edward Olivari** taught at Battle Hill School and worked in the district for 31 years -- from 1951 to 1982.

Student **Kevin Alvarez** was 8 years old and attended classes at BOCES. He has two brothers in the district, at Eastview and the High School.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Fried reported on the Elementary Summer School in session during the month of July. Approximately 190 students in grades K-3 were served and the average daily attendance rate was 85% -- excellent results for summertime. The program focused on literacy and students were selected based on their need for additional support. Administrator **Gary West** supervised the program, supported by 14 teachers and 6 teaching assistants.

Dr. Fried also reviewed his first six weeks in White Plains and said he has found the environment in the district to be very positive and supportive. He continues to "meet people and learn."

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS: The Board appointed **Sara Hall** to the newly-created position of Administrator for Home Bound Instruction, Superintendent's Hearings and High School Student Activities. Ms. Hall had been a teacher in the district and said she looks forward to this new experience.

Merle Jackson was appointed Assistant Principal at Church Street School, replacing **Myra Castillo** who has become Principal. Ms. Jackson comes to White Plains from the Irvington Schools, where she was a Districtwide Coordinator.

PERSONNEL: The Board accepted the resignations for the purpose of retirement of **Domenica Borsellino**, Food Service Helper at the Highlands Middle School, and **James Cassavecca**, Districtwide Grounds Worker.

Seven new teachers received Probationary appointments for the coming school year. At George Washington School **Roslyn Claytor** will be Library Media Specialist and **Rhoda Havis** will teach Special Education; **Danielle Outstatcher** will teach Reading at Church Street School; **Sarah Beth Kaufman** will be an Elementary Education Teacher at Ridgeway School; **Melissa Hidalgo** will teach Grade 6 Bilingual Science at the Eastview Middle School; and at the High School, **Christopher Nolan** will teach Special Education and **Olympia Pahis** will teach English.

BOARD MEMBERS: Rosemarie Eller, President; Charlie Norris, Vice President; Sheryl Brady, James Hricay, Cayne Letizia, Rose Lovitch, Randy Stein

DONATIONS: The Board accepted the following donations to the district and Dr. Fried thanked the donors for their generosity:

- Garden materials and their installation from the **Class of 2015** for the Senior Courtyard
- \$4,000 from **Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kurtz** for the Margaret L. Kurtz Memorial Scholarship
- \$25 from **Omega Psi Phi Fraternity** for George Washington School
- \$1,411.85 from the **Mamaroneck Avenue School Class of 2015** to upgrade the school's Sensory Room

UPCOMING MEETINGS: August 24: Special Meeting, Education House, 7:30 P.M.
 September 8: Regular Meeting, Education House, 7:30 P.M.

Editor: Michele Schoenfeld