

THE BOARD REPORTS

Highlights of the White Plains Board of Education Meeting

April 8, 2019

MOMENT OF SILENCE: **Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph Ricca** asked for a moment of silence in memory of **Karen Gray**, Senior Clerk Typist and Office Assistant at Highlands and Rochambeau Schools for 26 years.

SCHOLAR-ATHLETES: The Board recognized 157 Scholar-Athletes who met the New York State Public High School Athletic Association qualifications, with teams averaging grades of 90 or better. **Athletic Director Matt Cameron** introduced coaches who presented pins and certificates to members of 10 Winter Varsity Teams: Boys' and Girls' Basketball, Cheerleading, Ice Hockey, Boys' and Girls' Indoor Track, Boys' Swimming, Wrestling, and Boys' and Girls' Bowling. **Board President Rosemarie Eller** congratulated students, their parents and coaches for this wonderful achievement.

BUDGET ADOPTION: The Board voted to adopt the Superintendent's Preliminary Proposed Budget for 2019-2020. Dr. Ricca thanked the Finance Committee for its time and effort on this important work and **Assistant Superintendent for Business Dr. Ann Vaccaro-Teich** and her office as well. He said this budget follows the district's Strategic Plan and provides a great many opportunities for our students yet stays within the tax cap. The majority of expenditures go directly to the children. The budget totals \$226,285,980 with a tax levy increase of 3.44%. Dr. Ricca reviewed the planning process, revenues, expenditures, enrollment and staffing changes. He noted that two additional propositions are being recommended to be placed on the ballot, concerning the Capital Reserve Fund. One authorizes expenditures of up to \$6.4 from the 2016 Fund for Capital Projects. The other authorizes a new 2019 Capital Reserve Fund of up to \$25 million with a term of 10 years for future projects. It was stressed that these incur *no additional costs to taxpayers*.

Budget information is available on the "All About the Budget" page of the District's website, at www.whiteplainspublicschools.org/Page/21330 and the public is encouraged to call the Superintendent with any questions.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Ricca congratulated **High School Principal Ellen Doherty** for her Community Service Award from the Salvation Army and the High School for its participation in the Westchester County Public Health conference facilitated by **Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Pupil Services Deborah Augarten**. He also mentioned a presentation at Con Edison on electric buses with **Director of Transportation Sergio Alfonso** and a press conference at Post Road School with the Youth Bureau and **Congresswoman Nita Lowey** on funding for afterschool programs.

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

PERSONNEL: The Board accepted the resignations for the purpose of retirement of **Elaine Foley**, Transportation Clerk, Education House; **Colleen Iodice**, Registered Professional Nurse, Districtwide; **Wendy Lawner**, Elementary Education Teacher, Post Road School; and **Brenda Madera**, Nurse Coordinator, Districtwide.

Rebecca Eidelman received a probationary appointment as a Science Teacher at the Middle School-Highlands.

DONATIONS: Dr. Ricca thanked the following donors for their generosity:

Citlali Flores for a flute for Post Road School

Friends of White Plains Public Schools for \$500 for a program by Robert Quesada at Eastview and the High School

Donors to various scholarship funds:

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Cintrin for \$50 for the Philip Barnett Fund

Dr. Terri Thomas Klemm for \$1,000 for the Dorothy H. Thomas Fund

Mr & Mrs. James Baker for \$500 for the Frank S. Schmidt Fund

Todd Bohmer for \$500 and **Edward O'Donnell** for \$100 for the Brown Family Fund

Louis Codella for \$200 and **Mr. & Mrs. Justin Anthony** for \$50 for the Liz Fink Hidalgo Fund

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- May 9: Special Meeting, Education House, 6 P.M.
Human Resources Committee of the Whole (The Board will entertain a motion to enter Executive Session relating to individual employment.)
- May 13: Regular Meeting, Education House, 7:30 P.M.
Budget Presentation and Public Hearing
- May 22: Special Meeting, Education House, 5:30 P.M.
Canvass of the District Election and Budget Vote
- May 29: Special Meeting, High School Media Center, 7:30 P.M.
Teacher Tenure (Portfolios on display from 7 P.M.)

Editor: Michele Schoenfeld

BUDGET VOTE & BOARD ELECTION

MAY 21, 2019 -- NOON to 9 P.M

**Call 422-2000 for voting location
or for absentee ballots.**