

# THE BOARD REPORTS

## Highlights of the White Plains Board of Education Meeting

April 9, 2018

**SCHOLAR-ATHLETE RECOGNITION:** **Athletic Director Matt Cameron** introduced the coaches of 10 Winter Varsity Teams who achieved Scholar-Athlete status. They named the 180 athletes who qualified this season, from 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 all the students and thanked coaches and parents who support them.

**2018-19 BUDGET:** The Board voted to adopt the Proposed Budget of \$218,593,020 for 2018-19. **Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph Ricca** reminded everyone of the vote on May 15<sup>th</sup> and also of the two propositions on the ballot. One will ask for approval to use up to \$10 million from the Capital Reserve Fund for school improvement projects in various buildings, *at no extra cost to the taxpayers*. This is a transfer of existing funds. Mrs. Eller thanked the administrators for their hard work on the budget and all those who provided input.

The second proposition would authorize the district to provide transportation to high school students who live more than one mile from their school without a fee. (Students currently pay \$1.75 each way.) The cost is expected to be offset by efficiencies resulting from a thorough transportation study. Dr. Ricca thanked **Assistant Superintendent for Business Dr. Ann Vaccaro-Teich** for leading this initiative, along with **Transportation Director Sergio Alfonso**.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Dr. Ricca reported on the results of the Kindergarten Choice Program for next year. 92% of registrants got their first choice. He also mentioned the successful High School trip to Peru over the Spring break, the upcoming State ELA assessments, the Barnes & Noble "My Favorite Teacher" Ceremony this Thursday, and opening day for Little League on Saturday.

An update on capital projects was provided by the architects and construction company.

**DONATIONS:** Dr. Ricca thanked the following for their donations:

**Friends of White Plains Public Schools** for \$1,000 for scholarships for Post Road School 4<sup>th</sup> graders for the Nature's Classroom trip

**Mekka Media, LLC** for \$5,000 for the High School Science Program

**Sundance Kitchen & Cantina** for lunches for 8 students for Rochambeau School's February Director's Challenge

**Active International** for a Kit for "CPR for Schools" for Eastview School

**Empress Emergency Medical Services Staff** for CPR training for Eastview students plus Legos for Eastview School's Library

**Joseph Sapio** for office furniture for Eastview and Rochambeau Schools

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



**PERSONNEL:** **Deborah Augarten, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Pupil Services,** was awarded a new three-year contract by the Board.

Resignations for the purpose of retirement were accepted from **Torrence Burrowes,** Spanish Teacher, Rochambeau School; **Louise Messina,** Food Service Helper, Middle School-Highlands; **Lynne Rose,** Art Teacher, High School; **Diane Sciortino,** Teaching Assistant, Ridgeway School; and **Amy Zorovich,** Teaching Assistant, George Washington School.

Probationary appointments were given to **Deisy Acevedo,** Earth Science Teacher, Middle School-Highlands; **Michelle Floam,** Special Education Teacher, Mamaroneck Avenue School; **Gabriel Robles,** Elementary Education Teacher, Mamaroneck Avenue School; and **Kristie Trageser,** Special Education Teacher, Ridgeway School.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

- May 7: Regular Meeting, Education House, 7:30 P.M.  
Public Hearing on the 2018-19 Budget
- May 16: Special Meeting, Education House, 5:30 P.M.  
Canvass of the District Election
- May 22: Special Meeting, High School Media Center 7:30 P.M.  
Teacher Tenure
- June 11: Regular Meeting, High School Media Center, 7:30 P.M.  
Recognition of 25-Year and Retiring Staff  
Administrative Tenure  
Public Hearing on the Code of Conduct

Editor: Michele Schoenfeld

### KEY ELECTION DATES:

**CANDIDATE PETITIONS DUE – April 25<sup>th</sup>**

**REGISTRATION DAY – April 28<sup>th</sup>**

**ELECTION DATE – May 15<sup>th</sup>**

*For further information, call 422-2000.*