



THE BOARD REPORTS

Highlights of the White Plains Board of Education Meeting

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

December 14, 2020

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Superintendent of Schools **Dr. Joseph Ricca** asked for a moment of silence in memory of three retired staff members: **Peter Alfano**, Custodian at Rochambeau School from 1983 to 1998; **Jack Armiento**, a Skilled Laborer with the District from 1989 to 2011; and **Hans Freyer**, Assistant Director and Director of Facilities from 1977 to 1993. Dr. Ricca also added the 20 children and 6 adults killed at Sandy Hook eight years ago.

SCHOLAR-ATHLETES: A video of the presentation of Scholar-Athletes certificates was led by **Athletic Director Matt Cameron** who spoke about the excellent fall sports season, despite the Coronavirus. Six coaches read the names of their 78 team members who had 90-or-better averages. **Fred Singleton** presented Boys' Cross Country; **Kaylin Fitzsimmons**, Girls' Cross Country; **Amanda Grant**, Field Hockey; **Michael Lambert**, Boys' Soccer; **Meghan Chase**, Girls' Soccer; and **Stephanie Tock**, Girls' Tennis. **Board President Rosemarie Eller** congratulated the students, their parents and coaches.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Ricca called upon High School Student Liaisons **Fiona Bradley and Yesenia Perez** to update the Board on recent activities. He then introduced **County Executive George Latimer** who has been meeting with school superintendents and, along with the County Health Department, has been engaged as a partner with the schools throughout the Coronavirus.

Dr. Ricca mentioned the resolution on tonight's agenda which calls upon New York State legislators to ensure that public school districts receive the needed support to undertake mandated or Board-approved Covid-19-related expenditures.

Dr. Ricca praised **Nurse Coordinator Maggie Racioppo**, now Covid-19 Coordinator, as per the appointment on tonight's agenda.

LONG-RANGE PLAN: Dr. Ricca thanked all the staff members who participated in the development of this comprehensive document, particularly his Cabinet. The document follows the Strategic Plan and is a valuable tool which allows the Board of Education to make critical long-term decisions to ensure fiscal stability, and, at the same time, protect, preserve and enhance the integrity of the instructional program, develop high performing staff, and maintain the stability of the District's assets and infrastructure. It represents a broad view of the financial landscape and is a flexible document which is constantly updated. Budget projections for this year and next will be greatly affected by the Coronavirus and the guiding principal will be to preserve everything that is in place now. Details can be found in the full plan on the District's website: www.whiteplainspublicschools.org

PERSONNEL: The resignation of **Dr. Jackielyn Manning Campbell**, Director of Human Resources, was accepted by the Board. She will be taking a position in another district.

Jessica Munroe was given a Probationary Appointment as a Special Education Teacher at George Washington School.

Isabel Muniz Modesto, Teaching Assistant at George Washington School, was awarded tenure.

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

Michael Sullivan for 5 Stop & Shop Gift Cards to support Rochambeau School Families

Rose Aglieco for \$250 for the Morton Zucker Memorial Scholarship

D. Hausknecht & Susan Brumer for \$100, **Amy & Michael Weiner** for \$100, **John &**

Eileen Troise for \$100, **the Hamby Family** for \$250, **David & Lori Okun** for \$100 and

Elizabeth Cassidy for \$100, all for the Greenstein Memorial Music Scholarship

The MAS PTA for \$3,000 for enhancement of the Outdoor Learning Center

UPCOMING MEETINGS: January 8: Special Meeting, 5:30 P.M Human Resources
Committee (Executive Session) Zoom

January 11: Regular Meeting, 7:30 P.M., Zoom TBA

Editor: Michele Schoenfeld

Happy
Holidays!