

# THE BOARD REPORTS

## Highlights of the White Plains Board of Education Meeting

February 12, 2018

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Superintendent of Schools **Dr. Joseph Ricca** asked for a moment of silence in memory of four members of the school community. **Alma Cormican** was with the district for 34 years, retiring in 1999. She taught Kindergarten at George Washington and Ridgeway Schools and became President and Chief Negotiator of the White Plains Teachers Association. After retiring, Ms. Cormican joined the Executive Board of New York State United Teachers.

**Norman Lichtenstein** was a distinguished member of the community, serving on the Board of Education from 1980 to 1997, including terms as both President and Vice President of the Board. He was also a Professor of Law at Pace University Law School.

**Virginia Piccini** was a Cafeteria Worker at Highlands and Post Road Schools, from 1982 until retiring in 1995.

**John Simon** taught Math at the High School from 1964 to 1981.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Ricca mentioned various events and accomplishments in recent weeks. He congratulated students in the Science Research Program – **Matt Kaplan, Ryder Rose, Denali Sagner** and **Camilo Villavicencio**, and athletes **Miles Hardy** and **Eisaiah Murphy**, for recent awards. He noted that a new Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources will be named within the next few weeks and thanked **Dr. Linda Ochser, Interim Assistant Superintendent**, and the committee for their work on this.

**Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction Dr. Debbie Hand** presented an overview of the Instructional Budget for 2018-19. She thanked the Cabinet, Principals, Coordinators and the entire staff and said this has been a truly collaborative project. She said that throughout the process, children have been the focus of our discussion –“kids first.” The presentation included recommendations for some additional staffing, additions to programs and some new high school courses. The Superintendent's Preliminary Budget will be presented on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Board members thanked Dr. Hand for this comprehensive presentation.

SCHOOL CALENDAR: The Board approved the school calendar for 2018-19 and it is now posted on the district's website.

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

**Curbside Films, Inc.** for \$1,800 for Highlands Middle School

**Lisa Fee** for musical instruments for Ridgeway School

**Barish & O'Brien** for office furniture for Rochambeau School

**Ernestine Glenn** for \$1,250 for the E. Glenn Creative Writing Scholarship

**Various donors** for \$600 for the Philip Barnett Memorial Scholarship

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

**PERSONNEL:** The Board reluctantly accepted the resignation for the purpose of retirement of **H. Joseph Cloherty**, Principal at Eastview Middle School.

Retirements were also approved for **Eileen Levy**, Office Assistant; Teaching Assistants **Yolanda Cuming**, **Wendy Heanue** and **Leanne Santa-Donato**, as well as 18 teachers: **Jean Berger**, **Jacqueline Cabrera**, **Carolyn Chapman**, **Paula Dalto**, **Frank Ferrigno**, **Deborah Forman**, **Terri Garrity**, **Phoebe Gilman**, **Lorraine Isaac**, **Richard Kaufmann**, **Jane Markham**, **Neal Mettler**, **Lorraine Mollo**, **Nancy Murphy**, **Patricia Posluszny**, **Girija Raveendranath**, **Anthony Russo**, and **Deirdre Washington**,

**Lily Jasper** received a probationary appointment to teach Social Studies at the High School.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

February 26:	Special Meeting, Education House, 7:30 P.M. Non-Instructional Budget
March 12:	Regular Meeting, Education House, 7:30 P.M. Superintendent's Preliminary Budget for 2018-19 Public Hearing/Community Forum
March 19:	Special Meeting, Education House, 7:30 P.M. Budget Workshop

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