

THE BOARD REPORTS



Highlights of the White Plains Board of Education Meeting

June 10, 2019

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Superintendent of Schools **Dr. Joseph Ricca** asked for a moment of silence in memory of **Marjorie Katin-Borland**, a Teacher at Ridgeway and Post Road Schools from 1985 to 2014.

RECOGNITION OF RETIREES & 25-YEAR STAFF: After a reception hosted by the PTA in their honor, **Dr. Ricca and Board President Rosemarie Eller** presented certificates to 33 retirees and 34 twenty-five year staff members. Dr. Ricca thanked these people for their dedication and commitment to the students and community of White Plains.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Ricca thanked the two High School liaisons to the Board this past year, **Pilar Ceron** and **Jackson Reynolds**, for their service. He also acknowledged **Teacher Sue Brumer**, who helped bring about this new initiative. He went on to mention various recent activities, awards, and scholarships, including the Juneteenth and Autism Speaks Parades, the anti-gun violence campaign, the Volunteer breakfast, and One-Book, One-School at Church Street. He reminded students of summer reading and wished everyone a relaxing vacation.

PERSONNEL: Four administrators were awarded tenure: **Myra Castillo**, Principal at Church Street School; **Merle Jackson**, Assistant Principal at Church Street; **Katherine Barpoulis**, Coordinator of Mathematics, K-6 Districtwide; and **Albert LaPorte**, Coordinator of Mathematics 7-12. Dr. Ricca and other senior administrators recommended them highly, saying they are assets to the District.

Tenure was awarded to eight Teaching Assistants: **Cristina Benavidez**, Ridgeway School, **Nancy Bravo**, Church Street School, **Marvin Brice**, George Washington School, **Mike Brice**, Mamaroneck Avenue School, **Kathleen Grahame**, George Washington School, **Felicia Ortiz**, Ridgeway School, **Jonathan Regis**, High School and **Irasema Somoano-Lederman**, Post Road School.

Three teachers received Probationary appointments: **Angie Garcia**, Spanish Teacher, Districtwide; **Chengcheng Zhu**, Foreign Language Teacher, Districtwide; and **Sarah Tom**, Special Education Science Teacher at the High School.

The Board accepted the resignation for the purpose of retirement of **Alejandria Mieles**, Food Service Helper at Ridgeway School.

BUSINESS MATTERS: The Board approved the Tax Warrant for 2019-20 and also the Fund Balance Report and various Reserve Funds.

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

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

Various donors for IPAD stylus pens for the Math Department at Highlands School in memory of William Smythe

William Monahan for a drum set, electric guitar and amplifier for the High School

Diane Travers for \$100 for the **High School Marching Band**

Mr. & Mrs. Baron Hazen for \$200 for two awards at Post Road School

Friends of White Plains Public Schools for a \$250 grant to support the Ridgeway Garden Club

Kurtz Family Fund/Fidelity Charitable Donor-Advised Fund for \$15,000 for the Margaret L. Kurtz Scholarship Fund

Various donors for \$620 for the Dorothy Ann Peters Memorial Scholarship

Daniel Cultice for \$1,500 for the David R. Cultice Memorial Fund

Mark Stagg for \$1,000 for the Arthur "Mickey" Stagg Service Award and \$1,000 for the Mark Stagg and Steve Shell Business Achievement Scholarship

Various donors for \$250 for the Pasquale Evangelista Scholarship

Maria Shafer for \$100 for the Liz Fink Hidalgo Scholarship Fund

Jason Bayuk for \$500 for the Barbara O'Garro Memorial Scholarship

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Woodward for \$200 for the Brown Family Memorial Scholarship

UPCOMING MEETINGS: July 8: Reorganization and Regular Meetings, Education House
7:30 P.M.

Editor: Michele Schoenfeld