

## MINUTES

November 14, 2016  
Regular Meeting  
Education House

Members Present: Rosemarie Eller, Charlie Norris, Sheryl Brady, James Hricay, Cayne Letizia, Rose Lovitch, Randy Stein

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Smith, staff members, guests

Mrs. Eller called the meeting to order at 7:35 P.M., led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Mission Statement.

### I. Opening of Meeting:

#### Announcements by the Board President and Board Members:

Mrs. Eller - reported on a successful Technology Fair, and the Business Olympics, at which White Plains students won first place. The Math Team also won its competition today.

Mrs. Brady - also attended the Technology Fair, a meaningful Veterans Day ceremony at Eastview, and a Special Needs PTA program which was very informative.

Mr. Norris – went to the Singers & Songwriters Club program and also guest lectured at the high school. He commended the students for their insights and their respect of one another.

Presentation on Project Lead the Way: Dr. Margaret Doty, Science Coordinator, led a review of this STEM program, which was introduced at the high school five years ago. Based on a national engineering program, it serves 10 sections and 228 students there now, 56 of whom have earned college credit in the last year. Staff members Lucy Roman, Kathy Barpoulis, Aldwin Martinez and Frances Carlo participated in describing the program and its expansion to other levels in the district. A video showed two students engaged in a specific project. Mrs. Eller thanked the staff members for a very interesting presentation.

### II. Communications: None

### III. Public Participation: Postponed until after Superintendent's Report.

### IV. Superintendent's Report: Dr. Smith congratulated students the Business Education classes of Anna Burns for winning first place in the Business Skills Workshop sponsored by the African American Men of Westchester. Also taking a first place award was the Academic A Team at the MACC meet. Eric Larson is their advisor.

Dr. Smith then reviewed the Dual Language Program and made a recommendation to expand it to a third school, Church Street, to begin with two Kindergarten classes next year. The administration looked at readiness and capability at the three schools which do not have the program and conducted a survey of staff to help them with this decision. We are working from a solid base of experience on this and research points to Dual Language as the most beneficial model for bilingual

education. The program will be tailored to demand and will satisfy the State requirements for ENL instruction.

Turning to School Choice, Dr. Smith said one of the challenges here was to design the School Choice model with more information regarding socio-economic circumstances and move away from a manual system to a computer algorithm. The consultant who helped design our original Choice Program in 1990 will return to assist with this.

Next, Veronica Byrnes of H2M Architects provided a status report on Capital Projects and the schedule of remaining work which is expected to be completed by February of 2017. Ms. Byrnes also mentioned future projects.

Dr. Smith spoke about the importance of accurate enrollment projects and the need for a Demographics and Facilities Analysis for Long Range Planning. The district will use Western Suffolk BOCES to conduct this analysis in order to guide the district's planning over the next five years.

A BOCES transportation consultant is also being used to review bus services and issues, following the new ownership of the bus company currently under contract.

Administrative searches are underway for three positions: Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, Director of Guidance and Family Information Center Coordinator. Positions have been posted and interview committees are being assembled.

Dr. Smith informed the Board about a trial modification at the High School of the "hat rule" in the Code of Conduct. This would permit hats in common areas and its effectiveness would be measured by interactions with students.

Public Participation: Several parents spoke about the Dual Language Program, questioning use of budget dollars which they feel could be put elsewhere, the data on the selection of Church Street, the disparity in current models at Post Road and George Washington, and asking the district to look closely at the model used in Tarrytown. Additional questions should be forwarded to Dr. Smith.

#### V. Summary Action Items:

#3: Dr. Smith thanked these donors for their generosity. Included was \$12,800 from the Friends of White Plains Public Schools, whom he thanked for their continued support.

#8: Dr. Smith wished these people well in their retirement.

#12: Mrs. Eller introduced Ms. Moskowitz and welcomed her to the district.

#23: Mrs. Schoenfeld noted a correction in the position of Ms. Fucci.

On motion by Mrs. Brady, seconded by Mr. Norris, the Board voted unanimously (seven voting) to adopt Summary Action Items #1-27, as listed on the Agenda and as follows:

1. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 17, and the Special Meeting of October 24, 2016.
2. Approval of High School Trips Abroad for 2016-17, as per attachment V-2.
3. Acceptance of the following donations:
  - \$12,800 from the Friends of White Plains Public Schools for Beyond Ballroom Dancing at all elementary schools and the "Power-On" Motivational program at Rochambeau School
  - Books from Elissa Weindling for Rochambeau School
  - Computer equipment from Colleen Rodriguez for George Washington School
  - A violin from Lilly Gerstner for George Washington School

4. Approval to arrange for the appropriate program and services for students with disabilities, as recommended by the Committee on Special Education: 52 cases.
5. Approval to arrange for the appropriate program and services for students with disabilities, as recommended by the Committee on Preschool Special Education: 27 cases.
6. Authorization for the Board President and Superintendent of Schools to execute a Stipulation of Settlement in connection with Impartial Hearing Reporting System Case No. 96159, as per attachment V-6.
7. Approval that all employees previously granted a conditional appointment and who have not received clearance from the State Education Department be granted another conditional appointment for 20 days.

Civil Service Staffing

8. Acceptance of the resignation for the purpose of retirement of the following:  
 William Heinzinger, Custodial Worker, High School, effective 12/31/16  
 Joseph Paulo, Custodial Worker, Education House, effective 12/31/16  
 Sadie Tatum, Food Service Helper, Church Street School, effective 6/30/17
9. Acceptance of the resignation of Felix Torres, Grounds Worker, Districtwide, effective 11/4/16.
10. Approval of the increase in hours for Renee Tillman, Food Service Helper, George Washington School, from 3.0 hours to 3.75 hours, effective 11/15/16 (replacing L. Dahdal).
11. Approval of the creation of the position of Database Manager, Districtwide, effective 11/15/16.
12. Approval of the Provisional appointment of Marcy Moskowitz, School Business Administrator/Treasurer, Education House, effective 11/15/16 (replacing C. Stein).
13. Approval of the Probationary appointment of Jorge Olivos, Custodial Worker, Middle School-Highlands, effective 11/15/16 (replacing R. Williams).

Teacher Staffing

14. Approval of the acceptance of the resignation of Beatriz Cancel, Teaching Assistant, Ridgeway School, effective 11/11/16.
15. Approval of the Probationary appointment of the following Teaching Assistant:  
 Natalie Caceres (Replacing N. Burrell)  
 Current Assignment: Middle School-Highlands (6.5 hours)  
 Step 1 - \$23.79/hour  
 Probationary Period: 11/15/16-11/14/20
16. Approval of the leave replacement appointment of Christine Alcin, Teaching Assistant, Church Street School, effective 10/24/16-11/30/16 (replacing K. Alvarez). (Step 1 - \$23.79/hour)

11/14/16

17. Approval of a request for an unpaid leave of absence for Theresa George, Teaching Assistant, George Washington School, effective 9/1/16-11/24/16.
18. Approval of the appointment\* of district-wide substitute Teaching Assistants, as per Board approved "Substitute, Summer School and Supplemental Rates," as per attachment V-18.
19. Acceptance of the resignation of Caroline Gilpin, Regular Substitute (replacing J. Moore), Rochambeau School, effective 11/12/16.
20. Approval of childcare leaves for the following:
  - Angie Johnson, Elementary Teacher, Ridgeway School, effective 12/1/16-1/31/17
  - Jessica Rappaport, House Administrator, High School, effective 12/7/16-1/27/17
21. Approval of the Regular Substitute appointments of the following:

Marie Lou Ortiz MA (Replacing L. Briceno-Ziegler)	Elementary Teacher, Ridgeway School Certification: Professional, Students w/Disabilities Step: Teachers – 1 Recommended Salary: \$63,671, prorated Dates of Service: 9/23/16-1/31/17
Priscilla Mastromihalis MA (Replacing R. Lopez)	Spanish Teacher, Middle School-Highlands Certification: Professional, Spanish 7-12 Step: Teachers - 1 Recommended Salary: \$63,671, prorated Dates of Service: 10/27/16-1/31/17
Benjamin Faber MA (Replacing N. Varghese)	Math Teacher, Middle School-Highlands Certification: Initial, Mathematics 7-12, Students w/Disabilities- Mathematics 7-12 Step: Teachers - 3 Recommended Salary: \$69,012, prorated Dates of Service: 11/15/16-1/31/17
22. Approval of the extension of the Regular Substitute appointment of:

Evelyn Hornacek MA (Replacing E. Guarin)	Guidance Counselor, Middle School-Highlands Certification: Provisional, School Counselor Step: Teachers – 1 Recommended Salary: \$63,990, prorated Dates of Service: 2/1/16-6/30/17
--	---
23. Approval of the per diem appointments of Judith Fucci, School, Special Education Teacher, and Katrin Laube, School Psychologist, to act as Districtwide 504/CSE Chairpersons for the 2016-17 school year.

## 24. Approval of the Part-time appointment of:

Lorena Diaz .5 Speech Language Pathologist, Districtwide  
 MA + 15 Certification: Permanent, Speech & Hearing Handicapped  
 (Replacing K. Reinhardt) Step: Teachers - 9  
 Recommended Salary: \$44,804.50, prorated  
 Dates of Service: 12/15/16-6/30/17

## 25. Approval of the Probationary appointment of:

Janneth Ponce-Doyle\*\* ENL Teacher, Post Road School  
 MA + 15 Certification: Initial, English to Speakers of Other Languages,  
 (Replacing F. Carlo, reassigned) Childhood Education B-6  
 Tenure Area: ESOL  
 Step: Teachers - 1  
 Recommended Salary: \$66,904, prorated  
 Probationary Period: 11/15/16-11/14/20

## 26. Approval of compensation for the following, as per attachment V-26:

- a. 2016-17 Professional, Curriculum and Technology, Development Activities and Miscellaneous Stipends
- b. 2016-17 Interscholastic/Co-Curricular Appointments
- c. 2016-17 Extended Day Programs Appointments

## 27. Approval of the appointment of districtwide per diem Substitute Teachers, per diem Substitute Teaching Assistants, Building Substitute Teachers, Test Scorers, Substitute Clerical Support, Substitute Security Assistants, Substitute Nurses, Substitute Food Service Workers and Substitute Custodial Workers, as per attachment V-27.

*\*All of these appointments are conditional, subject to and contingent upon, the satisfactory completion of the fingerprinting process and investigatory background check required by the New York State Education Law. The Board of Education reserves the right to rescind these appointments without notice, upon receipt of any unsatisfactory report resulting from the aforementioned background check.*

*\*\* These appointments are contingent upon achievement of effective or highly effective APPR ratings necessary to receive tenure throughout his/her probationary period, consistent with the requirements of Education Law Section 3012, 3012-c and/or 3012-d.*

VI. Other Action:

1. Dr. Smith recommended approval of the Treasurer's Report for September, 2016, as per attachment VI-1. Mr. Hricay moved, Mr. Norris seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor (seven voting).
2. Dr. Smith recommended approval of the Revenue & Expenditure Report for October, 2016, as per attachment VI-2. On motion by Mr. Hricay, seconded by Mrs. Lovitch, the Board voted unanimously in favor (seven voting).

11/14/16

VII. Board Discussion:

1. New Policy: #6176: Homebound Instruction: The Board will adopt this at the next meeting.
2. Board Committee Reports: The Human Resources Committee discussed personnel matters and the Finance Committee discussed various Business Department issues. The Curriculum Committee discussed priorities in that area and the Special Education Committee will meet later in the week.

At 8:55 P.M. Mrs. Eller thanked the television crew and Dr. Stein moved that the Board enter Executive Session to discuss an individual employment matter. Mr. Norris seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor (seven voting). No formal action was taken by the Board in Executive Session.

At 9:30 P.M. Mrs. Brady moved adjournment. Mrs. Lovitch seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor (seven voting).

Respectfully submitted,

  
Clerk of the Board