

THE BOARD REPORTS



Highlights of the White Plains Board of Education Meeting

September 9, 2019

MOMENT OF SILENCE: **Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph L. Ricca** asked for a moment of silence in memory of **Mary Fiori**, an elementary teacher at the Rosedale and Intermediate Schools for 16 years – from 1974 until retiring in 1990.

SCHOOL OPENING: Dr. Ricca and **Board President Rosemarie Eller** spoke about a very enthusiastic first day for staff when they gathered at the High School and heard an exciting speaker on the topic of equity. They were greeted by the spirited White Plains High School Marching Band and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by the award-winning Girls' Softball Team. Opening day went smoothly for students. Dr. Ricca thanked the community for their support and understanding as the transportation team continues to work hard to smooth out the routes throughout the city.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Ricca mentioned the summer facilities projects and provided updates on security and safety, food service and technology. He thanked the participants who volunteered to serve on the Strategic Planning Committee and talked about priorities and strategies which resulted. Dr. Ricca introduced the two new High School liaisons to the Board: **Esteban Barrero** and **Lauren Elmer**, who spoke about activities at the school.

2019 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES: **High School Principal Ellen Doherty** announced the four alumni who will be inducted into the WPHS Hall of Fame on October 24th: **John Davidson**, Class of '59, well-known entertainer and television personality; **Lesley Tompkins**, '72, retired WPHS Teacher and Administrator; **Jay Saldi**, '72, professional football player for the Dallas Cowboys and Chicago Bears and Super Bowl team member; and **Mea Hobby Kring**, '81, outstanding athlete who has had a varied career in national service. Ms. Doherty encouraged everyone to attend the Hall of Fame Day, a highlight of the school year.

PUBLIC HEARING: In accordance with State requirements, the Board held a Public Hearing on the Districtwide Safety and Emergency Management Plan. There being no comments, the Plan was adopted by the Board later in the meeting, with minor changes from the previous year.

PERSONNEL: The Board accepted the retirements of **Eilish Buckley**, School Office Manager at Rochambeau School; and **Lucy Roman**, Coordinator of Instructional Technology, Library Media & Business Education.

Probationary appointments were given to **Brittany Miller**, Special Education Math Teacher at the High School, and **Lisa Papernik**, Biology Teacher at the Middle School-Highlands.

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:

Julie Pastore and **Kelsey Lacativa** for \$420 for a Buddy Bench at Eastview in memory of **Andrew Lacativa**.

Thompson & Bender for \$250, **William Cary** for \$200, and **Stephanie Preiss** for \$600 for the Richard Liebson Journalism Scholarship,

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

October 3:	Special Meeting, Education House, 6:30 P.M. Human Resources Committee of the Whole
October 7:	Regular Meeting, Education House, 7:30 P.M.
October 21:	Community Input – Long Range Plan/Budget, WPHS, 7 P.M.
October 30:	Special Meeting, Education House, 6:30 P.M. Human Resources Committee of the Whole

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