



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 9, 2019

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Superintendent of Schools **Dr. Joseph Ricca** asked for a moment of silence in memory of four retirees:

- Catherine Barber**, Nurse Teacher at Our Lady of Sorrows from 1965 until retiring in 1984
- Josephine Bracken**, Art Teacher at Rosedale and George Washington Schools, 1962 to 1982
- John Daigle**, Business Teacher at the High School from 1956 to 1995
- George Hagans**, Youth at Risk Coordinator and a Grant Writer from 1989 to 2003.

SCHOLAR-ATHLETES: Athletic Director **Matt Cameron** introduced coaches and students, after providing the highlights of the Fall season, which saw numerous league champions and individual honors in many sports. 178 athletes were honored, with special recognition to eighth grader **Alexa Reyna** who brought home a State Championship in the Girls Swimming 500 freestyle with a record time. She also qualified as an All American in that event. Teams honored were: Cheerleading, Football, Boys' and Girls' Cross Country, Field Hockey, Boys' and Girls' Soccer, Girls' Swimming & Diving, Girls' Tennis and Volleyball.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Ricca reported on Safety and Security committee meetings, Thanksgiving events, Long-Range Planning, the Master Plan and Social Emotional Learning initiatives, among other topics. He wished everyone very happy holidays.

BOARD COMMENT: Board President **Rosemarie Eller** mentioned that the first Equity Committee meeting was a great success, with an enthusiastic group of about 50 people. She noted that the students on the committee are very active participants.

Reporting on the Master Planning Committee, **Board Members Sheryl Brady** and **James Hricay** commented that school facilities are extensive and have been maintained well but this topic will require further Board discussion. "The Board is fulfilling a stewardship" in planning for the facilities for the future.

PERSONNEL: The Board accepted resignations for the purpose of retirement from **Lea Baxter**, Office Assistant II at the High School, **Linda Caffrey**, Registered Professional Nurse at the High School, **Dennis Edwards**, Custodial Worker at Post Road School, **Janine Jordan-Covert**, Teaching Assistant at the Middle School-Highlands, **Peggy Stevens**, Teaching Assistant at Ridgeway School and **Denise Velasquez**, School Counselor at the High School.

Tenure was awarded to **Cynthia Cassady**, School Psychologist at the Middle School-Eastview.

