



# 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

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January 13, 2020

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Superintendent of Schools **Dr. Joseph Ricca** asked for a moment of silence in memory of **Elizabeth Scantlebury**, School Nurse at Mamaroneck Avenue and Highlands Schools for 26 years.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Dr. Ricca mentioned some of the recent activity in the District – on Safety and Security, the Stop the Bleed program with White Plains Hospital, development of next year's calendar, and the upcoming visit of State Legislators. He congratulated swimmer **Alexa Reyna**, who has qualified for the Olympic trials and congratulated High School Seniors on their early acceptances to many fine colleges including Harvard, Stanford and Brown. Student liaisons **Esteban Barrero** and **Lauren Elmer** highlighted activities at the High School.

Dr. Ricca then presented the Long-Range Plan Update which was shared with the Finance Committee and which allows the District to maintain a continuous cycle of improvement. Everything is included and everything recommended must be sustainable. He reviewed the financial landscape, revenue and expenditure assumptions, preliminary projections, instructional and operational priorities, a capital plan and a forecast. Dr. Ricca said a very conservative approach is followed and although this is not the budget, much of it is under discussion for inclusion. He thanked all the participants and said it has been a very collaborative project.

**BOARD COMMENT:** Board members mentioned some of the many events they have attended in recent weeks, including the Rochambeau Holiday celebration, the High School's excellent presentation of "*Raisin in the Sun*," Ridgeway's Art Show, and concerts in many schools. **Board Member Cayne Letizia** reminded everyone of the upcoming Five School Fundraiser on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

**TENURE:** The Board awarded tenure to **Jessica Rappaport**, House Director at the High School. **Principal Ellen Doherty** presented Ms. Rappaport to the Board, describing her as a "creative, thoughtful educator who is supportive, caring and respectful." She said she is a valued member of the High School administrative team. Ms. Rappaport thanked everyone for their support and especially Ms. Doherty for her guidance.

**PERSONNEL:** The Board accepted resignations for the purpose of retirement from **Anne DeMico**, Teaching Assistant at Church Street School and **Anthony Mellis**, Custodial Worker at Post Road School. Two Probationary appointments were made: **Michelle Bason**, School Counselor at the High School, and **Kelly Sosa**, Bilingual Elementary Teacher at Church Street School.

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

**The Rogers Family** for a flute for George Washington School

**BSN Sports** for \$424 for Highlands Middle School

UPCOMING MEETINGS: February 6: Special Meeting, Education House, 6:30 P.M.  
Human Resources Committee of the Whole  
February 10: Regular Meeting, Education House, 7:30 P.M.  
Instructional Budget Presentation  
February 24: Special Meeting, Education House, 7 P.M.  
Non-Instructional Budget Presentation

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