

Regular meeting of the Board of Education of Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen held in the Auditorium of the James A. Dever School Tuesday, December 18, 2018.

<u>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>
Trustee Douglas		Superintendent Evelyn
Trustee Chiachiere**		Asst. Supt. for Spec. Svcs. Sells-Asch
Trustee Farrell		Asst. Supt. for Curric. & Inst. LaRocca
Trustee Pandit		Asst. Supt. for Bus. & HR Antoine
Trustee Pomerantz		Principal Ambrosio
Trustee Stris		Principal Gruen
Trustee Vicente*		Principal Huplosky
		Principal Steele
		Director of Tech. DiMango
		School District Attorney Sheahan
		District Clerk Rosamilia
		Approximately 60 Visitors

Convening
The meeting was convened at 6:30 p.m. by President Douglas.

CONVENING

Quorum
Five members being present, a quorum was determined.

QUORUM

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome

*Trustee Vicente arrived at 6:35 p.m.

Guidance Program and Mental Health Education [L. Sells-Asch; J. LaRocca]
Assistant Superintendent LaRocca presented a power point on New York State Education Department Mental Health and Guidance Update. Assistant Superintendent LaRocca discussed two recent changes to New York State Commissioners regulation regarding mental health and guidance. Assistant Superintendent LaRocca spoke of the ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) document which supports the idea and recommends a multi-tiered approach to addressing children. They talk about having a whole school, whole community and whole child. ESSA also talks about a whole child team collaboration that includes and highlights the importance of having social workers, psychologists, counselors, nurses, health educators, teachers and parents. Assistant Superintendent LaRocca spoke about the multiple dimensions of mental health well-being which includes social emotional learning, health education, physical education and nutrition. In terms of guidance, in 2017 the Commissioner’s regulations amendments were adopted to increase opportunities for all students to be successful. What’s new about this guidance is that students have access to a certified or licensed school counselor in the early years to provide core curriculum instruction and inspire them to strive for success and consider college and career opportunities. The new Guidance Program requirements are effective for schools as of July 1, 2019. The district has a guidance plan in place, but to comply with the new regulations we have been working with District 24 and District 30 and the High School District to draft a more comprehensive guidance plan that will be in place by July 1, 2019 that will fully comply with the regulations. Assistant Superintendent Sells-Asch spoke about the well-being curriculum and instruction which includes the RULER Social Emotional Learning program, culturally responsive educational practices, responsive classroom/restorative practices, professional learning opportunities for faculty and staff and mental health literacy comprehensive guide (NYSESED) with local curriculum resources. As for human resources in the district, we currently have psychologist/social workers in each school and the Guidance Program District Plan has been written and will be revised for the 2019-2020 school year to reflect all the required changes. Another important aspect is our community engagement. We have a district wide wellness fair and an inter-district wellness committee and we will continue that outreach with our community, families and parents.

Report of the Superintendent of Schools
Commendations Ceremony

Superintendent Evelyn thanked the parents, students and staff for joining our bi-annual Commendations Ceremony and acknowledged the collaborative efforts of many representatives from our schools and community and the Board of Education for conducting this celebration to honor the achievements of our students and staff. Superintendent Evelyn stated that on behalf of the Superintendent’s Office, the Board of Education and school community, we congratulate our students and educators for all that they have accomplished. This recognition is a tribute to how much we value their hard work and dedication to excellence, and hope that it will encourage the maintenance of their outstanding efforts. We commend your efforts and highly value your level of commitment.

Superintendent Evelyn also recognized and honored the tremendous efforts of our staff that positively impact successful outcomes for children. She thanked the staff for ensuring that our children receive a world class education that will enhance their competitiveness as global citizens.

Superintendent Evelyn also commended the parents and community members for supporting our young people to strive for high achievement.

Superintendent Evelyn presented recognition certificates to the following students:

Nature Crew
Mikayla Aziz

	<u>Leadership in Physical Education</u>	
Zain Ramsaroop	Olivia Modesti	Matteo Somma
Anthony Gomes	Deanna Delutri	Ericka Leus

Leadership in Physical Education/Music
Adam Norton

Leadership in Physical Education/Music/Safety Patrol/Student Council
Isabella Zambrano

<u>New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA) – NYSATA</u>		
Lilianna Kruslic	Kristian Soriano-Ponce	Arooba Kahn
Leah Donaldson	Emma Yarally	David Walsh
Carmine Giglio	Anthony Gomes	

Lisa Roberti was recognized for her work to enhance the district communication and community engagement regarding Valley Stream Thirteen’s inclusive education initiative.

JoRae Hafter was recognized for performing the Heimlich Maneuver on a choking student enabling him to breathe freely without complications and supporting the safety of all of our children during lunch and recess.

Karen Jason and Sherley Fils-Aime were recognized for their persistent and relentless pursuit to bridge language and financial barriers to ensure that one of our families was able to navigate the necessary steps presented by medical providers to access feeding therapy for their child.

Dr. Gayle Steele, Principal of the Wheeler Avenue School was recognized for the implementation of STEM projects, with students visiting Molloy College labs for hands-on experiences.

Rosalie Ambrosio, Principal of the Willow Road School was recognized for a two-year partnership with NYIT School of Education and Interdisciplinary studies to work in tandem with Willow Road faculty designing targeted short term professional development as indicated by staff surveys.

Assistant Superintendent Judy LaRocca and Howell Road Principal Frank Huplosky were recognized for presenting at the Annual Meeting of the Long Island Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

Susan DiVerniero was recognized for introducing a new transportation vendor to the district and the implementation of walk-back passes for student transportation.

CELEBRATORY REFRESHMENT BREAK

Executive Session

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:30 p.m. a motion for Executive Session was made by Trustee Stris, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously to discuss the employment history of a particular person. The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendents, Director of Technology and School District Attorney were invited to attend.

**Trustee Chiachiere arrived at 7:30 p.m.

Reconvening

RECONVENING

The meeting was reconvened at 8:00 p.m. by President Douglas.

Quorum

QUORUM

Seven members being present, a quorum was determined.

Approval of the Minutes

**MINUTES OF 8/21/18 BOE
MTG., 9/1/18 SPECIAL MTG.,
9/18/18 COMMITTEE MTG.,**

To approve the minutes of the August 21, 2018 Board of Education Meeting, September 1, 2018 Special Meeting, September 18, 2018 Committee Meeting.

Correspondence

**CORRESPONDENCE
ALL-COUNTY MUSIC FESTIVAL**

An invitation to the 2019 All-County Music Festival was received.

Interschool Mini Grants Presentation – Jackie Baiardi, President

On behalf of Interschool President Baiardi, Superintendent Evelyn presented the Mini Grants to the following teachers in recognition of the Board of Education:

- Christy Taviera – James A. Dever School – Modern Study Skills & memory Strategies
- Enrico Perciballi – Wheeler Avenue School – Courtyard Classroom & Native Flowering Plant Butterfly Gardens
- Karen Martorana & Paula Barnick – Howell Road School – Horning in on Howell History
- Gail Shaw & James Cundari – Willow Road School – Character Counts Kids
- Mindy Berlin, Shoshanna Bazini, Christina Del Gais, Karen Higgins, Karen Jason, Greer Korshin, Victoria Mitchell, Alyssa Rivera, Antonella Scissoli, Paula Shulman, Erica Ulzheimer & Carolanne Wahl – Willow Road School – Sensory Hallway
- Richard Rosenfeld – Willow Road School – Sensory Hallway

Committee Reports

EDUCATION COMMITTEE [F. Chiachiere, Chairperson; M. Vicente]

Employment of Classroom Aide

To appoint Sharon Miller as a Classroom Aide assigned to the James A. Dever School on Step 1 (\$17,031) effective December 19, 2018, pending civil service approval and unless sooner terminated.

S. MILLER EMPLOYED AS
CLASSROOM AIDE -
JAMES A. DEVER

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

Rescind Appointment

To rescind the appointment made at the Board of Education meeting on November 27, 2018, of Annmarie Vialva, Permanent Substitute Teacher at the Wheeler Avenue School.

A. VIALVA APPOINTMENT
RESCINDED

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Permanent Substitute Teacher

- To appoint Claudette Richardson as a Permanent Substitute Teacher at the Willow Road School, at a rate of \$125 per day, effective December 19, 2018 through June 30, 2019 and unless sooner terminated.

C. RICHARDSON, L. TATTNALL,
P. CLARK, K. ROSADO
EMPLOYED AS PERMANENT
SUB. TEACHER

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

- To appoint Lymari Tattnall as a Permanent Substitute Teacher at the Wheeler Avenue School, at a rate of \$125 per day, effective December 19, 2018 through June 30, 2019 and unless sooner terminated.

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Pandit and carried unanimously.

- To appoint Paulette Clark as a Permanent Substitute Teacher at the Wheeler Avenue School, at a rate of \$125 per day, effective December 19, 2018 through June 30, 2019 and unless sooner terminated.

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

- To appoint Krystal Rosado as a Permanent Substitute Teacher at the Wheeler Avenue School, at a rate of \$125 per day, effective December 19, 2018 through June 30, 2019 and unless sooner terminated.

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Teacher's Assistant

To appoint Agnes-Judith Kome as a probationary Teaching Assistant at an annual salary of \$28,998 assigned to the Willow Road School for a period of four years' probation commencing January 28, 2019 and expiring January 27, 2023.

A. KOME EMPLOYED AS
TEACHING ASSISTANT -
WILLOW ROAD SCHOOL

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Pandit and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Noon Hour Aide

To appoint Lisa Jacobsen as a Noon Hour Aide assigned to the James A. Dever School at a rate of \$12.25 per hour effective January 2, 2019, pending civil service approval and unless sooner terminated.

L. JACOBSEN EMPLOYED AS
NOON HOUR AIDE – JAMES A.
DEVER

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Substitute Classroom/Noon Hour Aide

- To appoint Desiree Tobin as a substitute Classroom/Noon Hour Aide at a rate of \$12.25 per hour effective December 19, 2018.

D. TOBIN, F. JEAN, M. HOUGH
EMPLOYED AS SUBSTITUTE
CLASSROOM/NOON HOUR AIDE

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Pandit and carried unanimously.

- To appoint Fanela Jean as a substitute Classroom/Noon Hour Aide at a rate of \$12.25 per hour effective December 19, 2018.

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

- To appoint Margaret Hough as a substitute Classroom/Noon Hour Aide at a rate of \$12.25 per hour effective December 19, 2018.

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were approved on a motion for a Consent Agenda by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resignation of Teaching Assistant

To accept the resignation of Elias Gaston, Teaching Assistant at the Willow Road School effective January 25, 2019, letter received December 10, 2018.

E. GASTON RESIGNATION
ACCEPTED

Resignation of Noon Hour Aide

To accept the resignation of Margaret Hough, Noon Hour Aide at the James A. Dever School effective December 21, 2018, letter received December 11, 2018.

M. HOUGH RESIGNATION
ACCEPTED

END CONSENT AGENDA – EDUCATION COMMITTEE

BUSINESS COMMITTEE [P. Farrell, Chairperson; T. Pomerantz]

Employment Agreement – Superintendent

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves a five (5) year Employment Agreement with the Superintendent of Schools effective July 1, 2018, and hereby Authorizes the Board President to execute said Employment Agreement.

C. EVELYN EMPLOYMENT
AGREEMENT APPROVED

Moved by Trustee Farrell, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

POLICY COMMITTEE [V. Pandit, Chairperson; W. Stris]

Policies for 1st Reading

- 2340 Notice of Meetings
- 5420 Student Health Services
- 5420-R Student Health Services Regulation

POLICIES FOR 1ST READING

Policies for 2nd Reading and Adoption

- 5100 Student Attendance
- 5300 Code of Conduct
- 8220 Building and Grounds Maintenance and Inspection
- 6720 Uniform Grant Guidance for Federal Awards – *new*

POLICIES FOR 2ND READING
AND ADOPTION APPROVED

Moved by Trustee Pandit, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE [T. Pomerantz, Chairperson; F. Chiachiere]

The Facilities Committee met on Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room. Agenda items consisted of discussion of the District’s 5-year Capital Plan as per Policy 7100 – Facilities Planning, as well as a review of the Board’s Building Inspection that took place on Saturday, December 1, 2018 beginning at 8:00 a.m. The Central Office Community Connection Vol. 1, Issue 3 highlights these facilities updates including building improvements, security upgrades and upcoming projects.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE [Vice President M. Vicente]

Impartial Hearing Officer Rotational List

- BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that effective November 28, 2018 and thereafter Thomas Coles be appointed to serve as an Impartial Hearing Officer for the district.

T. COLES, E. DONAVAN
APPOINTED AS IMPARTIAL
HEARING OFFICERS

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Pandit and carried unanimously.

- BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that effective November 29, 2018 and thereafter Edmund Donovan be appointed to serve as an Impartial Hearing Officer for the district.

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

Committee on Special Education Reviews

To ratify and adopt the Committee on Special Education Reviews dated 12/5/18.

CSE REVIEWS ADOPTED

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously.

To ratify and adopt the Committee on Pre-school Education Reviews dated 11/16/18.

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

Report of the Attorney

School District Attorney Sheahan reported on a decision from the Commissioner of Education in Matter of Butler, Decision No.: 17,544 (2018), a former board member unsuccessfully challenged his removal from the board. The former board member had missed five consecutive meetings during the period of May to June 2018. He argued that his absences were excused due to his business dealings and because he feared for his safety and the safety of others in light of hostile dealings he had with another board member. The Commissioner ruled that Education Law 2109 provides that a board member who refuses or neglects to attend three successive meetings of the board, without rendering a good and valid excuse to the other trustees "vacates his office by refusal to serve." The Commissioner found that once the board of education had established that the member missed three consecutive meetings, the burden shifted to the former board member to prove that he had given a good and valid excuse for doing so. The former board member produced no evidence that he had sought additional security measures or other accommodations to address his safety concerns, and did not provide any other justification for his failure to attend the meetings besides a reference to his business dealings. Accordingly, the Commissioner found he had not met his burden of proof and his purported fear of another board member was not a sufficient justification for continued absences from meetings. Therefore, the Commissioner upheld the board's decision to remove the member of the Board.

High School Report

Trustee Pomerantz reported that the Central High School Board met on Tuesday, December 11, 2018. It was reported that the Chorus at North High School has been selected to sing the National Anthem at Citi Field on Saturday, June 8, 2019, prior to the Mets/Colorado Rockies baseball game. A North High Senior has been accepted to Harvard. This student was also selected as a National Advanced Placement Scholar. At the 52nd Annual Gridiron Awards Dinner, a North High senior received the Top Scholar/Athlete Football player service award for Nassau County. The next Central High School District board meeting is scheduled for January 5, 2019 at North High School beginning at 8:30 a.m. with the building tours of the four buildings ending at 12:15 p.m. The Board of Education will convene for a meeting of at 1:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

Old Business

Trustee Stris and Trustee Pomerantz attended the Law Conference on December 7, 2018. Trustee Stris attended a break-out session on non-residency students. They went over the Plyer vs. Doe Supreme Court ruling that undocumented children have a right to a free public education. As of December 2015, the Commissioner's regulation states that we must admit children first, then ask questions. Residency material should be posted on the district website. Trustee Pomerantz a break-out session on construction which was presented by School District Attorney Shishko.

New Business

President Douglas reported that Vice President Vicente's Girl Scout Troop 2223 at Howell Road School sang at the Radio City Christmas Spectacular. They were featured on News 12 and the Valley Stream Herald.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Trustee Stris, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

MaryAnn Rosamilia

MaryAnn Rosamilia
District Clerk