



## General Library Item

Name January 9, 2017

## Content

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### Scarsdale Board of Education Meeting Highlights January 9, 2017

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#### Meeting with Administrators

At 6 p.m. the Board of Education met informally with Dr. Thomas Hagerman, Superintendent of Schools, Stuart Matthey, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Facilities, and Drew Patrick, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Leadership Development, to review the budget process and timeline.

#### Business Meeting

At the 7:00 p.m. Business Meeting, Lee Maude, Board of Education President, wished everyone a Happy New Year, and noted that the Board is beginning to discuss the budget for next year. Dr. Hagerman, echoed Ms. Maude's New Year wishes, and reported on a meeting he and other administrators attended last week with Italian educator Marina Mori as part of the District's longtime collaboration with the Reggio Emilia creative learning program. Dr. Hagerman also reported that he had the opportunity to sit in on a Middle School English Department meeting, and to hear their lively discussion with representatives from the Jacob Burns Film Center about visual literacy.

Community members were invited to address the Board but none came forward.

The Board approved items on the consent agenda, including a Personnel Report presented by Drew Patrick, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Leadership Development. Mr. Patrick reported that six longtime teachers, with a combined 153 years of teaching service, have announced their retirement: Steven Boyer, Elise Levine, Anita Occhiuto, and Howard Rodstein at the High School, and Joanne Harris and Caran Pullen at the Middle School. Mr. Patrick also reported that parents have been notified concerning the feedback survey for probationary teachers.

During the Information/Discussion portion of the agenda, the Board heard reports from Mr. Patrick and other administrators on proposed staffing recommendations as part of the 2017-18 budget process. These recommendations were based on three factors: student educational outcomes and achievement; District goals and the District's Transition Plan; and mandates and best practices. Recommendations include additional staff for the elementary literacy support program; elementary LRC; in-house speech student services; High School STEAM and physical education programs; a second school nurse at the High School; and custodial staff for expanded High School space. Mr. Patrick also presented recommendations for additional staff to meet projected enrollment needs, and a title change for elementary Teachers-in-Charge to Assistant Principals, in keeping with their significantly increased administrative responsibilities over the past several years.

The Board also heard a presentation on the staffing and ancillary budget impact of a possible "Zero Period" addition at the Middle School to offer a Mandarin enrichment program before the school day.

Additional items on the Information/Discussion agenda included a proposed Memorandum of Understanding with the Scarsdale Teachers Association pertaining to retiree enrollment in Medicare Part D; proposed changes to the Independent Education Evaluations Board policy, to bring it into alignment with current case law; and a proposed letter to U.S. Senator Gillibrand concerning the nomination of Betsy DeVos as the U.S. Secretary of Education.

The Board approved a contract with NY Orthopedics to provide Athletic Training Services, and an agreement with Special Testing Laboratories to perform specific inspections and tests that are required for capital projects, as mandated by the New York State Building Code.

Community members were invited to address the Board for a second time and two did so: Dan Hochvert, 62 Woods Lane, commented on the history of the Teacher-in-Charge position and expressed support for the title change; and Mitch Kahn, 198 Brewster Road, requested the architect RFP and urged support for building a new Greenacres school.

The Board conducted a wrap-up of the meeting and announced a list of upcoming meeting dates.

The Board then adjourned.

A video of the Board meeting may be accessed [here](#).