

Board of Education Highlights May 7, 2019 Workshop Meeting

The Board of Education called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Tenure Recognition



Tenured teachers, from left, are OBHS physical education and health teacher Mr. Charles Rizzuto, OBHS English language arts teacher Ms. Maria Kim, OBHS English as a New Language (ENL) teacher Ms. Fanny Diaz, OBHS Spanish teacher Ms. Paula Luzzi, Roosevelt kindergarten teacher Ms. Hayley Byron, Vernon special education teacher Ms. Jennifer Spelatis, OBHS computer science and technology teacher Ms. Suprabha Malhar-Jain, OBHS social studies teacher Ms. Lauren Harnick and OBHS science teacher Mr. Stephen Acquaro.

Before an audience of family members and staff, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Laura Seinfeld took to the podium to begin the tenure ceremony. She stated, “The District takes the recommendation of tenure very, very seriously; we set a very high bar for our teachers and we work very closely with them to ensure they meet our very high expectations.” She then called each teacher up individually and read a summary of his or her career accomplishments and contributions to the District. She also presented each teacher with a token of her appreciation. A short reprieve for refreshments and some photos followed the ceremony.

Curriculum and Instruction Report

Update on Languages Other Than English (LOTE) Standards and Curriculum

Ms. Liliana Policano, Supervisor of LOTE/ESL, presented a Power Point on the LOTE standards and curriculum. The Power Point is available on the District website under “Presentations” under the Board of Education tab. Ms. Policano went over the world-readiness standards for learning languages, which are divided into five areas: communication, communications, cultures, connections, comparisons. She provided a

breakdown of various world language themes and topics that are studied. She discussed the transition in the learning standards from teacher-centered instruction to student-centered instruction and outlined ways in which this is achieved. She also reviewed hands-on activities to build proficiency, extracurricular opportunities and foreign language competitions in which students have earned medals.

Business/Facilities Report—Budget Hearing

Mr. Michael Cipriani, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, provided a PowerPoint presentation on “Additional Expenditure Budget Review.” The PowerPoint is available on the District website under “Presentations” under the Board of Education tab. The Power Point outlines the adopted budget and the propositions that will be on the ballot for the budget vote on Tuesday, May 21 from 7 am-9pm in the Oyster Bay High School Library. The proposed tax levy increase (the amount the District needs to raise through taxes to close its budget) is 1.92 percent, which is lower than the District’s allowable tax levy limit of 2.07 percent. The last day to register to vote in Thursday, May 16. Voter registration is taking place in the District Clerk’s Office, (516-624-6507) 1 McCouns Lane, Oyster Bay, Monday-Friday, 8 am-1 pm and 2 pm-4 pm.

Facilities update

The high school auditorium air conditioning has been installed; the District is waiting for a day that is over 75 degrees so that the system can be tested.

Mr. Cipriani spoke about escalating construction costs school districts are experiencing when they go out to bid for capital projects. The Board discussed the Vernon playground resurfacing project and the field house, which both came back over budget. Mr. Cipriani recommended rejecting the playground resurfacing and transferring funds to pay for the field house project. The Board discussed building in extra funds for proposed projects in the future to compensate for rising construction costs.

The board awarded a bid of \$400,000 for a multi-bathroom renovation at Theodore Roosevelt School and rejected the bid for the playground resurfacing at Vernon School.