

SCHOOL BOARD NOTES

November 14, 2017

Vol. 37 No. 4

RECOGNITION

The Board celebrated New York State School-Related Professional's Recognition Day, which is November 21, acknowledging the important work of the district's non-teaching workforce. Leaders of the respective bargaining units were recognized at the meeting. Pictured with Board President Shawn Lemay and Superintendent Dr. Scott Martzloff are **Linda Shelton** and **Cheryl Wood** Co-Presidents of the Computer Support Technicians. Not present: **Karen Baker**, President of the Williamsville Association of Education Related Personnel; **Randy Davey**, President of the CSEA-Facilities/Child Nutrition; **William McConchie**, President of the CSEA-Transportation Unit; and **Lou Solomon** and **Christine Harding**, Co-Presidents of the Supervisors' & Computer Technicians' Association.



On behalf of the PTSA Council, Mr. Ronald Shubert, Council President and former School Board member, recognized Board of Education members for their service. Members volunteer their time, talents, and energy to serve the community and advocate for children. Pictured, PTSA Council Vice President Jen Bellasai presents a gift to Mr. Philip Meyer.



Board Acknowledgements: Mr. Lemay welcomed Dr. John McKenna to the Board table for his first meeting. Dr. McKenna joined the district's leadership team November 1 as Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

During the Public Expression period, a student from Williamsville East presented a petition signed by students and parents asking the Board to expand the elimination of class rank to include grades 10 and 11 throughout the district.

A parent representing a group called Concerned Parents of Williamsville spoke on behalf of some parents who have children with special needs, expressing concerns about the programming and supports for their children. She asked Board members to meet with the group and learn first-hand about their concerns.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION

- Under the *President's Report*, Mr. Meyer, who serves as Board liaison to the Williamsville Education Foundation, Inc., reported on the October 27th Wall of Fame induction, which the Foundation sponsors. Mr. Meyer said he was impressed with the "extraordinary talent" Williamsville schools has produced throughout the years. Mr. Lemay and Mrs. Toni Vazquez also attended the event.
 - Mr. Lemay announced the Board's Community Forum on Saturday, November 18 from 9 a.m.-Noon at Williamsville East in the Commons.
 - The Board renewed its annual membership in the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA), authorizing the dues payment of \$12,504.
 - Upcoming school visitations by Board members will take place December 5 (Transit Middle), December 15 (Williamsville North), and January 5, 2018 (Williamsville East).
- Under the *Superintendent's Community Update*, Dr. Martzloff reported that he and Mr. Lemay have reached out to parents who expressed concerns about special education programs at last month's school board meeting, inviting them to meet, and said he would extend the same invitation to the parent who spoke this evening during public expression. He also acknowledged that the WITS email about class rank sent last week to parents caused some frustration when a few recipients used 'reply all' to share their opinions. Dr. Martzloff said adjustments have been made to WITS that will preclude 'reply all' emails in the future. Regarding the recent Wall of Fame event, Dr. Martzloff echoed Mr. Meyer's comments saying it was 'truly inspirational' to hear from the inductees and learn about all the people who supported them along the way. He also encouraged everyone to attend the community forum on Saturday at East.

- **Enrollment Projections & Audit Report** – The annual enrollment report was presented by Dr. Steven Grossman of R/E/D Group (Syracuse, NY). According to Dr. Grossman’s report, enrollment is projected to decrease by three percent over the next five years. The number of students is projected to decrease from 9,967 this year to 9,680 for the 2022-2023 school year. Notes:
 - Key change variables in Williamsville are changes in kindergarten enrollment; net in/out migration; current district enrollment; and the economy.
 - The report concludes that no changes in attendance areas or feeder patterns will be necessary; no major changes in facilities will be necessary; and no changes in open enrollments are recommended.
 - Following the presentation, the Board declared the following schools would be available for open enrollment in 2018-2019: Forest Elementary, Dodge Elementary, Casey Middle, Heim Middle, East High, North High, and South High. The deadline to open enroll students for next year is February 1, 2018. *Dr. Grossman’s presentation is available on the district’s website under Board Documents.*
- **Audit Analysis & Financial Overview** – In preparation for the 2018-2019 budget development cycle, Mr. Thomas Matuski, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Management Services, provided a brief analysis of the 2016-2017 audit and an historical overview of budget reductions and increases over the past ten years. He noted that 78.5 percent of the district budget is expended on instruction, with 13.4 percent on general support services, and 6.3 percent on pupil transportation. He also reviewed current fund balance and reserve accounts. According to Mr. Matuski, the district’s stable financial position means that current instructional and support programs are supported by the district’s revenues. However, he said that revenue increases will be limited to the tax levy and state aid noting, “we had no state aid increase in this fiscal year”. In addition, the state’s tax cap formula limits the amount of tax levy revenue the district would receive. *Mr. Matuski’s presentation is available on the district website under Board Documents.*
- **In other action, the Board:**
 - Approved funding for the district’s Smart Schools Bond Capital Project. New York State requires all school districts to expend their own funds for work associated with the Smart Schools Bond Act (SBBA), which then will be reimbursed by the state upon completion of the project. The district’s SBBA allocation of \$3,474,731 will be used to update the wireless system in every school.
 - Awarded bids, as presented, for work associated with the 2015 Facility Improvement Project.
 - Approved an Advanced Placement Capstone Internal Review Board (IRB) for Williamsville North High School.
 - Deleted policy #1340, Board-Staff communications, and conducted a first reading on the following revised policies: #5640 – Smoking/Tobacco Use; #7320 – Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs and Other Substances; #7520 – Accidents and Medical Emergencies; and #7670 – Due Process Complaints. A second reading and adoption of the four policies revisions is expected December 12.
 - Received as information a draft of Dr. Martzloff’s 2017-2018 goals.
 - Agreed to hold a special meeting preceding Saturday’s Community Forum at 8:45 a.m. in order to approve a letter to elected officials objecting to proposed cuts to the federal education budget.
- The Board accepted the following donation on behalf of the school district: \$900 from the Forest PTA to Forest Elementary School for nine classroom fans.

This Board of Education meeting will be televised on Spectrum News Channel 20 Saturday, November 18 at 7:30 P.M. and Sunday, November 19 at 1 P.M. Also, the meeting video is available for viewing anytime at www.williamsvillek12.org and on YouTube @ Williamsville Central School District.

Saturday, November 18, 2017

Williamsville East High School Commons

SPECIAL MEETING ♦ 8:45 a.m.

COMMUNITY FORUM ♦ 9 a.m. to Noon

Submit questions on Twitter: [#WCSDboardforum](https://twitter.com/WCSDboardforum)

UPCOMING MEETING (District Office Boardroom):

Tuesday, December 12, 2017 ♦ 7:00 p.m.