Synopsis

Highlights from the Westfield Board of Education Meeting

June 27, 2023

The Board of Education thanked Patrick Lanza for his service as the first Student Representative appointed to the Board in November 2022 and for championing the many achievements and activities at Westfield High School. Mr. Lanza expressed great appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the Board. Board members wished Mr. Lanza well, as he prepares to enter Boston College in the fall.



REPORT BY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent Dr. Raymond González congratulated the Westfield High School Class of 2023 and all students who celebrated milestones. Dr. González also spoke briefly about the Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives, noting that they represent the district's path forward in the areas of student learning, wellness, diversity, equity and inclusion, community engagement, and finance and facilities. He reported that the work to develop the associated outcomes, action items, and timelines will continue through the summer with the administration for review and approval by the Board of Education in Fall 2023.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board Committee chairpersons presented committee reports and agenda items for Curriculum, Instruction and Programs; Finance and Facilities; Policies, Personnel, and Governance.

BOARD ACTION AGENDA:

GOVERNANCE

The Board approved the Goals and Objectives for the 2023-2028 Strategic Plan. The Board also approved the agreement between the Westfield Association of Administrators and Supervisors (WAAS) and the Westfield Board

of Education for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027. Additionally, the Board affirmed the Superintendent's decision on HIB incidents.

FINANCE AND FACILITIES

The Board accepted with gratitude the following donations:

- $500 from the Rotary Club of Westfield to help fund outdoor learning and garden efforts at Jefferson Elementary School.
- $500 from the Rotary Club of Westfield to assist community service clubs at Edison Intermediate School.
- $500 from the Rotary Club of Westfield to assist Helping Hands and other community service clubs at Roosevelt Intermediate School.
- $200 from the Westfield Coalition for the Arts towards the purchase of repair parts for a kiln at Edison Intermediate School.
- $6,100 from the Washington Elementary School PTO to purchase 7 new picnic table benches for Washington Elementary School.
- $37,539 from the Lincoln Early Childhood Center PTO for purchase and installation of new playground equipment.
- $314.55 from the Wilson Elementary School PTO to purchase books for the Wilson Elementary School library.

POLICY AND LEGISLATION

The Board approved for second reading Policy 7523 - School District-Provided Technology Devices to Students.

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND PROGRAMS

The Board approved for second reading the following curricula:

Gifted Education
Examination Point of View Through Debate
Economics: An Introduction to Global Trade and Finance
Inventions

Health
Health Education K-5
Health Education - Intermediate

Mathematics
College Seminar in Mathematics

The Board also approved district field trips for the 2023-2024 school year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board heard from three members of the public regarding a Board member's Letter to the Editor, cash account reserves, and Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives.

A recording of the meeting is posted on the district YouTube channel at www.westfieldnjk12.org under the Board tab.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HIGH SCHOOL

For a 2nd consecutive year, Westfield High School has received the Group 4 ShopRite Cup, a prestigious recognition that is awarded annually at the end of the school year to the top athletic programs in New Jersey in each of four public school groups and two non-public school groups. Congratulations to all of our student-athletes, coaches, and the entire athletics department.

The Paper Mill Playhouse has awarded one staff member and two students Rising Star Awards for their work in the Westfield High School spring production of *Sunday in the Park with George.* Stage Manager Ryan Karlin and Music Director Sophie Havens received student achievement awards. Choral director John Brzozowski received the award for Outstanding Achievement in Music Direction. Congratulations to Ryan, Sophie, and Mr. Brzozowski on this special honor.

INTERMEDIATE

Congratulations to Edison 7th grader Jasmine Parran who was selected as the New Jersey State Merit Winner for the 2023 3M Young Scientist Challenge, a nationwide project-based science competition. Created in a Gifted Education "Inventions" elective, Jasmine's project, entitled "Solar Roadways and Energy Trappers," won her recognition as the top entry among all other submissions in New Jersey.

ELEMENTARY

Congratulations to 4th grader Christian Cuccaro and 5th grader Logan Chen who are national student winners in the Pythagorean Division of the Continental Mathematics League Competition. The Pythagorean Division requires participating students, with above-average reading comprehension and analytical reasoning capabilities, to compete in 5 proctored meets with 6 questions per meet. Participants have 30 minutes to complete all 6 questions per meet and must work independently. Christian and Logan earned perfect scores on all 30 questions and are ranked as the top-scoring students in their grade levels nationwide.

COMMUNITY

The Westfield Recreation Department has released its catalog of programs for Summer 2023. More information, including how to register, is available at westfieldnj.gov/recreation. Email recreation@westfieldnj.gov with any questions.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next regular public meeting of the Board of Education will be on Tuesday, August 29 in Cafeteria B at Westfield High School beginning at 7 p.m. The meeting will be live streamed via the district YouTube Channel, which viewers can access on the Board tab on the district website. The complete agenda will be available on Friday, August 25, also on the Board tab.