

Board of Education Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, October 25, 2016

Byram Hills School District

10 Tripp Lane

Armonk, NY 10504

Meeting: 7:15 p.m. (Proposed Executive Session)

Public Meeting: 7:30 p.m.

Special Report #1: School Board Recognition (October 24-28 2016)

Special Report #2: Enrollment Report BEDS Day, October 5, 2016

Special Report #3: Curriculum Conversation - 2016-2017 Administrative Goals

DATE: October 25, 2016

TIME: 7:30 p.m. Public Meeting

PLACE: Board Room in District Office

PRESENT: **Board of Education Members Present**

Mr. Brett Summers, President

Mr. Scott Levy, Vice President

Ms. Mia DiPietro

Ms. Robin Glat

Mr. Michael Sanders

Mr. Ira Schulman

Absent

Ms. Lara Stangel

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. William Donohue, Superintendent

Mr. Gregory Carlson, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Management Services, District Clerk

Dr. Tim Kaltenecker, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Ms. Jen Lamia, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

1. Call To Order

At 7:10 pm the Board met in Executive Session. At 7:52 p.m., the public meeting was called to order by Board President, Mr. Summers. Mr. Summers noted it was a very special meeting to have the administrators present for the evening.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

3. Proposed Executive Session Upon Board Approval

Procedural: 3.1 Contract Matter - Negotiations

Procedural: 3.2 Legal Matter - Individual Student

Procedural: 3.3 Legal Matter - Transportation Department

Procedural: 3.4 Board of Education Matter - Board Retreat

The Board met in Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. to discuss the following four items:

3.1 Contract Matter - Negotiations

3.2 Legal Matter - Individual Student

3.3 Legal Matter - Transportation Department Contract Issue

3.4 Board of Education Matter - Internal

4. Comments from the Public

Recognition: 4.1 Public Comments (if any) will be heard at this time

There were no comments at this time.

5. Revision and Adoption of Agenda

Action: 5.1 Revisions (if necessary) and adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Glat and seconded by Mr. Levy to adopt the agenda as presented. Vote: 6-yes 0-no. Motion carried.

A motion was made Scott and seconded by Ira to adopt Item 7: Consent Agenda - Personnel; Item 8: Consent Agenda - Special Services; and Item 9: Consent Agenda - Business as amended. Vote: 6-yes 0-no. Motion carried.

6. Special Report #1: School Board Recognition

Dr. Donohue first noted it was Board of Education appreciation week and he took a few moments to recognize the Board and they were presented with a small gift. Dr. Donohue stated that the District has seven Board members who are very smart, responsible and accomplish all their work voluntarily. Dr. Donohue mentioned that, as Superintendent, having a functional and focused Board is a tremendous asset to him and the District.

Mr. Summers added that he is in agreement with Dr. Donohue and mentioned how important it is to having a well-functioning Board of Education.

7. Consent Agenda - Personnel

Action (Consent): 7.1 Personnel Items

7.1 Teacher Leaves:

1. Nicole Del Balzo, Mathematics, BHHS, Personal Leave, 11/22/16-6/30/17
2. Gina Whalen, Phys. Ed., Wampus, Personal Leave, 11/22/16-1/24/17

7.2 Regular Substitute Appointment:

1. Debbe Aday, Special Ed., BHHS, effective 10/18/16

7.3 CSEA Resignations:

1. Linda Hernandez, Bus Driver, Transp., effective 10/14/2016
2. Arthur Richardson, Bus Driver, Transp., effective 10/19/16

7.4 CSEA Probationary Appointment:

1. Roland Ramirez, Bus Driver, Transp., effective 10/13/16

7.5 CSEA Part-time Appointments:

1. Dashurije Rama, School Monitor, Transp., effective 10/05/16
2. Joan Belotti, School Monitor, Transp., effective 10/07/16

7.6 CSEA Part-time Availability Appointments:

1. Carmelo Ciccone, Cleaner, DW, effective 10/26/16
2. Harry Malles, Bus Driver, Transp., effective 8/22/16
3. George Steinhardt, Bus Driver, Transp., effective 1/03/17
4. Gerald Watkins, Bus Driver, Transp., effective 1/03/17
5. Marie Amilcar, Monitor, DW, effective 10/26/16

7.7 Extracurricular Appointment Rescission BHHS:

1. Kristen Budden – One-World

7.8 Extracurricular Appointments BHHS:

1. Evan Horowitz One-World
2. Wampus Moving Up Ceremony (2) John Lopez, Jonah Piali
3. Lester Roby Academic Challenge (Volunteer)

7.9 Extracurricular Appointment Rescission HCC:

1. Cynthia Giumarra - Literary Magazine

7.10 Extracurricular Appointment HCC:

1. Jessica Shaw - Literary Magazine
- 7.11 Extracurricular Appointment Wampus:
 1. Stephanie Messana - NYSSMA
- 7.12 Substitute Teacher Appointment:
 1. Nadia Weiss, effective 10/26/16

8. Consent Agenda - Special Services

Action (Consent): 8.1 CSE/SubCSE/CPSE Recommendations

9. Consent Agenda - Business

Action (Consent): 9.1 Business Items

- 9.1 Acceptance of Donation from the Byram Hills Education Foundation, Inc.
Resolved, that the Board accepted the donation of \$25,000 from the Byram Hills Education Foundation, Inc. to fund the 2016-17 Insta-Grant program.
- 9.2 Authorization to Execute Five Contracts for Educational Services with Pleasantville Union Free School District for the 2016-17 School Year
Resolved, that the Board authorized the Superintendent to execute five contracts for educational services with the Pleasantville Union Free School District for the 2016-17 fiscal year.
- 9.3 Authorization to Execute Contract for Educational Services with the Perkins School for the Blind for the 2016-17 School Year
Resolved, that the Board authorized the Superintendent to execute a contract with the Perkins School for the Blind for educational services for the 2016-17 fiscal year.
- 9.4 Authorization to Execute Contract for Educational Services with Green Chimneys School for the 2016-17 Fiscal Year
Resolved, that the Board authorized the Board President and Superintendent to execute a contract with the Green Chimneys School for educational and related services for the 2016-17 fiscal year.
- 9.5 Authorization to Execute Contract for Educational Services with the Clearview School for the 2016-17 Fiscal Year
Resolved, that the Board authorized the Superintendent to execute a contract with the Clearview School for educational and related services for the 2016-17 fiscal year.
- 9.6 Authorization to Execute Contract for Instructional Services with the Mount Pleasant Central School District for the 2016-17 Fiscal Year
Resolved, that the Board authorized the Board President to execute a contract with the Mount Pleasant Central School District for educational and related services for the 2016-17 fiscal year.
- 9.7 Authorization to Execute Contract for Instructional Services with the North Salem Central School District for the 2016-17 Fiscal Year
Resolved, that the Board authorized the Board President to execute a contract with the North Salem Central School District for educational and related services for the 2016-17 fiscal year.
- 9.8 Authorization to Execute Contract with PearlCare Medical Staffing, LLC for Health Services for the 2016-17 Fiscal Year
Resolved, that the Board authorized the Superintendent to execute a contract with PearlCare Medical Staffing, LLC for health services for the 2016-17 fiscal year.
- 9.9 Award of Bid for Bus Wash Equipment
Resolved, that the Board awarded the bus wash equipment bid to Interclean Equipment in an amount not to exceed \$246,032.
- 9.10 Authorization to Close Out Completed Capital Projects to the General Fund
Resolved, that the Board authorized the close out of four completed Capital Fund Projects to the General Fund.

- 9.11 Acceptance of Treasurer's Report for August and September 2016
Resolved, that the Board accepted the Treasurer's Report for September 2016.

10. Special Report #2: Curriculum Conversation - 2016-2017 Administrative Goals

Discussion, Information, Presentation: 10.1 Curriculum Conversation: 2016-2017 Administrative Goals

Dr. Donohue introduced the evening's Curriculum Conversation on the 2016-2017 Administrative Goals. He noted that for many years the District has had a curriculum conversation during an October Board on the topic of administrators' goals. In the past the administrators took a very direct and traditional approach to their goals and provided charts to the Board indicating the goals, the progress to date and the proposed outcomes. Last year, the Administrative Team adopted a new approach that they hoped would better promote 21st Century learning. To this end they developed a series of "Essential Questions" designed to expand the thinking of the administrators and faculty.

Dr. Donohue then introduced Dr. Kaltenecker to begin the discussion for the Curriculum Conversation with the District Administrators in attendance. Dr. Kaltenecker discussed the "Essential Questions" the administrators would be asking and he thanked the Board for allowing them the freedom to explore what is important to the District and the students, adding that he is proud to work with these administrators. Mr. Schulman added that not a day goes by when he's not amazed by the work done with Dr. Kaltenecker.

Dr. Kaltenecker presented last year's Essential Questions and the updated Essential Questions explored during the July 2016 Administrative Retreat. Their goal was to think about what the question meant to the administrators and what it means to students, and then explore authentic learning opportunities.

A number of the administrators discussed their questions and explained why they asked their particular question. For example, Mr. Chris Walsh, BHHS Principal, asked "What does it mean to be a Byram Hills graduate in the 21st century?" Mr. Walsh said the creation of this question came about during his interview process (for the high school principalship) and his transition from Assistant Principal to Principal, as well as during the 50th Anniversary of the District. He noted that Byram Hills has churned out fifty years of graduates, and wondered if there is there a common thread. He noted when that question was asked, it shines a light on the mission the Board has created, and now we are assessing if we have achieved it.

Dr. Kaltenecker mentioned that to achieve a productive and responsible student, one characteristic needed is to be able to tolerate ambiguity. Dr. Kaltenecker stated the administrators are looking at authentic opportunities for student learning, so they began examining Regents exams. He said they are not the first District to abandon upper level Regents, however, the question is, "what replaces them? and "How do we know we are reaching the benchmarks?" He explained that the Math teachers thought, after all of the changes in past years, they would rather concentrate more on depth of learning, and the Regents testing was not enabling them to accomplish that. He reported that the math teachers would rather shift to inquiry-based and problem-solving in the classroom. Dr. Kaltenecker explained that students need five Regents exams in order to graduate. Dr. Donohue reported that the District wants to have students take the minimum required number of Regents in order to graduate.

Dr. Kaltenecker and the administrators discussed some other assessments being used. Ms. Jen Laden, Social Studies Chair, discussed the sixth grade student travel portfolios, and Mr. Duane Smith, English Chair, discussed the 10th grade storytelling projects. It was explained that there is a relationship between storytelling and pitching an idea and the teachers are in the midst of designing how it will actually work.

Dr. Kaltenecker added that working on *Global Competency* is another skill that is emerging. Melissa Stahl, World Languages Chair, noted that the Asia Society definition for *Global Competency* is "for students to investigate the world beyond the immediate environment, consider a variety of perspectives, communicate ideas, and take meaningful action." Ms. Stahl reported that she attended a seminar at Harvard with Mr. Duane Smith, English Chair and Ms. Jen Laden, Social Studies Chair, for a think-tank to develop interdisciplinary plans. She further explained that the District went from working in silos to now using language with a purpose.

Dr. Kaltenecker added that the Arts are part of STEM, now (STEAM). Mr. Deepak Marwah, Director of Fine Arts, provided discussion for his question, "Why are the arts essential?" Mr. Marwah is trying to identify ways to supplement the arts with Global Studies and World Languages. For example, at the high school, teacher Mr. Jonah Piali will explore Motown music and

how it influenced American society. At Wampus, Ms. Katherine Constantine teaches not just print making, but ties it into current issues. At the middle school, they discuss symbols, artist Keith Haring and the aids movement in New York City. He is hoping to continue making those connections in the Fine Arts Department. Mr. Marwah explained that art appreciation is not something that can be measured, but it can be seen through the students support of one another, for example, when they are in school shows. Mr. Marwah commented that there has always been a huge amount of support from parents, but he would like to see it come from the students, as well.

Dr. Kaltenecker asked Ms. Lapple and Dr. Powderly to discuss problem-based learning at the middle school. An example given was in sixth grade science, where the students are going to be asked how their chair helps in learning, and can they develop a chair that impacts their learning. Students will then learn about synthetic vs. natural fibers, scientific methods, etc. It was noted that someone will have a seat cushion that will be presented to Dr. Powderly. It's development is in the early stages, but some teachers already have units and components and they are very excited about the units and the students are, as well.

Dr. Powderly also discussed the co-teach program, which has been most successful, and both parents and teachers have embraced it. It was explained how in eighth grade science, students built a rollercoaster that takes the longest time for a marble to get to the bottom. It was noted that two of the students that completed the best projects were two special education students. Ms. Jill Boynton, Director of Special Education, said that when she walks into the classroom, you can't tell the difference between the special education teacher and students and the general education teacher and students. It was explained that there is a consultant to provide professional development, and they hope to expand the work to grades K-9. It was noted that this program has been beneficial to the special education students. Teachers in co-teach classrooms conduct parallel teaching, or work in groups or pairs, and the teachers can go from one group to the other, as well. However, they do need planning time for seamless transition.

Dr. Kaltenecker asked Dr. Andrew Taylor, Director of Technology, about screen time. Dr. Taylor explained that we tend to lump screen time into any time a student is using the computer. He noted that there is passive time, or interactive time, which are both considered consumption times. There is also creative use of technology time and we have to define how the students are using the technology. Dr. Taylor, stated, that because of this, protocols need to be set. Dr. Kaltenecker added that we are really promoting technology but are not giving up some of the traditional methods.

Dr. Kaltenecker asked Mr. Rob Castagna, Director of Health Education, Physical Education and Athletics, to discuss the focus on a healthy lifestyle involving nutrition, decision making, mental and emotional health, and physical fitness and movement. He was asked about healthy lifestyles in the 21st century and what is different about it. Mr. Castagna explained that in some ways, it is not different at all. However, in other ways, the amount of information that is available requires students to evaluate the accuracy and importance. Therefore, decision making is an extremely important skill that they work on. Mr. Castagna added that when the students graduate from Byram Hills, it is also important for them to know what resources are available when they leave, and use mindfulness as a stress relief.

Dr. Kaltenecker added, thinking about stress, Ms. McInerney, Coman Hill Principal, has thought about how incorporating play can become part of helping students. She explained that structured and unstructured play is purposeful, and she is trying to bring play back into the classroom. She noted that students can have time to use inquiry as an instructional tool. By doing this, it sets the children up to drive their own learning. She further explained that we have to trust our children so they test their boundaries of what they can and cannot do. She noted that people learn how to behave through their own experience. Ms. McInerney is hoping to use play for a culture of learning, and have students leave happy, well-adjusted, and high on life.

Mr. Schulman asked how play helps with attention spans. Ms. McInerney said there is much research on children setting goals. They can provide a child 12 minutes of play and 5 minutes to clean-up. What is new is getting teachers to free themselves up to provide an hour a week of unstructured play, noting it is a challenge for the teachers.

Mr. Summers said it is making students aware of the processes of setting goals, monitoring progress, and students self assessing, as opposed to showing up to a room and taking a test and the teacher just telling them what is right or wrong.

Ms. Cagliostro, Wampus Principal, said they have always assumed that memory or organization and planning is what you have, but noted that those skills are teachable (but have never been taught through a curriculum). Ms. Cagliostro explained that with brain research, they are now aware that these skills can be taught and that building executive function skills and abilities is a new way of looking at learning. She also added that by finding a need for why students have to learn something and give them opportunities to find solutions to the question, for example, natural disasters, we can build in the executive function skill. As an

example, teachers can ask students the question, "What kind of disasters are prone to happen in your region?" and "How will you make sure you and your family will survive?" Students can then latch their fingers into it and collaborate and conduct research which results in the students being so much more engaged and there is then a different energy in the room.

Mr. Summers complimented Dr. Kaltenecker and Dr. Donohue for the evolution that they have seen in the last couple of years with the administrative goals. He said they have mirrored for the Board what they are trying to do for the students in the classroom to make it more authentic. He mentioned that it is exciting for the Board members to get those insights and see the direction the administrators are taking in regard to the students. He mentioned how the staff and students are really growing as a district and how great it is to be a part of it. He thanked all the administrators for their attendance.

A brief recess was taken at 9:08 p.m. The meeting resumed at 9:13 p.m.

11. Special Report #3: Enrollment Report: BEDS Day - October 5, 2016

Information, Report: 11.1 Enrollment Report: BEDS Day, October 5, 2016

Dr. Donohue commented on how the BEDS Day Report used to be much more significant in past years in New York and was used as the official enrollment figures for the school year.

School	Grade	Boys	Girls	BEDS Day Enrollment 10/5/16	Demographic Projection
COMAN HILL	K	82	59	141	159
	1	81	70	151	146
	2	97	81	178	175
TOTAL		260	210	470	480
WAMPUS	3	87	86	173	172
	4	94	94	188	194
	5	88	86	174	174
		269	266	535	540
HCC	6	78	72	150	152
	7	94	109	203	200
	8	100	94	194	198
TOTAL		272	275	547	550
BHHS	9	100	92	192	188
	10	121	94	215	218
	11	103	105	208	208
	12	100	107	207	212
TOTAL		424	398	822	826
GRAND TOTAL				2,374	2,396

12. Unfinished Business

Action, Discussion: 12.1 Review of Policies: Second Read: 1800 (Donations, Gifts and Grants to the District); First Read: 1230 (Public Participation at Board Meetings); 2551 (Board Member E-mail Addresses and Accounts); Non-Policy Review: Guidance for Public Input at Board Meetings

A motion was made by Ms. Glat and seconded by Mr. Sanders to approve Policy 1800 (Donations, Gifts and Grants to the District) as a Second Read, Vote: 6-yes, 0-no. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Schulman and seconded by Mr. Levy to approve Policies 1230 (Public Participation at Board Meetings), 2551 (Board Member Email Addresses and Accounts), as First Reads. Vote: 6-yes, 0-no. Motion carried.

Some discussion was held on Non-Policy Review: Guidance for Public Input at Board Meetings. Ms. Glat asked if the numbering was still needed on the list. Ms. Lamia mentioned that she will include this Guidance document for the next Policy Committee meeting. She explained that the numbering was to help refer to and follow the guidelines.

13. New Business

Action, Information, Presentation: 13.1 Acceptance of a Byram Hills Education Foundation Fall 2016 Direct Giving Grant

Dr. Donohue introduced the discussion regarding the Dedicated Giving Grant from the Byram Hills Education Foundation. He reported that this grant, "Library 2.0" is the largest grant ever awarded by the Foundation (\$313,000) and will make a significant impact on the school libraries.

Dr. Andrew Taylor, Director of Technology, discussed the plans for "Library 2.0." He began his presentation with the H.C. Crittenden Middle School Library: He showed how the current library design would be reconfigured to provide new and varied types of learning spaces. where students can work in large or small groups, have private reading or study space, make presentations or do "hands-on" work. Dr. Taylor also presented furniture options for the library which will facilitate the various kinds of learning. He also mentioned how the computer lab, adjacent to the library, will be utilized for small group student work. Another area that will be promoted will be the introduction of new lending libraries, for example, allowing a student to take home a robot. Dr. Taylor described that movement and flexibility of the space is important and the design of both areas is ongoing.

Dr. Taylor then offered a preview of the new design space at the Wampus School: The Wampus "Library 2.0" space allows the library to open up and include several adjacent classrooms classrooms. The new design will be able to have two to three classrooms occupying the same area at one time. Interactive Smartboards will be mounted so as to handle either large or small groups, little "nooks" will be added, a green screen studio for video taping and a loft area will also be added.

Dr. Taylor also presented the new design for Coman Hill: The plan is to relocate library bookshelves to create separation in the room. The current computer lab will become a "rock garden" with beanbag seating and a "tree house" will also be made available. The computer lab will be expanded to include a MakersSpace area.

Mr. Schulman commented on what a remarkable gift this is from the Foundation; something other districts can only envy.

A motion was made by Mr. Schulman and seconded by Mr. Levy to accept the Byram Hills Education Foundation Fall 2016 Direct Giving Grant with gratitude to the Byram Hills Education Foundation. Vote: 6-yes, 0-no. Motion carried.

Dr. Donohue added that the Foundation recently funded renovations to Technology Labs at Wampus, HCC and the High School computer lab. Mr. Levy mentioned that the Foundation Board expressed their gratitude to the District, as there was much planning on the District's part to make all these designs possible.

Dr. Donohue added that if you are a parent making a charitable donation to the Foundation, it is a way to make a positive impact on your child's classroom learning, while earning a tax deduction. Dr. Donohue reported that this year and last year's grants awarded by the Foundation has totaled up to a half million dollars!

14. Staff Reports

Information: 14.1 Superintendent

Dr. Donohue noted a distinguished member of the community, Mr. Greco, had called to pass along his thanks for the Board's work on the Veteran's Tax Exemption.

Information: 14.2 Assistant Superintendent for Business and Management Services, District Clerk

Mr. Carlson provided an update on the District's water testing for lead. Byram Hills completed testing at all the District's schools, and today was the deadline to provide the report to the State regarding costs, etc. He noted that some other school districts

haven't yet conducted water testing. Byram Hills had 493 sites tested at a cost of \$78 each or approximately \$38,000. He discussed the costs and options of remediation for those sites that fail. He explained that certain sites that fail can temporarily be disconnected, however, this is not acceptable solution as a long-term fix; the fixture must be replaced. Fixture replacements, such as Taps (sinks) are \$150 per tap and \$2,500 per bubbler. This could possibly cost the District \$100,000-\$150,000. It was noted that once the District receives a final report, Dr. Donohue will send a notice to the staff and the community and it will be published on the District's website. Dr. Donohue will inform parents that the District is in the process of testing for lead in the water and information should be posted on the District's website by November 14, 2016. Mr. Carlson stated that at the elementary schools, any sites suspected of having a problem are shut down. He reported that at the middle school and high school, a decision will be made to either take the site offline or place signage. Mr. Carlson mentioned that most repairs will be done by District personnel. He stated that it is the belief that any lead appearing in the water is the result from soldering. He reported that the testing is being conducted by Louis Berger who is contracted through BOCES. He explained that by contracting through BOCES, the District receives a statutory minimum reimbursement of 33%. Dr. Donohue added that we do not believe this to be a crisis situation because the District tested for lead in the water in the spring of 2016 and by the "old standards" measurements, the results were within normal limits, so these levels in question are very low. The greatest danger of lead poisoning for children is generally not at schools, but injection of lead (usually from pain or paint dust) when they are under 4-6 years of age. Dr. Donohue mentioned that one thing the District may want to review is that, overall, we have nearly 500 water outlets in the four school buildings. We may want to consider reducing that number as we address the new water test results.

Information: 14.3 Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Kaltenecker provided his report during the Curriculum Conversation. The Board thanked Dr. Kaltenecker for his work in providing this discussion.

Information: 14.4 Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

Ms. Lamia discussed Extra-Curricular Clubs and Activities. She noted that this is the time of year when she receives reports from the club and activities advisors. She mentioned how it is such an exciting time to be a child in Byram Hills! She reported that at the Wampus School, there are four clubs or activities, with over 200 students involved. She explained how all these extra-curricular clubs and activities follow a path, noting that if a student starts with theater, VIP or extended learning at Wampus, they can continue this path at the middle school and high school. Ms. Lamia reported that with so many high school extracurricular clubs and activities available to students, the total combined number of students in all the high school clubs is 1,384 students. Ms. Lamia stated that she would like to look into possibly having more programs available to students at the Wampus School.

15. Board Reports

Information: 15.1 Committees / Board Members

Mr. Summers noted the WPSBA Board and Legislative Advocacy meeting will be held on November 10, 2016 and the Annual WPSBA Joint Board and Superintendent Dinner will be held on November 14, 2016. He also mentioned that the Byram Hills Board of Education will be holding their retreat on November 15, 2016.

Information: 15.2 Request for Information

There was no Request for Information.

Information: 15.3 President

Some discussion was held on Social/Emotional Wellness programs since Mr. Summers and Mr. Levy attended a meeting on the topic where area districts presented their programs and how they are dealing with student wellness. Mr. Chris Walsh, BHHS Principal, also attended the meeting and presented the District's high school Flexible Learning Program. Mr. Summers and Mr. Levy mentioned that it was an important topic and would like to discuss it further. Dr. Donohue reported that District teachers, guidance counselors and administrators have received extensive training on this topic. Mr. Schulman asked if it was a Request for Information and Mr. Summers felt it was. Dr. Donohue commented that if the Board would like to learn more about what the

District is doing on this topic, he could ask some staff to attend a future Board meeting or provide an overview of programs and additional information to the Board.

Mr. Sanders noted that an Athletic Advisory meeting was held on October 7, 2016. He reported that Mr. Rob Castagna, Director of Athletics, was in attendance and officiating issues was one of the topics discussed. He reported that there seems to be an increasing issue surrounding officiating and cancelation at the JV and Modified level. Mr. Schulman noted that the Journal News is conducting a series on the crisis in officiating and how the organizations are having fewer number of qualified officials, noting that this will reach a critical situation in approximately a year or two.

Mr. Sanders mentioned that the feedback received on Mr. Dan Santoro, who was hired to evaluate students has been phenomenal. He also made mention of the Concussion Management program called *Learn to Return*, and reported that the District has taken a 360 degree turn on this topic and is taking excellent care of our students. Dr. Donohue added they do baseline testing for all Byram Hills students, not just our athletes.

Mr. Schulman added there is one team, the Boys Varsity Soccer Team, that has advanced for the eleventh straight year to the Class A Sectional Semi-finals. He said it is an incredibly deep program, and congratulated Coach Allen and the players. He noted that the team plays at 3:00 p.m. tomorrow against Somers. Mr. Schulman also congratulated the Girls Soccer Team on winning their first round match, noting that they are winning as the underdog and winning on penalty kicks, and that it has been a successful year for Coach Horn. Mr. Schulman also congratulated Coach Govan and the Cross Country Team, noting that their two most competitive events are yet to come.

Mr. Summers noted a Town District Liaison meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2016.

16. Communications to the Board

Information: 16.1 Communications to the Board

There were no Communications to the Board

17. Approval of Board Minutes

Action: 17.1 Approval of Board of Education Minutes: September 27, 2016

Mr. Schulman noted that he spoke, at some length, concerning the Veteran's Tax Exemption and would like the minutes to reflect his discussion on the topic.

Mr. Summers added a change to paragraph 5 of the same section - he wanted to delete the section about Senator Latimer is going to cosponsor a bill, and insert "provided he is reelected, he intends to cosponsor a bill in the next legislative session" instead. He also noted Senator Latimer is in a tight race and invited Mr. Summers to call him the day after the vote, and he will start addressing the matter.

A motion was made by Mr. Schulman and seconded by Mr. Sanders not to approve the minutes until the next Board meeting, so that revisions can be made. Vote: 6-yes, 0-no. Motion carried.

Mr. Schulman added that a community member and former parent, Mrs. Carol Lowenstein has recently passed away and he offered condolences to her family, on behalf of the Board and the District. Dr. Donohue added she and her husband were solely responsible for initiating the *Facing History and Ourselves* program into Byram Hills middle school and high school. Mrs. Lowenstein was a past member of the Byram Hills Education Foundation and introduced the program through Ms. Kim Lapple and Dr. Tim Kaltenecker, noting that it was real lasting contribution to the District.

18. Executive Session

The Board met in Executive Session earlier and completed discussions on:

3.1 Contract Matter - Negotiations

3.2 Legal Matter - Individual Student

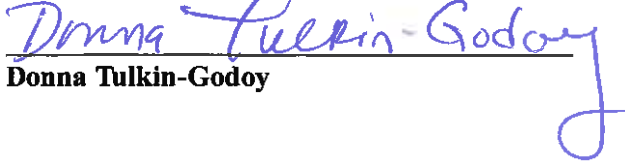
3.3 Legal Matter - Transportation

3.4 Board of Education Matter - Board Retreat

19. Adjournment

At 10:13 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Schulman and seconded by Mr. Sanders to adjourn the meeting. Vote: 6-yes 0-no. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,


Donna Tulkin-Godoy

November 8, 2016

Date Approved