

WESTHAMPTON BEACH UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
340 Mill Road
Westhampton Beach, NY 11978



Minutes of Special Board of Education Meeting
High School Library
Wednesday, July 30, 2025 (6:30 PM)

Members Present: Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Members Absent: Heather A. Wright and Daniel A. Bennett

Also Present: Carolyn Probst, William Fisher, and Lisa Rheume

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Lanni-Hewitt called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

3. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND UPDATES

There were no presentations or updates given.

4. MINUTES

4.1 Approval of Board Meeting Minutes - July 7, 2025

The Board approves the minutes of the Reorganizational Meeting held on July 7, 2025.

[Reorganizational Board Meeting - Jul 07 2025 - Minutes - Html](#)

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

5. SPECIAL EDUCATION

5.1 CSE and CPSE Recommendations

Approval of CSE and CPSE recommendations from the following meeting dates: 6/25, 7/7 and 7/14.

Moved by: Dawn Arrasate, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

6. FINANCIALS

There were no financials.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

7.1 Approval of ESBOCES Transportation Contract

The Board approves a contract with ESBOCES for district transportation during the 2025-

2026 school year. [Contracts ESBOCES Transportation.pdf](#)

Moved by: Dawn Arrasate, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

7.2 Approval of Superintendent Contract Amendment

The Board approves an amendment to the Superintendent of Schools contract for the 2025-2026 school year. [Amendment #4 Supt. Agreement of January 2021.pdf](#)

Moved by: Dawn Arrasate, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

7.3 Memorandum of Agreement/Director of Facilities III

The Board hereby approves a Memorandum of Agreement with Tracy Farrell, Director of Facilities III for the term of August 18, 2025 - June 30, 2028. [Farrell.pdf](#)

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Dawn Arrasate

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

7.4 Approval of Herbicide and Crabgrass Application

The Board hereby approves the annual herbicide and crabgrass application by Turf Brothers Inc. [Herbicide and Crabgrass Application.pdf](#)

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Ryan M. Fay

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

7.5 Disposal of Assets

The Board hereby approves the recommendation to dispose of the following unrepairable and outdated items:

Asset Tag	Description	Location
005530	Dryer	HS Gym Utility Closet
004744	Kyocera TASKalfa-650li	Buildings and Grounds
005431	Kyocera TASKalfa-450li	Athletics
004747	Kyocera TASKalfa-800li	HS Faculty Room 131
004743	Kyocera TASKalfa-450li	Outside Food Service Office
004370	Kyocera TASKalfa-650li	Kindergarten Wing
005425	Kyocera TASKalfa-650li	ES Faculty Room 210

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

7.6 Approval of Sending District Instruction Contracts

The Board hereby authorizes the Board President to execute instruction contracts (SA-10 form) with the East Moriches and Remsenburg-Speonk school districts for the 2025-2025 school year. [East Moriches Instruction Contract 25-26.pdf](#)
[Remsenburg-Speonk Instruction Contract 25-26.pdf](#)

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Dawn Arrasate

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

7.7 Approval of Home Tutoring Contract

The Board approves a consultant services contract with Four Winds Hospital to provide tutoring services for the 2025-26 school year. [Four Winds Hospital.pdf](#)

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Ryan M. Fay

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

7.8 Approval of Consultant Services Contract

The Board approves a consultant services contract with Amergis Healthcare Staffing, Inc. for the 2025-26 school year. [25-26 Amergis Healthcare Staffing Inc.pdf](#)

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Jennifer Neumaier

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

7.9 Budget Transfers

The Board hereby approves the following budget transfers:

	From		To		Amount
	Code Number	Code Title	Code Number	Code Title	
1.	2110-470-00-05	Charter School	2110-400-05-08	School Resource Officer	\$18,165.20
2.	9731-710-00-05	BAN Interest	9731-610-00-05	BAN Principal	\$1,629,650
3.	various	various	various	various	\$191,299
4.	various	various	various	various	\$33,810
5.	2110-490-00-08	BOCES Services DW	2110-490-00-02	BOCES Services MS	\$2,200
6.	2010-490-00-08 2110-490-00-08	Curriculum Dev (\$6,500) BOCES Services DW (\$6,500)	2250-490-00-08	SPED - BOCES Services	\$13,000
7.	1670-500-00-05	Postage Supplies - Districtwide	2630-500-00-02	Supplies-Middle School	\$12,640

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

8. PERSONNEL

[Personnel Action Report 7.30.2025.pdf](#)

8.1 Appointment/Director of Facilities III

Tracy Farrell

The Board hereby appoints Tracy Farrell as the Director of Facilities beginning on August 18, 2025 at a salary of \$140,000 (prorated), with a twenty-six week probationary period through January 30, 2026, as per civil service rules and regulations.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

8.2 Request for Medical Leave of Absence Extension/HS Science Teacher

Danielle Bergh

The request by Danielle Bergh to extend her medical leave to November 21, 2025, with a planned return to her teaching position on November 24, 2025, is approved.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Dawn Arrasate

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

8.3 Appointment/HS Science Leave Replacement Teacher

Maria Pepey

The recommendation to appoint Maria Pepey as a Science Leave Replacement Teacher assigned to the High School, effective August 28, 2025 through November 21, 2025, at Step 1D, MA, \$63,577 (prorated), is approved.

Moved by: Dawn Arrasate, Seconded by: Jennifer Neumaier

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

8.4 Appointment/1.0 FTE Speech Language Leave Replacement Teacher 0.8 FTE Speech Language Teacher -

Katherine Tarantowicz

The recommendation to appoint Katherine Tarantowicz as a 1.0 FTE Speech Language Leave Replacement Teacher, effective on or about September 3, 2025 through December 23, 2025 at Step 2, MA+10, \$68,423 (prorated), and as 0.8 FTE Speech Language Teacher, effective on or about August 28, 2025 through September 2, 2025 and January 5, 2026 through June 26, 2026, at Step 2, MA+10, \$68,423 (prorated), is approved.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

8.5 Request for Childcare Leave of Absence Extension/ES Art Teacher

Sarah Drake

The request from Sarah Drake for an extension to her unpaid childcare leave of absence through November 7, 2025, returning to her teaching position on November 10, 2025, is approved.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Dawn Arrasate

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

8.6 Appointment/ES Art Leave Replacement Teacher**Diana Cosajay**

The recommendation to appoint Diana Cosajay as an Art Leave Replacement assigned to the Elementary School effective August 28, 2025 through November 7, 2025, Step 2D, MA, \$66,545 (prorated), is approved.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Jennifer Neumaier

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

8.7 Appointment/HS Foreign Language Teacher**Kassondra Porter**

The recommendation to appoint Kassondra Porter as a Foreign Language Teacher assigned to the High School, effective September 1, 2025, with a four-year probationary period through August 31, 2029 in the tenure area of Foreign Language, at Step 5D, MA, \$75,451, is approved.

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Dawn Arrasate

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

8.8 Salary Modification/ES Office Assistant**Tatiana Borrellie**

The recommendation that Tatiana Borrellie's Office Assistant salary be adjusted to Step 1, \$37,857, based on the Clerical Association's salary schedule dated February 6, 2025, is approved.

Moved by: Dawn Arrasate, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

8.9 Appointment/Summer Recreation - Academy Recommendations

The recommendation to appoint additional staff for the 2025 Summer Recreation/Academy as listed below is approved.

Recreation Staff			
Position	Staff	Salary	Payment Authorization
Director	Anthony Cappiello	\$6,180	
Asst Director	Kim Mercready	\$3,135	
Nurse	Rebecca Capatosto	\$2,800	
Monitor	Andrea Gaynor	\$1,000	
Monitor	Louis Peruso	\$1,000	
Monitor	Bea Allen	\$1,000	
Monitor	Gabrielle Burns	\$1,000	
Kindergarten Recreation	Taylor Gallarello	\$1,800	
1st Grade Recreation	Julieanna Joy	\$1,800	
2nd Grade Recreation	Erin Albanese	\$1,800	
3rd Grade Recreation	Charlotte Castiglione	\$1,800	
Computer Lab	Carmela Giammarino Bowman	\$1,800	
Sports	James Vogel	\$1,800	
Sports	Zach Arrasate	\$1,800	
Game Room	Pam Hubbard	\$1,800	
Game Room	Carol Braithwaite	\$1,800	
Art Room	Susan Blackler	\$1,800	

Swordfish/Swimming Lessons Staff			
Position	Staff	Salary	Payment Authorization
WSI	Elizabeth Scott Pothier	\$1,575	
WSI	Liam McIntosh	\$1,000	
WSI	Emily Tully	\$1,000	
Lifeguard	Riley Smith	\$1,000	
Lifeguard	Charlotte Castiglione	\$1,000	
Lifeguard	Erin Albanese	\$800	
Lifeguard	Jenny Price	\$850	Prorated (17 days)
Academy Staff			
Position	Staff	Salary	Confirmed Students
Kindergarten	Tom O'Leary	\$2,710.92	
Kindergarten	Dara Penn	\$2,710.92	
1st Grade	Lauren Gomez	\$2,710.92	
2nd Grade	Heidi Kalmus	\$2,710.92	
3rd Grade	Mary Milano	\$2,710.92	
4th Grade	Kaleigh Locke	\$2,710.92	
5th Grade	Gabriella Thomasch	\$2,710.92	
6th Grade	Jenny Price	\$2,710.92	
Sp Ed Push In 4x/week	Jen Cucinotta	\$2,168.74	
Special Education	Taryn Brown	\$2,710.92	
ENL	Brooke Russell	\$2,710.92	
ENL	Tara Bishop	\$2,710.92	
Speech	Katherine Tarantowicz	\$2,710.92	
1:1 Aide	Tracy Ferguson	\$1,800.00	

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Abstain Dawn Arrasate

Carried 4-0

8.10 Appointment/Home Tutors

The recommendation to approve the following Home Tutors for the 2025-2026 school year is approved.

Maria Pepey
Gretchen Jellett
General Education Teachers (District Employees)
Special Education Teachers (District Employees)

Moved by: Jennifer Neumaier, Seconded by: Ryan M. Fay

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

8.11 Appointment/Substitutes

The recommendation to approve the following Substitute Teachers and Proctors is approved.

Per Diem Substitute Teachers/HS Permanent Substitute Teachers (9/29/25-6/12/26):				
Zachary Arrasate	Richard Harris	Allan Labbe	Barbara Mims	Bernadette Ryan
Per Diem Substitute Teachers/MS Permanent Substitute Teachers (9/29/25-6/12/26):				
Emily Behr	Leigh Machado	Robert Pinney		

Per Diem Substitute Teachers/ES Permanent Substitute Teachers (9/29/25-6/12/26):			
Deborah LoGelfo	Marie Milano	Gabriella Thomasch	Yuting Zhou

Per Diem Substitute Teachers:			
Tara Bonawandt	Robin Held	Thomas Hoare	Maria Pepey
Emma Sacco	James Schulz		

Uncertified Per Diem Substitute Teachers:			
Justin Fren	Taylor Gallarello	Perry Jacobs	Natalie Moore (MS)
William Ponce (HS)	Karen Strupinski	Regina VanderSchaaf	

Proctors:			
Catharine Nobiletti	Marie Pepey	Dale Quinn	Susan Rosenberg

Moved by: Ryan M. Fay, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Abstain Dawn Arrasate

Carried 4-0

8.12 Appointment/Substitutes for the 2025-2026 School Year

The recommendation to appoint the following substitutes for the 2025-2026 school year is approved.

Substitute Clerical: Patti Engel
Substitute Guard: Christopher Yap

Moved by: Ryan M. Fay, Seconded by: Halsey C. Stevens

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

9. REPORTS

9.1 Postings were received.

10. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 First Reading of New Board Policy

The Board motioned to waive all readings of new board policy, 5695 – Students and Personal Electronic Devices, and adopted the policy.

[5695 - Students and Personal Electronic Devices](#)

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Dawn Arrasate

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

12. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no comments.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

13.1 Motion to Recess into Executive Session

The Board recessed into executive session at 6:54 p.m. to discuss ongoing negotiations.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Jennifer Neumaier

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and
Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

13.2 Motion to Return to Open Session

The Board returned to open session at 8:31 p.m.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Jennifer Neumaier

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and
Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0

14. ADJOURNMENT

All business being completed, Ms. Lanni-Hewitt declared the meeting adjourned.

Moved by: Halsey C. Stevens, Seconded by: Jennifer Neumaier

Aye Elizabeth T. Lanni-Hewitt, Dawn Arrasate, Ryan M. Fay, Jennifer Neumaier, and
Halsey C. Stevens

Carried 5-0



District Clerk