



Herricks Public Schools
Education Today Knowledge Forever

Herricks Public Schools Board of Education

999B Herricks Road
New Hyde Park, NY 11040
<https://www.herricks.org/HUFSD>

Regular Meeting ~ Minutes ~

Thursday, September 12, 2019

7:30 PM

Herricks Community Center

I Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by President Juleigh Chin

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Juleigh Chin	President	Present	
Henry Zanetti	Vice President	Present	
Nancy Feinstein	Trustee	Present	7:05 PM
James Gounaris	Trustee	Present	
Brian Hassan	Trustee	Absent	

II Executive Session

Mrs. Chin moved that the Board of Education recess into Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations and personnel matters. The motion was seconded by Mr. Zanetti and passed by unanimous vote.

III Meeting Reconvened

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was reconvened at 7:42pm.

IV Pledge of Allegiance

V Announcements and Correspondence

Mrs. Chin opened the meeting by welcoming the Public to tonight's Board meeting. Mrs. Chin, on behalf of the Board of Education, then read the following statement regarding HTA Negotiations:

We are pleased to report that the District and the Herricks Teachers' Association achieved tentative settlement late last night of the terms for a successor labor agreement to the one that expired June 30, 2018. Details will be released upon ratification of the tentative settlement by both the District and Association.

Mrs. Chin then asked if there were any announcements and correspondence from the Board. Among the items raised were the following:

The Student Government Representatives stated that it has been a smooth start to the new

school year. They added that the newly renovated courtyard looks great but were wondering if the District will be adding to it. Dr. Celano stated that we will definitely be adding trees and that not all of the furniture has arrived. Dr. Celano then suggested that Student Council have a conversation with Ms. Keegan, their principal, for some suggestions of what they would like to further enhance the courtyard.

A Student Government Representative stated that the newly renovated bathrooms in the 300 hallway of the High School look great and added that the students were wondering if any of the other bathrooms in the building will be renovated. Ms. Rutkoske stated that the District saved money by having the bathrooms done in house by our talented and skilled maintenance team. She added that, as funds become available, the District will look to keep working on renovations of bathrooms throughout the District. The student added that she noticed there wasn't a soap dispenser in the bathroom. Ms. Rutkoske stated that she will have maintenance look into it in the morning.

Ms. Maggiamo stated that the public may have noticed that the Board is using Chromebooks. This is because the District is going with paperless agendas and moving towards electronic versions of the agenda. She added that the Board and the Public will be able to view the agendas online prior to the actual meeting.

Ms. Rutkoske stated that central administration visited the Thursday Senior Citizen group to help celebrate a member's birthday. The member is a World War II veteran who just celebrated his 100th Birthday. She added that it was such a nice time.

Mr. Zanetti stated that he attended the first PTA District Council meeting of the new school year and that the members always share good business.

Mrs. Chin stated that all of the schools had a moment of silence in remembrance of September 11. She added that she attended two services in the town of North Hempstead and realized that the students born in 2001 are now freshmen in college. Mrs. Chin stated that it is important to educate all students about September 11, especially those that were born after 2001.

Mrs. Chin stated that she also attended the first PTA District Council meeting of the new school year and is excited to say that the Council has a great idea for their fundraiser this year and hopes it becomes an annual event.

Mrs. Chin stated that she attended Back to School Night at BOCES Tech and added how impressed she was with the school and its amazing curriculum.

Dr. Celano was happy to state that we had a very smooth start to school last week for all five Herricks schools. He added that our students, teachers and parents seemed excited and happy to return. Dr. Celano then stated that Back to School Night programs have begun in our schools, and urged parents to attend these important programs, which will enable parents to meet their child's teachers and see our renovated facilities. Dr. Celano then thanked the Board, Ms. Rutkoske, and the Facility Team for all of their hard work in and around the buildings.

VI Questions or Comments from the Public

Mrs. Chin asked if there were any questions or comments from the Public. Among the items raised were the following:

A resident thanked the Board for the new lockers at the High School and Middle School. He then stated that he understands that the students need curriculum time but asked if the Board would look into making the lunch period a little longer. He then stated that he feels 22 minutes isn't enough time for students to get and eat their lunch. Dr. Celano stated that the Middle School administration is currently looking into possible alternative schedules. Mrs. Chin assured the resident that in a couple of weeks, you will see how well the students adjust, and most student do well with the current lunch periods.

A resident stated that the paving looks good at Center Street School, but that the permanent poles that were at the end of the driveway need to be put back. The security guard is trying her best to prevent cars from entering but they just go around her. Ms. Rutkoske stated that she will discuss this with the facilities team and look into it.

VII Recommended Actions - Routine Business

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	James Gounaris, Trustee
SECONDER:	Henry Zanetti, Vice President
AYES:	Juleigh Chin, Henry Zanetti, Nancy Feinstein, James Gounaris
ABSENT:	Brian Hassan

A Approval of Minutes - See Enclosure #1

1 August 29, 2019 - Minutes

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board’s consideration:
Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the August 29, 2019 Minutes.

B Approval of Personnel Report - See Enclosure #2

1 Approval of Personnel Report

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board’s consideration:
Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the Personnel Report.

C Acceptance of Report of Committee on Special Education - See Enclosure #3

1 Acceptance of Report of Committee on Special Education

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board’s consideration:
Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the report of Committee on Special Education.

D Approval of Transfer Report for 2019-2020 - See Enclosure #4

1 Approval of Transfer Report

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board’s consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the 2019-2020 Transfer Report.

E Approval of Warrants - See Enclosure #6

Warrant #19	General Fund	\$ 640,605.16
Warrant #20	General Fund	\$ 514,450.28
Warrant #21	General Fund	\$ 37,877.37
Warrant # 7	Trust & Agency	\$ 552,685.29

1 Approval of Warrants

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board’s consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following:

General Fund Schedules: 19 through 21
Trust & Agency Schedules: 7

VIII Audit Committee: Review of Corrective Action Plan to the Office of the NYS Comptroller's Report of Examination - August 2019

Ms. Rutkoske reported that every five years the NYS Comptroller's Office (OSC) selects and visits a school district to conduct a District audit. The State Auditors conducted a risk assessment during the first 4 months and as you may have seen in Newsday, they selected to review overtime for the period July 1, 2017 through October 31, 2018. Ms. Rutkoske then stated that the District agrees with the State Auditors recommendations. The District had already been reviewing overtime for the past three years, and the District already initiated corrective action by substantially decreasing overtime and implementing similar actions as recommended by OSC. The District does try to preplan for special events as much as possible and always tries to do what’s best for the District’s students and community.

A copy of the Office of the NYS Comptroller’s Report along with District’s response letter is available on the Herricks website at:

<https://www.herricks.org/Page/11507>.

Mrs. Chin asked if there were any questions or concerns from the Board at this time. Among the items stated were the following:

Dr. Celano stated that when he first arrived at Herricks, the Board asked him to look into the amount of overtime, and with the help of Ms. Rutkoske and Mr. Abrams, who have been terrific, the District has reduced overtime by over \$300,000.00 in the last four years.

Mr. Gounaris stated that yes, this was one of the first things the Board asked Dr. Celano to look into and the Board has seen a positive improvement.

Ms. Rutkoske stated that the facilities team has been great and have been working with us to become more efficient.

Mrs. Chin asked if there were any questions or comments from the Public. There were none at this time.

IX District Goals Presentation: Dr. Fino Celano

Dr. Celano presented a PowerPoint on the 2019-20 District Goals. Dr. Celano started the presentation by stating how important it is to have goals and how goals address significant topics and have specific desired outcomes. Dr. Celano then reviewed the goals from 2018-2019, checking off the goals the District accomplished, followed by an explanation of goals that are multi-year or continuous. Dr. Celano then concluded with a list of the District's new goals for the 2019-2020 school year. Dr. Celano added that he is looking forward to another exciting new school year. A copy of Dr. Celano's PowerPoint presentation can be found on the District's website at <https://www.herricks.org/Domain/53>.

Mrs. Chin then asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. Among the items raised were the following:

Mrs. Chin asked when the District will present the results of the School Climate Survey. Dr. Celano said that there will be a presentation at one of our Fall Board meetings. Ms. Guercin stated that the District has already begun looking at the results and sharing them with principals and administrators.

Mrs. Chin asked if participation in Long Island Regional Advisory council on Higher Education (LIRACHE) is similar to EdLeader21. Dr. Celano stated that yes, they both foster success after graduation, and help give a sense of direction, perseverance, grit, and problem solving to prepare for college and career readiness.

Mrs. Chin then asked if there were any questions or concerns from the Public. Among the items raised were the following:

A resident asked how does the District assesses the four C's, which are critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity. Dr. Celano stated that we use rubrics to evaluate these things in the classroom. Students working as a team on projects show growth in learning and creativity.

A resident asked if the District would partner with companies such as Google. Mrs. Guercin stated that a number of teachers have gone to the Google site for training and are now Google certified. These teachers now train others through courses offered through our Teacher Center. Mrs. Guercin added that Google has reached out to the District and would like to do a presentation on what they may have to offer to support Herricks.

A resident asked if the District could look into a handicap ramp by the crosswalk near the high school field. Dr. Celano stated that yes we will look into that. Ms. Rutkoske added that we will revisit with the architect.

On behalf of the Board, Mrs. Chin thanked Dr. Celano, the administrators, and teachers for all the things that have been accomplished over the past year.

X Recommended Actions - New Business

A Acceptance of OSC Report of Examination and District's Response and Corrective Action Plan

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board’s consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following resolution:

Whereas, the Herricks Union Free School District received a “*Herricks Union Free School District “Overtime,” # 2019M-127, Period July 1, 2017-October 31, 2018*” issued by the Office of the State Comptroller (“Audit Report”);

Whereas, section 2116-a(3)(c) of the Education Law requires the School District to prepare a Corrective Action Plan in response to said Audit Report within ninety (90) days of receipt of the Report;

Whereas, the Board of Education, with the assistance of District Administration, prepared a Corrective Action Plan contained within the letter dated August 15, 2019 in response to the findings contained in the draft Audit Report;

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education hereby adopts the Corrective Action Plan annexed hereto;

Be It Further Resolved, that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to file said Corrective Action Plan with the Office of the State Comptroller and the State Education Department.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Nancy Feinstein, Trustee
SECONDER:	Henry Zanetti, Vice President
AYES:	Juleigh Chin, Henry Zanetti, Nancy Feinstein, James Gounaris
ABSENT:	Brian Hassan

B Approval of Nassau County OASAS Youth Drug Abuse Services Agreement

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board’s consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves a contract with Nassau County to provide Youth Drug Abuse Services for the period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 and to be reimbursed by Nassau County, through funding provided by NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, a maximum amount of \$98,745.00 for actual expenses incurred and authorizes the Superintendent to execute such agreement and corresponding attachments.

Note: These funds are used to support the social workers in the High School and Middle School.

RESULT:	APPROVED [3 TO 0]
MOVER:	James Gounaris, Trustee
SECONDER:	Nancy Feinstein, Trustee
AYES:	Henry Zanetti, Nancy Feinstein, James Gounaris
ABSENT:	Brian Hassan
RECUSED:	Juleigh Chin

C Approval of License Agreement with Tilles Center for 2020 Middle School Graduation

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board’s consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves a License Agreement with the Tilles Center for the Performing Arts to hold the Middle School graduation at the Tilles Center on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at an approximate cost of \$12,017.00.

Be It Further Resolved, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Tilles Center to print the graduation tickets at an additional cost of up to \$240.00.

Be It Further Resolved, that the President of the Board of Education be authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	James Gounaris, Trustee
SECONDER:	Nancy Feinstein, Trustee
AYES:	Juleigh Chin, Henry Zanetti, Nancy Feinstein, James Gounaris
ABSENT:	Brian Hassan

D Approval of Consultants for STAC Program

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board’s consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following consultants to run workshops for the 2019-20 school year, for Student Television Arts Company (STAC) Program at Herricks High School:

- B.A. Van Sise (Photography)
- Alex Tunney (Creative Writing)
- Michelle Brown (Art History)

Note: No workshop will last beyond five sessions at a rate of \$180.00 per session, for a maximum amount of no more than \$900.00 per instructor.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	James Gounaris, Trustee
SECONDER:	Nancy Feinstein, Trustee
AYES:	Juleigh Chin, Henry Zanetti, Nancy Feinstein, James Gounaris
ABSENT:	Brian Hassan

E Approval of Health Services Contracts for 2018-2019

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board’s consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the

Board of Education hereby approves Health Services Contracts for the 2018 - 2019 school year.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	James Gounaris, Trustee
SECONDER:	Nancy Feinstein, Trustee
AYES:	Juleigh Chin, Henry Zanetti, Nancy Feinstein, James Gounaris
ABSENT:	Brian Hassan

F Approval of Agreements for Special Education Related Educational Services

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves agreements for Special Education Related Educational Services for selected students and Special Education Consulting Services to the District during the 2019-20 School Year with the following service providers and authorizes the Board of Education President to execute the respective agreements once prepared.

1. Horizon Healthcare Staffing (2)*
2. Positive Behavior Services Consulting & Psychological Resources*

Note: As per Board Policy #6700, the School District may engage the services of professionals without the need for seeking alternative proposals. The individual or company should be chosen based on accountability, reliability, responsibility, skill, and education. The Board of Education authorized an Inter-Municipal Cooperative Agreement for Special Education Related Services Request for Proposal (RFP) on March 9, 2017 to participate with other Nassau County public school districts for the solicitation of proposals for Special Education Related Services on a cooperative basis, subject to the terms and conditions of the IMA. Service providers denoted with an (*) responded to the RFP. All contracts have been prepared by our attorney.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Nancy Feinstein, Trustee
SECONDER:	Henry Zanetti, Vice President
AYES:	Juleigh Chin, Henry Zanetti, Nancy Feinstein, James Gounaris
ABSENT:	Brian Hassan

G Approval of Special Education Contracts

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board’s consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following 2019-20 contract for students with special needs:

1. Commack UFSD 2019-20 Non Resident Tuition Contract
Covers one (1) student from Commack UFSD.

Note: This contract has been approved by our attorney.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Nancy Feinstein, Trustee
SECONDER:	Henry Zanetti, Vice President
AYES:	Juleigh Chin, Henry Zanetti, Nancy Feinstein, James Gounaris
ABSENT:	Brian Hassan

H Approval of Trip to NYSSMA All State Competition

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board’s consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves a trip for the Herricks High School Students to perform at the NYSSMA All State Competition, Rochester Convention Center in Rochester, NY from December 5, 2019 to December 8, 2019, at a cost of approximately \$305.00 per student. The students will miss two days of school.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Henry Zanetti, Vice President
SECONDER:	James Gounaris, Trustee
AYES:	Juleigh Chin, Henry Zanetti, Nancy Feinstein, James Gounaris
ABSENT:	Brian Hassan

XI Questions or Comments from the Public

Mrs. Chin asked if there were any questions or comments from the Public. Among the items raised were the following:

A resident thanked the Board and Central Administration for all of their hard work with the capital project improvements in and around the District.

XII New Business and Future Agenda Items

Mrs. Chin asked if there were any concerns or future agenda items from the Board. There were none at this time.

Mrs. Chin then mentioned the following future meetings:

- September 26, 2019 - Regular Board Meeting
- October 10, 2019 - Regular Board Meeting
- October 24, 2019 - Regular and External Audit Committee Meeting

XIII Future Business - Meetings are held at 7:30 PM unless otherwise noted

September 26, 2019	Community Center	Regular Meeting
October 10, 2019	Community Center	Regular Meeting
October 24, 2019	Community Center	Regular Meeting & <i>External Audit Committee Meeting</i>
November 7, 2019	Community Center	Regular Meeting
November 21, 2019	Community Center	Regular Meeting

XIV Adjournment

At 9:14pm, Mr. Gounaris made a motion to adjourn the Board of Education Public Session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Feinstein and passed by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Rutkoske, C.P.A.
District Clerk