

In an effort to increase Board/Public Communications, after each Board of Education meeting an email will be sent to parents, staff, and anyone who requested to receive district e-mail communications, highlighting board discussions.

The following was discussed at the December 13, 2018 meeting:

*Jackson Elementary School hosted the meeting after a successful curriculum fair. The students presented a video “Jackson Takes Over Brain Pop,” that demonstrated their skills in engineering. Also, the new school song was debuted. The video is available here:

<https://youtu.be/uuMyjhpgThE>

*Middle School and High School students updated those in attendance about school happenings during the Student Council reports.

*Student Board Representative Jiaqi Zhang was seated on the dais with the board and gave an update on Family Night. He also spoke about the LEAD program, which is the Learning Empathy Acknowledging Diversity collaborative program with Jericho, Uniondale and Rockville Centre High Schools.

*Maria Bombace, PTA Council President, invited everyone to the upcoming Open Council meeting on January 28, 2019 at Cantiague Elementary School at 9:30 AM and to the Legislative Forum on February 2, 2019 at 8:30 AM at Syosset School District.

*During the Superintendent’s report, Mr. Grishman spoke about a topic that has been discussed in the high school for some time – mandatory lunch for ninth graders. After a discussion with the board members, administration and the public, administration suggested the high school try a one-year pilot program and all ninth grade students will have a lunch period next year. It was also recommended that a forum be held in January or February for invited staff, students and parents to better understand the stress that our students feel.

*The district first presented a plan to the board to restructure the high school administration at the November Board Meeting and the conversation continued at the December Board Meeting. The draft recommendation included two co-principals and two assistant principals. This reorganization would help address the changes in education surrounding new state mandates, security, diversity in population and learners, and changing technology. The roles of each position were presented to the board and the document that the board reviewed will be available on the district website this week. Administration recommended that the board vote on the proposal at the January meeting.

*The board took action on a number of items, including the approval of schedules and acceptance of a donation. All information, including the full agenda and minutes, is available on the district website at http://jerichoschools.org/district/board_of_education.

*The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for January 17th at 7:30 PM in the MS Library. This will also be the first budget presentation.

-Bill Ferro, Board President

Sent on behalf of the Jericho Board of Education