

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 February 4, 2021 meeting:

*The Middle School and High School Student Council spoke about recent events at the schools and Gina Levy, PTA Council President, gave a report on PTA happenings.

*During the Superintendent's report, Hank Grishman thanked the PPS staff for all they have done this year to keep everyone safe and with their roles in monitoring the mental health of our students. Under the leadership of Kim Conger and Greg Sloan, the Guidance and PPS departments have been amazing.

*We had a big snow storm last week and we want to thank the B&G staff for their work to clear the grounds at all of our schools. The job proved to be difficult and we thank Stasi Brothers Company and the Syosset School District, who assisted our team to get the grounds ready for school to open on Wednesday last week.

*The Syosset testing site is still open and the hours have increased. Jericho staff, students, and parents are referred for tests by the school nurse and this has been a good process. Additionally, Dr. Frankel sets up a testing site at Jericho every other week for Jericho staff members to voluntarily test for Covid. We are also looking forward to Dr. Frankel helping us test our high-risk athletes.

*Since September, the Jericho School District has had 68 positive students and staff members. This includes students that are fully remote. This is less than half a percent positivity rate. This is one of the lowest rates in the county and we thank the parents, students, and staff for all doing the right thing. Additionally, Jericho employees continue to navigate the websites and get vaccinated and we appreciate that.

*John Mankowich gave an update on athletics and the board had a discussion about the regulations they would like in place for high risk sports. The Board voted on the following restrictions for the high risk winter sports, which are wrestling, girls and boys basketball. Our players will take Covid tests two times a week, they will sign a responsibility pledge, players that Jericho

is competing against must be tested once a week, and all athletes, on Jericho and the teams we are competing against must wear masks during the competition.

*Victor Manuel presented Budget Workshop #3. Director of Pupil Personnel Services Kim Conger, as well as Curriculum Associate for PPS K-6 Shannon Murray and Curriculum Associate for PPS 7-12 Dr. Joe Sapienza, spoke about PPS, which is included in the budget workshop. The presentation is available in its entirety on the district website, under announcements. *(Our website is currently down and we are working with the company to restore it.)*

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

*The Board Meeting in its entirety is available here: <https://youtu.be/GRihOUrmL4s>

* Budget Workshop #3 is set for March 4 at 7:30 PM. The Budget Review Meeting is set for March 18 at 7:30 PM and the next regular meeting of the Board of is scheduled for March 25 at 7:30 PM. Zoom.

*-Bill Ferro, Board President
Sent on behalf of the Jericho Board of Education*