

*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 September 17, 2019 meeting:

\*The new staff members were introduced and Bill Ferro welcomed them to the Jericho family.

\*The district thanked Senator James Gaughran and Assemblyman Charles Lavine for their dedication to serving the residents of Jericho. The board presented them each with a plaque.

\*The Board voted unanimously to extend the contract of superintendent Hank Grishman through July 30, 2023. Bill Ferro said that the board was thrilled that Mr. Grishman agreed to stay in Jericho and he thanked Hank for his leadership, wisdom and expertise. His contract was extended with the same terms as it has been since 2011, with no salary increase.

\*Middle School and High School students updated those in attendance about school happenings during the Student Council reports. High School reps invited everyone to homecoming this Saturday. There will be a color fun run at 11 AM (registration at 10 AM). There will also be food trucks, DJ, dunk tank, activities on the HS fields and various Jericho sporting events. Bring a chair/blanket and enjoy the afternoon.

\*Maria Bombace, PTA Council President, welcomed everyone back and encouraged everyone to join their PTA. She also invited everyone to the first Parent University on October 29. More information will be emailed soon.

\*During the Superintendent's report, Mr. Grishman said that the opening of school went smoothly. He also said that Seaman and Cantiague's air conditioning systems are up and running and by 2021 all instructional and large spaces in the district will be air conditioned.

\*Also in the Superintendent's report Mr. Grishman said that enrollment is up in the district and the conversation of enrollment at the elementary schools will be added to the agenda of a future board meeting.

\*Student Board Representative Drew Naiberg-Smith was seated on the dais with the board and gave a report regarding her goals for the year, including stress reduction for the students, and said she looks forward to working with the board and district to achieve these goals.

\* During the External Audit Report, Alan Yu from the firm Cullen and Danowski, LLP, announced that the district is in “a very good financial state.” He said that Victor Manuel and his office do a great job managing the finances for the district. Mr. Yu commended the district for funding capital projects from their reserves and said that after the district’s existing long-term bond was paid off in August 2019, the district is officially debt free with respect to long-term bonds.

\*A representative from Altaris, Jericho’s security consulting company, said that last year they spent a great deal of time reviewing Jericho’s protocols and training the staff. They applauded Jericho for the security measures that they have in place. This year they plan to continue training and reviewing procedures.

\*Due to a recommendation from Altaris, revisions will be made to the policy regarding dropping off items at the middle school and high school. More information will be emailed to parents.

\*Parents, community members and many in attendance addressed the Board asking for them to consider renaming the Robert Seaman Elementary School the Jeffrey Ratner Elementary School, after the former principal who passed away earlier this year. The Board appreciated the comments and said that the process to re-name a school includes continuing the discussion at a future board meeting.

\*The date of the October Board Meeting was changed to Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 7:15 PM in the MS Library.

\*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](http://jerichoschools.org/district/board_of_education).

\*The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Tuesday, October 15th at 7:15 PM in the MS Library

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

