

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 8, 2018 meeting:

*The meeting started with Bill Ferro asking everyone to please observe a moment of silence to collectively send prayers and good wishes to Benny D'Aquila. The board accepted Mr. D'Aquila's retirement during this meeting so he can focus on his health and family.

*Brian Cummings and Dr. Serena McCalla congratulated Mutahara Bhuiyan, Andrew Fang, Ishan Gurnani, Marc Huo, Chiu Fan Bowen Lo, Dennis Lo, Swati Madankumar, Amber Patrick, Yunyan Wu, Brandon Xie, and Kendra Zhang, the 11 Regeneron scholars (formerly Intel semifinalists) and two finalists - Andrew Fang and Chiu Fan Bowen Lo. The students gave a brief synopsis of their impressive projects.

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

*Lisa Davis, PTA Council president, invited everyone to the February 12th Open Council meeting at 9:30 AM at Cantiague Elementary School. Victor Manuel will be speaking about the budget process. Also she invited everyone to the Legislative breakfast set for this Saturday, February 10 at 9:30 AM at Plainview-Old Bethpage High School. To RSVP click here <https://goo.gl/forms/EaZLuRyGlbqdkIJl2>

*HS Student Council Board Rep Caroline Chen further updated everyone about some recent high school happenings, including Family Night which took place earlier this school year at the high school. Local restaurants offered discounts and teachers didn't assign homework for the night so Jericho families could enjoy a night out together. Caroline asked the board if they could help make this a districtwide initiative. The

board said they love the idea and it would need to be discussed with administration.

*Caroline Chen also spoke about the high school's LEAD program (Learning Empathy and Acknowledging Diversity) and showed this video. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQ_zEi-nQuQ In addition, Caroline and fellow student Mutahara Bhuiyan discussed leadership.

*Victor Manuel presented his second budget workshop, which included information on the Capital Facilities Plan and an overview of the district's Pupil Personnel Program. The full presentation is available on the district website or by clicking this link <http://bit.ly/2FUxkma>

*During the superintendent's report, Mr. Grishman said that STEAM Day is being held on March 3 and emails went out to parents of students in third, fourth and fifth grade with registration information. There are already more than 120 students registered for 17 workshops. He thanked Brian Cummings for his efforts in coordinating this event. More information is available here: <http://bit.ly/2s2cCOv>

*Bill Ferro thanked Kim Conger, who was appointed as interim principal at Jackson Elementary School, and said that she has made a seamless transition under extraordinary circumstances.

*The board took action on a number of items, including the approval of schedules and the 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 upcoming meetings are as follows:

Budget Workshop #3: March 1, 2018 at 7:15 p.m. in the MS Library.

Budget Review Meeting: March 15 at 7:15 p.m. in the MS Library

March Board of Education Meeting: March 22 at 7:15 PM in the MS Library

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