

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 October 17, 2017 meeting:

*October is School Board recognition month and in honor of their volunteerism and dedication, all of Jericho School District's unions combined their efforts and made a donation in the form of a scholarship for a graduating senior in the board's name. Also, Superintendent Hank Grishman said, "We want to thank our school board members who volunteer many hours to benefit the children and the school community." Gifts were presented from the district, bargaining units, PTA Council, as well as Legislator Arnie Drucker and Senator Carl Marcellino.

*Dan Salzman introduced the students involved with the Canon Solutions America Future Authors Project. The project's summer workshop provided students with insight into the process of writing, editing, and digitally publishing books through instruction by certified teachers, interactions with Canon experts, and insight from local published authors. Canon sponsored a reception before the meeting that celebrated the students and featured a book signing. A digital copy of the book will be available on the district website soon.

*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 Parent University scheduled for Tuesday, October 24 at 7 PM starting in the Middle School Library. More information, as well as the topics being presented, is available by visiting <http://bit.ly/2xOUqpb>

*There was a continued discussion of Foreign Exchange Students. This is a conversation that continued from prior meetings. The board approved the first reading of the amended policy and next voted to waive the second reading. These two steps allowed the board to have discussion and vote on the amended policy at this meeting. The Board, as well as those in attendance, voiced their opinion on the matter. The board then voted 3-2 not to accept the amended policy. This leaves the current policy in place, which does not allow exchange students in the Jericho School District.

*Caroline Chen, High School Student Council Board of Education Representative, sat at the dais with the board and reported on a few current topics at the high school, including Family Night on November 15th. That evening, students and their families are encouraged to spend time together without worrying about homework or tests the next day. In preparation for this night, teachers are asked to not give homework and local restaurants are offering discounts. More information will be emailed home.

*During the Superintendent's Report, Hank Grishman shared that four of our high school students were named Siemens Semifinalists and they will be congratulated at an upcoming board meeting. He also announced that Diane Johnson will start on 10/24 as the interim Curriculum Associate for Guidance.

*The board took action on a number of items, including the acceptance of a donation, and 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 next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for November 16, 2017 at 7:45 PM at Seaman Elementary School.

-Bill Ferro, Board President

Sent on behalf of the Jericho Board of Education