

## Board of Education Highlights: 8/13/19 Meeting

The following are highlights of discussions and actions from the August 13, 2019 Board of Education meeting. For the full minutes and audio recordings from the meeting, please refer to “Agendas and Minutes” under the “Board of Education” section.

- The district’s construction management team provided an update on work being done over the summer. At the high school, tile installation in restrooms near the auditorium and gymnasium has been completed and a high-efficiency “pony” boiler was installed. Roof replacement at Homestead School is complete, and the Stratford School roof replacement is expected to be completed for the opening of school. Masonry work at Stratford and Stewart will be completed for September 1. In addition, asbestos abatement projects were completed in the basements of the high school and administration building.
- Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kusum Sinha reported that 928 students and staff participated in the summer enrichment program, conducted this year through SCOPE at the middle school.
- Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Edward Cannone reported that K-5 principals are participating in intensive professional development in the Teachers College Reading and Writing program, which will be introduced this fall. Additional TCRW professional development sessions will be conducted during upcoming Superintendent’s Conference Days.
- Dr. Sinha indicated that new information will be added to the district website under “Important News” to guide parents through vaccination requirements, including New York State changes that have eliminated nonmedical exemptions. She advised residents to refer to that same section of the website for updates on the LIRR Third Track project, including the impact on traffic in the immediate area. The revised district safety plan can also be found there. <https://www.gardencity.k12.ny.us>
- Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance Dana DiCapua updated the Board on new, more elaborate financial reporting requirements mandated by the New York State Education Department.
- The Board appointed Mandi Stefankiewicz to serve as assistant principal for guidance and pupil personnel services at Garden City High School. Ms. Stefankiewicz has 17 years of experience as a school psychologist at the high school.
- The Board entered into an agreement with BoardDocs to utilize a new paperless system for Board of Education documents.

- The Board of Education approved an agreement with environmental consulting firm AKRF for the purpose of additional environmental testing at Locust and Stewart schools. The action is being taken as a precaution to reaffirm a 2016 EPA report regarding the Old Roosevelt Field Contaminated Groundwater Area Site, which determined there was no contamination of soil at either school. For more information, please refer to “Environmental Update” in the “Important News” section of the website, <https://www.gardencity.k12.ny.us>.