

RYE BROOK Westmore NEWS

Vol. 54 No. 29 • An edition of Westmore News
Friday, July 20 - Thursday, July 26, 2018

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B.B. Board of Education welcomes new leadership

By JAMIE KERNER

As the Blind Brook Board of Education kicked off the new school year on Monday, July 16 during its annual reorganization meeting, members also elected a new president and vice president for the first time in four years.

Board members Ryan Goldstein and Ashley Welde have been chosen to be the president and vice president, respectively, for the 2018-2019 school year by a unanimous vote of the board. Goldstein was nominated for the presidential position by Jeffrey Diamond, whereas Welde was nominated to be vice president by Jennifer Schlactus. Both nominated candidates were unopposed.

After having served as board president for the last four years, Diamond will not continue to hold the leadership position in the

2018-2019 school year.

According to Welde, the board decided to change up their leadership because they did not want to be reliant on just one president. Overall, they felt it was time to have succession planning for leadership.

The transition in authority has been happy and pleasant, Welde said. This coming school year will be Welde's fourth on the board.

Goldstein, who is entering his sixth year as a Board of Education member, has served as vice president for Diamond's entire presidency.

"Jeff Diamond has filled the presidency position tremendously well," Goldstein said, praising Diamond for how he handled communication with his fellow board members, community members, teachers, administrators



The Blind Brook Board of Education elected Ryan Goldstein as its new president and Ashley Welde as vice president during its annual reorganization meeting on Monday, July 16.

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Scott Jaffee takes the oath of office for his first term on the Blind Brook Board of Education at the group's annual reorganization meeting.

JAMIE KERNER | WESTMORE NEWS and school-related personnel. "My first order of business is to maintain and continue that."

As president, Goldstein hopes to maintain the work the board has done in recent years. He'd like to ensure that problem-based learning continues to evolve, advance the board's focus on student assessments and look to see more progress on the \$44.7 million capital project bond that was passed in October.

During the meeting, Welde was also sworn into her second term on the board, along with newcomer Scott Jaffee. In May, Welde and Jaffee were elected to three-year terms in an uncontested race.

"In the last six or seven months, I've already learned a lot even before being on the board," Jaffee said at the meeting. "I promise throughout my term to keep learning and listening carefully and faithfully to execute this trust the community has given me."