

**Regular Meeting
Stafford Board of Education
Stafford Elementary School Cafetorium
Limited In-person Meeting and Electronic Meeting- via Zoom
March 29, 2021, 6:30 p.m.**

Board Members Present (in person):

- Ms. Kathy Bachiochi
- Mrs. Jennifer Davis
- Mr. Mike Delano
- Mrs. Andrea Locke, Secretary
- Ms. Laura Lybarger
- Ms. Sonya Shegogue, Chairperson

Absent: Mr. George Melnick

Also Present (virtual, except as noted):

- Mr. Steven Moccio, Superintendent of Schools (in person)
- Mr. Steven Autieri, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
- Mr. Jonathan Campbell, Assistant Principal, Stafford Middle School
- Miss Allie Curtin, Student Representative
- Mr. Ryan Duffy, Student Representative
- Mrs. Peggy Falcetta, Principal, Staffordville School
- Mr. Dean Fortin, IT / Network Coordinator (in person)
- Ms. Caroline Hargraves, Assistant Principal, Stafford Elementary School
- Mr. Timothy Kinel, Assistant Principal, Stafford High School
- Ms. Beth LaPane, Supervisor of Building Services
- Ms. Trish Lustila, Director of Pupil Services
- Ms. Mary Claire Manning, Principal, Stafford Elementary School
- Ms. Susan Mike, Principal, Stafford Middle School
- Mr. Marco Pelliccia, Principal, Stafford High School
- Ms. Diane Peters, Business Manager (in person)

The meeting agenda and copies of all Board meeting materials were posted on the district's website (www.stafford.k12.ct.us) prior to the meeting, in accordance with the requirements for electronic meetings. Audience members were able to participate by phone utilizing the phone number provided on the meeting agenda. The recording of this meeting is available on the district website.

Item I. Call to Order- Establishment of Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

Item II. Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Shegogue led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item III. Secretary's Report- Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting, 03/15/2021

Ms. Bachiochi made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke, that the Board approve the Secretary's Report for the regular meeting held on 03/15/2021. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, and Ms. Lybarger voted for the motion, which carried.

Item IV. Consent Agenda

- A. Cafeteria Profit and Loss through February 28, 2021**
The Food Services Program is reporting a year to date net loss of \$17,547.21. The district has served 82,503 meals through February 28, 2021, a decrease of 27,244 meals as compared to this time last year. Included within the meal total are the 1,238 meals that were picked up by families with children 18 years or younger. Meal counts continue to be below previous years due to the district utilizing the hybrid model at the secondary level and Wednesday remote learning day.
- B. Obsolete Equipment- Stafford Middle School**
- C. 2019-2020 Bills and Grants- 03-19-2021, \$3,925.20**
- D. 2020-2021 Bills and Grants- 03-19-2021, \$440,157.35**
- E. 2020-2021 Bills and Grants- 03-26-2021, \$51,840.87**

Mrs. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke, that the Board approve the items listed in the consent agenda, as presented. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, and Ms. Lybarger voted for the motion, which carried.

Item V. Correspondence

A. Board Meeting Reminder

Ms. Shegogue read the Board meeting and public hearing reminders that were posted on the agenda.

Mr. Moccio said that he spoke with Mr. Moriarty, Board of Finance Chairperson. Mr. Moriarty confirmed that the Board of Finance plans to hold the public budget hearing and 2021 – 2022 budget referendum this year.

Item VI. Board Reports

A. Student Representatives' Report

Miss Curtin and Mr. Duffy provided updates from each of the schools, as well as the athletic and music departments.

B. Negotiation Committee (Chairperson- Andrea Locke, Jennifer Davis and Sonya Shegogue)

Mrs. Locke reported that the committee began negotiations with CSEA last Wednesday, March 24, 2021. She said that there is another meeting scheduled for this Wednesday and that it is going very well so far.

Item VII. Superintendent's Reports

A. Recognition of the Stafford Board of Education Members

Mr. Moccio expressed his heartfelt thanks to the seven members of the Board of Education and the two student representatives. He said that people truly do not understand the time commitment involved with this volunteer position. Mr. Moccio thanked the Board members for their sustained vision for the district and their willingness to work arm and arm with him and the leadership team. Mr. Moccio said that each Board member was given on behalf of the district a treat and a gift. He said that we are all incredibly fortunate to work alongside the members of the Board of Education.

B. Update Regarding the Director of Pupil Services Search

Mr. Moccio review the Director of Pupil Services Selection process, as follows:

A committee of eighteen people were brought together to review the applications and begin interviews. The interview schedule is listed below.

Committee Meeting

Following the March 5, 2021, deadline, all completed applications were forwarded to the interview committee for their consideration. The 18-member committee includes representatives from the Board, administration, teachers, paraprofessionals, support staff, nurses, and a parent. The committee invited five (5) candidates for first round interviews.

First Round Interviews

First round interviews were held on Wednesday, March 17, 2021, via Zoom. Each interview was 45-minutes long and included a writing prompt. Following committee discussion, two candidates were invited to return for a second round performance task.

Second Round Interviews

Second round interviews were held on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, via Zoom. The second round was a performance task composed of a 45-minute presentation to the interview committee, along with a question and answer session. Following the second round performance task, the committee again discussed the candidates and invited them to return for an interview with focus groups representing administration, teachers and staff, and parents on Wednesday, March 31, 2021. The focus groups will again be held by Zoom.

Interviews with the Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Moccio will conduct in-person interviews with the two (2) semifinalists and anticipate that both will be interviewed by the Board of Education.

Finalist Interviews and Appointment

It is anticipated that the Board of Education will conduct finalist interviews on Monday, April 12, 2021, and make an appointment at that time, or as soon as possible thereafter.

Mr. Moccio stated that he provided via the portal copies of all of the backup materials. There were no questions or comments.

VIII. Public Comment

Ms. Lybarger stated that she and Mr. Delano were judges for the anti-vaping poster contest. She commended the students on a job well done. She also thanked Officer Middleton for putting the event together and asking the Board to participate as judges. Mr. Delano echoed Ms. Lybarger's comments.

Item IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business.

Item X. New Business

A. Approval of Graduation Date- Class of 2021

Ms. Shegogue said that she reviewed the plan that was provided via the portal. She said that it was well-done and well thought out.

Mr. Moccio said that additional guidance from the State will be forthcoming, but he expects that the plan Mr. Pelliccia is presenting will be in alignment with the guidance.

Mr. Pelliccia said that the students have worked very hard to come up with creative plans that will work within the anticipated guidelines from the State. He reviewed the current plans for and details regarding the upcoming graduation ceremony. He said that because the event will be outside, he anticipates that each graduate will be allowed to have six (6) guests, with space to spare. Mr. Pelliccia said that they are planning to use the same company as last year to livestream the event, unless they need to move to a rain date. He said that the rain dates are the two following days. He also noted that Officer Middleton will be at the event to assist.

Mrs. Davis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lybarger, that the Board of Education approve Thursday, June 17, 2021, as the graduation date for the Class of 2021. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, and Ms. Lybarger voted for the motion, which carried.

Mr. Pelliccia included via the portal details regarding the commencement exercises, as well as the scheduled end of year events. Mr. Pelliccia gave a brief update regarding the other end-of-the-year activities. He said that many of the activities will take place outside and on campus.

B Review and Possible Approval of CSDE Healthy Food Certification Statement and Food / Beverage Exemptions for July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Mr. Moccio stated that each year, the Board of Education is required to vote "yes" or "no" for implementing the healthy food option of C.G.S. Section 10-215f. If the Board of Education votes "yes" to implement the healthy food option, they must then vote "yes" or "no" for food exemptions. State beverage requirements (C.G.S. Section 10-221q) apply to all public schools, regardless of whether they participate in NSLP or approve the HFC. The Board of Education must also choose to allow beverage exemptions. The district may choose to combine the food and beverage exemptions into one motion.

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Davis, that the Board of Education participate in the healthy food option pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f. In doing so, the board of education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the

Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, and Ms. Lybarger voted for the motion, which carried.

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Davis, that the Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The "regular school day" is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. "Location" means where the event is being held. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, and Ms. Lybarger voted for the motion, which carried.

Item XI. Personnel Matters

There were no Personnel Matters.

Ms. Shegogue asked Mr. Moccio if all the staff were doing well after the vaccine clinic last Friday, March 26, 2021. He said that just over 200 staff members received their second dose of the vaccine last Friday, and about 25 additional staff members will receive their second dose next Wednesday, April 7, 2021. He thanked his office staff, the school nurses, the nurses from Enfield Public Schools, and Trinity Health for their role in several successful, well-run clinics.

Item XII. Student Matters

There were no Student Matters.

Item XIII. Adjournment

Mrs. Davis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lybarger, to adjourn. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, Ms. Lybarger voted for the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Christine C. Marinelli, Recording Secretary
(In Person)**

Sonya Shegogue, Chairperson

Andrea Locke, Secretary