

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Monday, August 19, 2019
Stella Library Media Center

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Fleischman, Chair called the meeting to order (5:10 PM).

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Steven Fleischman, Chair, Mr. Dan Cowan, Ms. Maegan Genovese, Secretary; Mr. Jeff Hughes, Ms. Lynn Piascyk, Vice Chair; Dr. David Ross, Ms. Joyce Shavers, Dr. Michael Strambler and Dr. Jeffrey Townsend (via telephone).

STAFF: Mr. Robert Gilbert, Superintendent.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Patrice McCarthy, Deputy Director and General Counsel of CABA (Connecticut Association of Boards of Education), Nancy Smerekanicz WEA and Cathy Zdrowski, WEA.

Board Member Orientation

Dr. Fleischman welcomed new Board members. Ms. McCarthy presented an overview of Board member responsibilities, meeting formats, protocols, best practices and leadership strategies. Discussion and Questions/Answers ensued for what defined “best practices” and what pitfalls should be avoided.

Strategic Plan Update

Superintendent Gilbert provided an overview of the 2019/20 school year, an information update, as well as a brief review of the Strategic Plan. Also presented was a preliminary schedule for meeting topics and anticipated meetings for the year. It was requested that additional time be given for Board members to review meeting materials. It was agreed that dissemination of information will occur on the Thursday prior to the meeting instead of Friday.

Parent Survey Follow-Up

Based on input provided by the Board at the July 15 regular meeting, Superintendent Gilbert provided answers to Board questions from Panorama as well as the administration. He also provided a list of strategies that have been planned (and will be shared with staff) that will be put into place to address major focus areas of: climate/staff collaboration, student behavior, and effective Tier I instruction. Board members asked that family survey data be revised to be consistent with the other survey data and also asked to have additional board discussion time at an upcoming meeting.

Board Goal Setting

The Board reviewed several areas identified for goals in the 2019/20 school year. Draft Goals to be finalized and voted on at the September 16 Board meeting are:

1. *Support the Superintendent in executing the Strategic Development Plan.*
2. *Provide Leadership for Stakeholder Education and Participation in Budget Decision Making for FY 2020/21.*
3. *Collaborate with BOWA Districts to explore opportunities for shared services and/or Regionalization.*
4. *Charge the Superintendent to engage the resources necessary to carry out a comprehensive Principal search process.*
5. *Establish a BOE Ad Hoc Safety Committee to ensure that the faculty/staff has the resources necessary for changing student behavioral needs.*
6. *Encourage professional development / learning activities for all Board members.*

MOTION TO ADJOURN: (9:47 PM)
Ms. Piascyk
Second by Ms. Genovese
UNANIMOUS