

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Tuesday, May 19, 2015
BRS Library Media Center

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Hamilton, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Margaret Hamilton, Chair; Dr. Steve Fleischman, Vice Chair; Ms. Lisa Connor, Mr. Matthew Gilbride, Ms. Chris Jaffe, Secretary; Ms. Karen Kravetz, Ms. Keri Matthews, and Ms. Emily Melnick.

STAFF: Dr. Guy Stella, Superintendent.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Analisa Sherman, community.

The Board entered Executive Session to receive an update on safety and security and to interview an administrative candidate.

MOTION #1 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

Move that we enter Executive Session (6:35 PM).

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Ms. Jaffe

UNANIMOUS

MOTION #2 – RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

Move that we return to Public Session (7:05 PM).

Mr. Linskog

Second by Mr. Gilbride

UNANIMOUS

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Hamilton, Chair called the meeting to back to order (7:11 PM).

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Margaret Hamilton, Chair; Dr. Steve Fleischman, Vice Chair; Ms. Lisa Connor, Mr. Matthew Gilbride, Ms. Chris Jaffe, Secretary; Ms. Karen Kravetz, Ms. Keri Matthews, and Ms. Emily Melnick.

STAFF: Dr. Guy Stella, Superintendent; Al Pullo, Director of Business Services/Operations; Sheila Haverkamp, Special Services Director; Gina Prisco, Principal; Nancy White, Assistant Principal; and Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Maureen Krawec, Teresa Nakouzi, Nancy Smerekanicz, Cathy Zdrowski, Teachers; Christine Wallace, Café Consultant; Analisa Sherman, Lynn Piascyk, Pua Ford and Penny Zamkov community.

CORRESPONDENCE – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #3 – CONSENT AGENDA

Move that we approve the consent agenda as presented.

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Ms. Matthews

UNANIMOUS

Dr. Fleischman requested to change the order of the agenda and move Item 4.5 to the current spot in the agenda.

MOTION #4 – MODIFY AGENDA

Move that we move Item 4.5 and place it before Reports on the agenda.

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Mr. Gilbride

UNANIMOUS

Superintendent Stella introduced the new Assistant Principal, Analisa Sherman, currently with the Fairfield school system, and who has a strong background in curriculum teaching, mathematics and science. Ratification of her appointment was requested.

MOTION #5 – ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENT (SHERMAN)

Move that we ratify the appointment of Analisa Sherman as Assistant Principal effective July 1, 2015 at a salary of \$115,588 for the 2015/16 school year.

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Mr. Gilbride

UNANIMOUS

REPORTS

PTO Report – None

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Stella highlighted the Book Swap, the Elementary Art program sponsored by the Yale Art Museum in collaboration with local businesses, the May 28 Extended Day Family Dinner and the DARE Graduation held earlier in the day with Officer Lynch and representatives from the FBI. The entire 6th grade was commended on their participation in a national on-line cyber competition and recognized for placing first in the nation.

Math Program Update – “Big Ideas” was presented as the recommended resource for Grade 6. While Investigations is currently utilized in Grades 1-5, a different resource was sought that aligns with common core standards and shares a similar philosophy to the middle school. “Big Ideas” will supplement the math curriculum. Online resources will allow students access to the textbook from home as well as supplemental supports for remediation and enrichment activities. This resource provides for math modeling of inquiry and discovery, visual mathematics, customization of adaptive tests and a strong foundation for transition to middle school math. This resource received endorsement from the ACES Consultant as well. Board members were invited to participate in the Tri-State process on Thursday, May 28.

Cafeteria Program Update – Ms. Kravetz provided an overview of the work by the committee. The primary goal is to ensure children develop life-long healthy eating habits. Recommendations on expansion of healthier food options will be made in a strategic and thoughtful manner with a focus on less processed food offerings. Guiding principles and ideas will not be predicated nor limited by adherence to state and federal mandates and budgetary constraints but rather proceed in a positive direction for improvement that exceeds the basic minimums. Launching guest chef and farm to school initiatives will engage students in new experiences and redirecting funding allocations will provide different opportunities for nutritional enhancements. It was suggested that Cafeteria Consultant, Christine Wallace be retained for the coming year. It was also noted that a school lunch price increase may become necessary depending upon the financial impact of various initiatives.

BRS Update – Ms. Prisco provided parent feedback on the digital report card and invited Board members to the BRS graduation on June 18 at 1:00 PM at Amity High School.

BRS Building Upgrade Project – No Report

Facilities Committee – Ms. Kravetz reviewed the May 7 meeting which focused on the building project, updates on Tools for School and sustainability initiatives. The next meeting will be June 4.

Finance Committee – Dr. Fleischman presented the various program budgets reviewed by the Finance Committee at their meeting on May 11.

MOTION #6 – 2015/16 CAFETERIA BUDGET

Move that we approve the 2015/16 Cafeteria budget as presented by administration.

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Ms. Matthews

UNANIMOUS

MOTION #7 – 2015/16 SUMMER ENRICHMENT BUDGET

Move that we approve the 2015/16 Summer Enrichment budget as presented.

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Mr. Gilbride

UNANIMOUS

MOTION #8 – 2015/16 EXTENDED DAY BUDGET

Move that we approve the 2015/16 Extended Day budget as presented.

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Ms. Matthews

UNANIMOUS

CABE Liaison – Ms. Connor noted the Legislative Wrap-up session on June 9 and an employee training session on May 29.

Upcoming Meeting Presentation – an update on the May Tri-State visit will be provided at the June meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Stella presented the administrative retirements of Ms. White and Ms. Haverkamp. The Board acknowledged their appreciation for both staff members.

MOTION #9 – CERTIFIED STAFF RETIREMENT (WHITE AND HAVERKAMPF)

Move that we accept the retirement of Nancy White and Sheila Haverkamp effective June 30, 2015 with significant and extreme regret.

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Mr. Gilbride

UNANIMOUS

Superintendent Stella apprised the Board of the resignation of a certified staff member.

MOTION #10 – CERTIFIED STAFF RESIGNATION (SANDERS)

Move that we accept the resignation of Shannon Sanders, effective June 30, 2015 with regret.

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Ms. Matthews

UNANIMOUS

Ms. Haverkamp provided an overview on the annual submission of IDEA Grant.

MOTION #11 – IDEA GRANT

Move that we approve the 2015/16 IDEA Grant for submission to the Connecticut State Department of Education.

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Mr. Gilbride

UNANIMOUS

Superintendent Stella presented the recently negotiated contract with the administrator's union for ratification.

MOTION #12 – WASA CONTRACT RATIFICATION

Move that we ratify the contract with the Woodbridge Association of School Administrators as presented effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018.

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Mr. Gilbride

UNANIMOUS

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

MOTION TO ADJOURN: (8:20 PM)

Dr. Fleischman

Second by Ms. Matthews

UNANIMOUS

Recorded by Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board