

**Regular Meeting
Stafford Board of Education
Stafford Elementary School
Monday, March 25, 2019, 6:30 p.m.**

Board Members Present: Ms. Kathy Bachiochi
Mrs. Jennifer Davis
Mr. Mike Delano
Mrs. Andrea Locke, Secretary
Mr. George Melnick
Ms. Sonya Shegogue, Chairperson

Absent: Mrs. Kathy Walsh
Mr. Nick Wyse, Student Representative
Miss Grace Zopelis, Alternate Student Representative

Also Present: Mr. Steven Moccio, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Steven Autieri, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Jonathan Campbell, Assistant Principal, Stafford Middle School
Mr. Damian Frassinelli, Director of Athletics and Recreation
Ms. Anna Gagnon, Principal, West Stafford School
Mrs. Caroline Hargraves, Assistant Principal, Stafford Elementary School
Mr. Timothy Kinel, Assistant Principal, Stafford High School
Ms. Susan Mike, Principal, Stafford Middle School
Mr. Steve Montgomery, Principal, Stafford Elementary School
Mr. Marco Pelliccia, Principal, Stafford High School
Ms. Diane Peters, Business Manager
Ms. Jolene Piscetello, Director of Pupil Services

Item I. Call to Order- Establishment of Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 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

There were no minutes presented for approval.

Item IV. Consent Agenda

- A. Bills, 18-19, 03-19-19, \$242,334.81
- B. Grants, 18-19, 03-19-19, \$15,742.01
- C. Resignation- Certified Staff Member

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 Mr. Melnick voted for the motion, which carried.

Mr. Melnick thanked Ms. Kritzman for her years of service to the district and wished her well in her retirement. He said that she is a terrific teacher, and she will be missed.

Item V. Correspondence

A. and B.- Ms. Shegogue read the two meeting reminders that were posted on the agenda.

Mr. Moccio stated that he received a thank you note from the Stafford First Responders for the cards that were sent to them by the students. The card was circulated.

Mr. Frassinelli reported that he was just notified that Stafford Middle School won the Unified Michael's Cup Overall Middle School Award. Mr. Frassinelli thanked the Board and Ms. Kritzman, Mrs. Mike and Ms. Piscetello for their support of this program.

Item VI. Board Reports

A. Student Representatives' Report

In the absence of the student representatives, Mr. Moccio provided an update regarding recent events at each of the schools.

Item VII. Superintendent's Reports

A. Recognition of the Stafford Board of Education Members

Mr. Moccio stated that March is Board of Education Appreciation Month, and on behalf of the entire Stafford Community he thanked the Board members for their time, dedication, and efforts. Board members were provided with a small gift, and refreshments were provided at the end of the meeting.

B. Financial Report, July 1, 2018 – February 28, 2019

Mrs. Peters, Business Manager, provided an update of monthly spending and account balances through February 2019, and highlighted other areas of significance. She reported that 98.4%, or \$27,214,899.39, of the 2018 – 2019 budget has been expended or encumbered.

Mr. Melnick asked for clarification regarding magnet school student tuition.

C. District Discipline Data Review

Mr. Moccio stated that he asked the building administrators to gather discipline data related to each school for the last five years, which he provided in a report via the portal. He noted that the report includes spreadsheets showing individual school data, with both primary schools being included on a single page, and data organized by state identified offense type and associated sanctions.

Mr. Moccio stated that over the past eight to ten years, there have been substantial changes made through the adoption of three public acts that have changed the way schools handle student discipline. He said that it is the State's position that students can't be educated if they aren't in school, and that the goal is to reduce the overall and disproportionate discipline consequences. Mr. Moccio then reviewed a presentation that provided a background to legislative changes and state level initiatives that have impacted school responses to inappropriate behavior.

Mr. Moccio also reviewed information related to Restorative Practices and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), as Stafford Elementary School is in year one of the program. Lastly, he reviewed the next steps that have been identified for the district, including a district-wide framework and process that will work for the students in Stafford.

Board members asked questions of the administrators regarding the Restorative Practices Program and PBIS. Mr. Pelliccia noted that when done correctly, the programs are not permissive, which is a common misperception. Mrs. Hargraves stated that when the programs are used correctly, the student does not repeat the behavior by

helping them understand what they did wrong, who was hurt by their actions and what they will do differently next time.

Item IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business.

Item VIII. Public Comment

There were no questions or comments.

Item X. New Business

A. Review and Possible Approval of Revisions to Board of Education Policy 4112.5 / 4212.5 Personnel: Certified / Non-Certified- Employment Checks and Policy 4112.7 / 4212.7 Personnel: Certified / Non-Certified- Criminal Justice Information

Mr. Moccio stated that a recent audit by the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection found that certain areas of policies 4112.5 / 4212.5- Employment Checks and 4112.7 / 4212.7- Criminal Justice Information, were out of compliance with state and federal laws. He said that the necessary changes have been incorporated into the proposed policies.

Mr. Moccio also stated that in addition to the policy revisions required by the state audit, portions of policy 4112.5 / 4212.5 were updated to reflect changes made in accordance with Public Act 17-68. Those changes include:

- the addition of a definition for “former employer”,
- a timeframe of “the previous 20 years” was provided for “former employers”, and
- charter, magnet, and non-public schools were added to the list, along with local and regional Boards of Education, as those agencies that must be disclosed by an applicant if they worked in such an agency during the previous 20 years.

Mrs. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Melnick, that the Board approve the revised policies, as presented. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, and Mr. Melnick voted for the motion, which carried.

Item XI. Personnel Matters

There were no Personnel Matters.

Item XII. Student Matters

There were no Student Matters.

Item XIII. Adjournment

Ms. Bachiochi made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke, to adjourn. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, and Mr. Melnick voted for the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. Refreshments were served.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Christine C. Marinelli, Recording Secretary**

Sonya Shegogue, Chairperson

Andrea Locke, Secretary