

# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Tuesday, May 17, 2016  
BRS Library Media Center

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Hamilton, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ms. Margaret Hamilton, Chair; Ms. Chris Jaffe, Secretary; Ms. Lisa Connor, Ms. Karen Kravetz, Mr. Garrett Luciani, Ms. Lynn Piascyk and Emily Melnick.

**STAFF:** Dr. Guy Stella, Superintendent.

**OTHER:** Matt Ward, ESG

The Board entered Executive Session to receive a safety and security update.

## **MOTION #1 – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Move that we enter Executive Session (6:34 PM).

Ms. Connor

Second by Ms. Kravetz

**UNANIMOUS**

## **MOTION #2 – RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

Move that we return to Public Session (7:02PM).

Ms. Hamilton

Second by Ms. Jaffe

**UNANIMOUS**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Hamilton, Chair called the Public Session back to order at 7:04 PM.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ms. Margaret Hamilton, Chair; Ms. Chris Jaffe, Secretary; Ms. Lisa Connor, Ms. Karen Kravetz, Mr. Garrett Luciani, Ms. Lynn Piascyk and Emily Melnick.

**STAFF:** Dr. Guy Stella, Superintendent; Gina Prisco, Principal; and Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board.

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** Elaine Whitney, CABE; Tim Kelley, PTO; James Crawford, Danielle Ulacco, Cathy Zdrowski, teachers; and Pua Ford, Veerle Vultee, community.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – None

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Ms. Vultee urged consideration of expanding the MAG Program given the number of students currently on the waiting list and since placement is only allowed upon entering Grade 1.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **MOTION #3 – CONSENT AGENDA**

Move that we approve the consent agenda as presented.

Ms. Connor

Second by Ms. Piascyk

**UNANIMOUS**

## **REPORTS**

**PTO Update** – Mr. Kelley informed the Board that approximately \$33,000 was raised during the 2015/16 SY. The PTO Executive Board will be exploring options for use of the surplus dollars. Upcoming events include the annual Book Swap, Artsweek in June, the End-of-Year Meeting for voting on officers, field day and the graduation/pool party celebration.

**CABE Communication Awards** – Ms. Whitney presented the district with two communication awards for (1) the BRS Parent/Student Handbook and (2) the powerpoint Budget Presentation to the Boards of Finance and Selectmen.

*Superintendent's Report* – Superintendent Stella highlighted the weekly news broadcasts produced, written and developed by Grade 6 students. It was suggested that next year a broadcast be submitted to the CABA Communications Awards. Recognition was given to Al Pullo, who received the Innovative Practice Award from CASBO, for his efforts in Tools for Schools and to Jane Roddy who was acknowledged by the State School Nutrition Association for her 25 years of service. Other highlights included the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on May 31 for completion of the building upgrade and the parent survey occurring between May 16 and June 10.

*BRS Update* – Ms. Prisco informed the Board of the DARE Graduation on Friday, May 20, the Massaro Farm 100-year celebration, the exhibit of student artwork throughout various properties associated with Yale University and the Amity High School interns, who will work in various classrooms throughout BRS beginning May 16. Ms. Prisco also shared the perspective of a BRS intern during his year-long tenure at BRS.

*Finance Committee* – Ms. Hamilton presented the monthly financial reports since the Finance Committee did not meet in May. It was noted that the deficit in Special Education stands at almost \$400,000. Reductions in Wintergreen transportation, electricity and medical insurance as well as deferment on several building improvement initiatives have reduced the deficit to \$138,000.

**MOTION #4 – 2015/16 BOE MONTHLY SUMMARY**

Move approval of the 2015/16 BOE Monthly Summary Financial Report through April 30, 2016, F1, as submitted by the Director of Business/Operations.

Ms. Connor  
Second by Ms. Matthews  
**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #5 – 2015/16 MONTHLY DETAIL**

Move approval the 2015/16 BOE Monthly Detail Financial Report through April 30, 2016, F2-5, as submitted by the Director of Business/Operations.

Ms. Connor  
Second by Ms. Jaffe  
**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #6 – 2015/16 COMBINING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Move approval of the 2015/16 BOE Combining Financial Statements through April 30, 2016, 7-8, as submitted by the Director of Business/Operations.

Ms. Connor  
Second by Ms. Jaffe  
**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #7 – 2015/16 CAFETERIA BUDGET**

Move approval of the 2015/16 Cafeteria budget through March 31, 2016, F12, as submitted by the Director of Business/Operations.

Ms. Connor  
Second by Ms. Jaffe  
**UNANIMOUS**

The Board reviewed each of the 2016/17 program budgets for Summer Enrichment, Extended Day and the Cafeteria. It was agreed the directors for each of the programs would attend the June WBOE Finance Committee meeting on June 13 to answer any questions.

**MOTION #8 – 2016/17 SUMMER ENRICHMENT BUDGET**

Move approval of the 2016/17 Summer Enrichment budget as presented.

Ms. Connor  
Second by Ms. Jaffe

It was questioned why certain figures pertaining to the director's salary, nurses and custodians are remaining "flat". Clarification will be provided at the June 13 WBOE Finance Committee meeting.

**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #9 – 2016/17 EXTENDED DAY BUDGET**

Move approval of the 2016/17 Extended Day budget as presented.

Ms. Connor

Second by Ms. Jaffe

**UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION #10 – 2016/17 CAFETERIA BUDGET**

Move approval of the 2016/17 Cafeteria budget as presented.

Ms. Connor

Second by Ms. Jaffe

***ACTION DEFERRED***

Action was deferred to the June 20, 2016 WBOE meeting. Questions were raised regarding the recommended price increase and cost comparisons to other schools on daily lunches and offerings. It was agreed this discussion would be continued at the June 13 WBOE Finance Committee meeting.

Facilities Committee – No report. Ms. Kravetz noted this Committee will meet on May 26, 2016.

BRS Building Update – Superintendent Stella indicated that the project is near completion. The school-wide Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and celebration will occur on May 31 at 9:15 AM at the North entrance.

Superintendent Search Update – Ms. Hamilton noted that a finalist had been selected and that a background search was in process. It is anticipated that announcement of the appointment would be forthcoming in early June.

CABE Liaison – It was stated that CABE will hold a development session on collective bargaining on June 7.

Policy Committee – No Report

**NEW BUSINESS** – The annual IDEA Grant was presented for approval. This grant provides additional support in Special Education.

**MOTION #11 – 2016/17 IDEA Grant**

Move approval of the 2016/17 IDEA Grant for submission to the Connecticut State Department of Education.

Ms. Connor

Second by Ms. Jaffe

**UNANIMOUS**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

(8:08 PM)

Ms. Connor

Second by Ms. Piascyk

**UNANIMOUS**

Recorded by Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board