

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Monday, August 21, 2017
Stella Library Media Center

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Hamilton, Chair called the meeting to order (7:30 PM).

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Margaret Hamilton, Chair; Ms. Maegan Genovese, Secretary; Mr. Garrett Luciani, Nancy Maasbach, Ms. Lynn Piascyk, Mr. Paul Testa and Mr. John Vultee.

STAFF: Mr. Robert Gilbert, Superintendent; Al Pullo, Director of Business Services/Operations; Gina Prisco, Principal; Analisa Sherman, Assistant Principal; Clare Kennedy, Special Services Director and Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Terri Schatz, BOS Liaison; Teresa Nakouzi, WEA; Bettina Thiel, Pua Ford, community.

CORRESPONDENCE – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #1 – CONSENT AGENDA

Move that we approve the consent agenda as presented.

Ms. Piascyk
Second by Ms. Maasbach
UNANIMOUS

SRO Decision Process – The Board outlined the process that would be utilized in forming the Ad Hoc SRO Committee. It is anticipated that this committee will be comprised of representatives from the Town Boards - BOS, BOF and Recreation, the Police Department, Board members – Lynn Piascyk, Nancy Maasbach and Paul Testa; PTO (*to be determined*), Administration – Gina Prisco and Superintendent Gilbert; staff inclusive of teacher, teacher assistant and office, and two parents-at-large (*to be determined*). It was agreed that Information Sessions will be held prior to each Open House to hear feedback from parents and/or community members. This committee will review and evaluate what the needs are and the necessary funding required and make a formal recommendation to the Board. It was further clarified that the SRO role is NOT associated with the DARE component in Grade 6, which is funded separately. As part of this process, it is anticipated a parent/community survey will also be conducted prior to the end of September. The first meeting of this committee will be held on August 24 in the Stella Library Media Center from 6:30 – 8:30 PM.

The Committee Charge will be to “*make a recommendation to the Woodbridge Board of Education on security personnel needs and costs for the 2018-19 school year*”.

MOTION #2 – AD HOC SRO COMMITTEE

Move that we establish an Ad Hoc Committee to review the SRO Process with membership and charge to the committee as presented.

Ms. Piascyk
Second by Mr. Luciani
UNANIMOUS

Since the Board was meeting as a “Committee of the Whole” for curriculum, the Board established the Curriculum Committee as a standing committee.

MOTION #3 – POLICY 9132 - STANDING COMMITTEES

Move that we revise Policy 9132 to reflect the Curriculum Committee as a Standing Committee.

Ms. Piascyk
Second by Mr. Testa
UNANIMOUS

The Board reviewed the 2017/18 proposed goals. It was suggested under Goal 3, the last sentence be stricken and the first sentence include “community” between “local experts”.

MOTION #4 – 2017/18 WBOE GOALS

Move that we adopt the 2017/18 Woodbridge Board of Education Goals as amended.

Ms. Maasbach

Second by Ms. Piascyk

UNANIMOUS

PTO Update – No report.

Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Gilbert informed the Board that the Educational Cost Sharing Grant had been reduced to “0” by the State. The building is ready to welcome back staff on Tuesday and students on Monday, August 28. Approximately \$19,231 was returned to the Town at the end of the 2016/17 budget process. SBAC scores followed state trends, with Math increasing slightly and Language Arts decreasing slightly. Our ranking within the DRG (*District Reference Groups*) did not change. Overall enrollment continues to rise with several classes exceeding current Class Size Guidelines. Board members were reminded to register for the CABE/CAPSS Conference on November 17 and 18.

BRS Report – Ms. Prisco noted the Kindergarten Bus Orientation held earlier in the day as well as the new teacher/staff/intern orientation. The Ice Cream Social will be held on Wednesday, August 30.

WBOE Committee Memberships – Ms. Hamilton noted the committee memberships for each of the Standing Committees – Facilities, Finance, Curriculum and Policy. Finance will continue to meet on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 PM, Curriculum the first Thursday at 4:30 PM and that Facilities and Policy have not yet identified their meeting schedule. It was requested that on Policy Mr. Luciani be replaced with Ms. Genovese and Mr. Testa preferred a different committee placement.

Open Choice Options – It was suggested given the global world our children will live in and the documented benefits of geographic diversity that additional slots be allocated in the Open Choice program.

MOTION #5 – OPEN CHOICE SLOTS

Move that we authorize four (4) additional slots in Kindergarten for a total of 18 slots in the Open Choice Program for the 2017/18 school year.

Ms. Maasbach

Second by Ms. Genovese

Discussion ensued regarding the recent state-wide reductions made in educational budgets, the possible elimination of some grant funding, increasing enrollment across all grade levels and adherence to current class size guidelines. Ms. Maasbach amended her motion reducing the proposed additional slots to two (2), for a total of 16 slots for the 2017/18 school year.

MOTION #5A – OPEN CHOICE SLOTS

Move that we authorize two (2) additional slots in Kindergarten for a total of 16 slots in the Open Choice Program for the 2017/18 school year.

Ms. Maasbach

Second by Ms. Genovese

IN FAVOR: Ms. Maasbach, Ms. Genovese and Mr. Vultee

AGAINST: Ms. Hamilton, Mr. Luciani, Ms. Piascyk and Mr. Testa

MOTION FAILS 3-4

Facilities Committee –No Report.

Finance Committee – The committee met just prior to the Board meeting to review the financials approved earlier in the agenda. Ms. Hamilton noted the proposed elimination of grant funding and indicated that many districts around the state had submitted similar resolutions to state legislators regarding the proposed education reductions by the governor. The Board recommended submission of the resolution to state legislators.

MOTION #6 – 2017/18 BUDGET REDUCTION RESOLUTION

Move that we authorize administration to forward the budget reduction resolution to the State General Assembly.

Ms. Hamilton
Second by Mr. Vultee
UNANIMOUS

Curriculum Committee – Ms. Piascyk noted this committee met on August 17 to review Policy 9132 and develop a meeting schedule inclusive of designated topics. The committee will meet on the first Thursday of the month at 4:30 PM in the Stella Library Media Center. The September 7 meeting will receive updates on summer curriculum work as well as templates developed for Math and Science. As has been past practice, Board members will have the opportunity for input in the presentations that are developed.

Policy Committee – Ms. Maasbach stated this committee will be commenced in the fall to review class size guidelines, develop a process and/or policy for memorial requests and develop a policy for evaluation of external of programs.

CABE Liaison – Ms. Genovese reminded Board members of the early registration deadline for the CABE/CAPSS Convention in November.

Board members were invited to attend the FOI Informational meeting at Town Hall on September 12, 2017 at 6:00 PM.

Upcoming Meeting Presentations –

SBAC/CMT Science presentation should include specifics on student growth, performance and how this data is utilized to inform instruction.

Technology should target equipment age and replacement, impact on the operating/capital budget(s) and the goal/plan for phase-in replacement costs.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Gilbert presented the recently negotiated contract with the Woodbridge Association of School Administrators (WASA).

MOTION #7 – WASA CONTRACT

Move that we ratify the agreement with the Woodbridge Association of School Administrators effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021.

Mr. Vultee
Second by Ms. Genovese
UNANIMOUS

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

The Board entered Executive Session to discuss and review the Superintendent Evaluation process for 2017/18.

MOTION #8 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

Move that we enter Executive Session (8:47 PM).

Ms. Piascyk
Second by Mr. Luciani
UNANIMOUS

MOTION TO ADJOURN: (9:28 PM)
Mr. Luciani
Second by Ms. Maasbach
UNANIMOUS

Recorded by Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board