

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Monday, December 15, 2014

BRS Library Media Center

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Hamilton, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Margaret Hamilton, Chair; Ms. Lisa Connor, Dr. Steven Fleischman, Vice Chair (7:54 PM); Matthew Gilbride, Ms. Chris Jaffe, Ms. Keri Matthews, and Ms. Emily Melnick (7:02 PM).

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

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Laurence Grotheer, BOS Liaison; Teresa Nakouzi and Mary Vincitorio, Teachers; and Pua Ford, community.

CORRESPONDENCE – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #1 – CONSENT AGENDA

Move that we approve the consent agenda as presented.

Mr. Gilbride

Second by Ms. Connor

UNANIMOUS

REPORTS

PTO Report – No Report.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Stella highlighted the recent cultural exchange trip to Morocco as part of the Fulbright Grant and the video conference exchange with Grade 5 BRS students and 6th grade students from the Al Akhawayn International School of Ifrane in Morocco. On January 27, there will be a lecture and video program at the Town Library by the UNH participants regarding the adventure in Morocco.

BRS Building Upgrade Project – Superintendent Stella noted the installation of new lighting in A and B Wings. As the new chiller and micro-turbine will be installed on the roof during the holiday break, the Extended Day program will not be in session.

Beecher Road School Update – Ms. Prisco acknowledged the collaboration of Family Night at the Book Fair followed by the Winter Band Concert resulting in both events being well attended. Resolution of the *MyPaymentsPlus* issue should be completed shortly. Also noted were various staff professional development activities.

2015/16 Budget Proposals – Superintendent Stella provided an overview of the 2015/16 budget proposal. The budget represents an overall increase of 3.82% over the 2014/15 operating budget. The increase is attributed to increased student enrollment, contractual obligations, the addition of a ½ Special Education Teacher Assistant and a part-time Cafeteria Aide. It was noted that while Spanish is slated to increase in Grade 2, it is not anticipated this will result in additional staffing costs.

MOTION #2 – 2015/16 BUDGET

Move that we approve the 2015/16 budget as presented by administration for submission to the Boards of Selectmen and Finance.

Dr. Fleischman
Second by Ms. Matthews
UNANIMOUS

Math Update – Ms. White reviewed the selection process for *Investigations* as the primary Math resource in Grades 1-5, the focus on differentiation throughout grade levels as well as within the common core standards and participation in the Tri-State Consortium in development of objectives and assessments. Emily Freel, ACES Consultant, provides additional professional development for teachers in the area of integrating of math and literacy. The integration of reading and math are vital components in both the common core standards and SBAC testing. *Investigations* align with the common core standards and emphasize the higher order thinking process with multiple options in problem solving techniques. Children are challenged through individual and small group projects/assignments to provide explanations of the strategies used to solve various math problems. Through the differentiation of instruction for each child’s individual pathway, children are taught to dig deep into the problem and persevere.

Facilities Committee – Ms. Jaffe reviewed the December 4 meeting that included an update on the Thanksgiving weekend emergency. The next committee meeting will be held on January 8, 2015.

Finance Committee – Dr. Fleischman noted that the committee met on December 8, 2014 to review the monthly financials, the 2015/16 budget proposal and the proposed early retirement incentives. There was no further report.

ACES – No Report.

CABE Liaison – Ms. Connor indicated on December 18 she will be attending a webinar on Social Studies curriculum.

Upcoming Meeting Presentations – It was requested the update on report cards include a description of the report card modification process, inclusive of teacher/parent prep, and the proposed revision process outline.

The Healthy Food update should include the format, timeline and financial impact of healthy food options/ recommendations, current Board policy as well as the Board directive for a self-sustaining Cafeteria program. Specific stats on the actual Cafeteria operation profit/loss, i.e., À la Carte options, menu selections, and the various opportunities afforded for providing input into selection of healthy choices.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

The Board entered Executive Session to review Early Retirement Incentives for various unions.

MOTION #3 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

Move that we enter Executive Session (8:37 PM).

Dr. Fleischman
Second by Ms. Hamilton
UNANIMOUS

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Hamilton, Chair called the Executive Session to order (8:37 PM).

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

STAFF: Dr. Guy Stella, Superintendent and Al Pullo, Director of Business Services/Operations.

The Board reviewed Early Retirement Incentives for the WEA and CSEA memberships.

MOTION #4 – RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

Move that we return to Public Session (9:05 PM).

Dr. Fleischman
Second by Mr. Gilbride
UNANIMOUS

MOTION #4 – EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVES

Move that we authorize the Superintendent to offer the early retirement incentive to the membership of the WEA at \$38,000 and to the CSEA as recommended by administration.

Dr. Fleischman
Second by Mr. Gilbride
UNANIMOUS

MOTION TO ADJOURN: (9:08 PM)

Dr. Fleischman
Second by Mr. Gilbride
UNANIMOUS