

Board of Education Meeting
September 17, 2020 7:00 PM
Derby Middle School Cafetorium
73 Chatfield Street

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84478973012>
meeting id: 844 7897 3012

I. Call to Order

Mr. Gildea: Welcome everyone to the Derby Board of Education meeting.

a. Opening Ceremonies



Mr. Gildea: Why don't we stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

b. Roll Call

Mr. Gildea: Madam Secretary, please take the roll.

Ms. Netto: Rebecca O'Hara; George Kurtyka; Melissa Cannata; Tara Hyder; Jim Gildea; Janine Netto is present; Laura Harris; Ken Marcucio; Ken is present on zoom and Dan Foley.

Mr. Gildea: So we would like to welcome the Board members who are zooming in. All the members who have called in from outside, we appreciate you here. We're still trying to comply with the 25 people in the room requirement. We appreciate your flexibility in calling in. So we're happy that you're here.

c. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Mr. Gildea: There are no additions or corrections.

Dr. Conway: If students come in and participate after open house is over. If maybe when they're available put them up on the agenda.

Mr. Gildea: For certain. Yes, sir.

Dr. Conway: Thank you.

II. Public Portion

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

* Prior to the commencement of any public meeting of any board of the city, the agenda for said meeting shall be posted in the meeting room and the first order of business of said meeting shall be the entertainment of public discussion on any item on said agenda and the conduct, length, and method of terminating said public discussion shall be determined by majority vote of the members of said board of commission.

Mr. Gildea: Is anyone from the public, any of the 11 folks who called in. Anyone from the public who wish to speak to the board of education meeting. Anyone from the public going twice. Anyone from the public going, is that Samantha Mahan, do you wish to address the Board.

Ms. Mahan: I wanted to say thank you to all the work to get our extension in and we appreciate your time.

Mr. Gildea: Thank you very much Samantha. We certainly appreciate you and all of your union members. Thank you.

Anyone from the public who wishes to speak before the board this evening. Twice. Anyone from the public, three times. Seeing no one from the public, we will close public portion.

III. Executive Session

Motion Passed: The Board of Education enter into Executive Session to review the appointment list of new hires, for discussion of the non-affiliated contract salaries for the 2020-2021 school year, the Superintendent's contract, and a letter of resignation, and the Superintendent of Schools is invited to attend. passed with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mr. George Kurtyka.

Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Ms. Melissa Cannata	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes

Mrs. Tara Hyder	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes

Ms. Netto: Motion that the Board of Education enter into executive session to review the appointment of new hires, to discuss the non-affiliated contracts for the 2020/2021 school year, the Superintendent's contract, and a letter of resignation, and the Superintendent of Schools is invited to attend.

Mr. Gildea: A motion has been made. Is there a second?

Mr. Kurtyka: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Second, Mr. Kurtyka. Any discussion. Motion carries.

IV. School Security Officer - Irving School

Motion Passed: The Board of Education approve the appointment of Thomas Pjatak, Jr. to the position of School Security Officer at Irving School, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools. passed with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Ms. Melissa Cannata.

Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Ms. Melissa Cannata	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Tara Hyder	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes

Mr. Gildea: Welcome everyone back. You're good Dan. All right.

Ms. Netto: Motion that the Board of Education approve the appointment of Thomas Pjatak for position of school security officer at Irving School as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Gildea: A motion has been made. Is there a second?

Ms. Cannata: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Ms. Cannata. Motion carries.

Dr. Conway: Talking about Thomas. Working with Youth with disabilities. Coaching Sports. Strong, strong commitment to youth. His career as an SRO in Stamford Public Schools. Happy to have him on board and I know Irving is excited to get the ball rolling. Congratulations.

Mr. Gildea: On behalf of the Board of Education, Tom, we'd certainly like to welcome you to Derby. We thank you for your years of service of protecting citizens and welcome to Derby.

Mr. Ptajak: Thank you so much everyone.

V. Appointment of New Hires

Motion Passed: The Board of Education approve the appointment list for new hires, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools. passed with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mrs. Laura Harris.

Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Ms. Melissa Cannata	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Tara Hyder	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes

Ms. Netto: Motion that the Board of Education approve the appointment list of new hires as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Gildea: A motion has been made.

Ms. Harris: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Ms. Harris, second. Motion carries.

VI. Letter of Resignation

Motion Passed: The Board of Education accept the letter of resignation for Carla Volpe, Art teacher at Derby High School, effective immediately, with regret and best wishes. passed with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Ms. Melissa Cannata.

Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Ms. Melissa Cannata	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Tara Hyder	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes

Ms. Netto: Motion the Board of Education accept a letter of resignation for Carla Volpe, Art Teacher at Derby High School, effective immediately, with regret and best wishes.

Mr. Gildea: A motion has been made. Is there a second?

Ms. Cannata: I second.

Mr. Gildea: Ms. Cannata. Any discussion. Motion carries.

VII. Superintendent's Contract

Motion Passed: The Board of Education approve the Superintendent's Contract. passed with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mr. George Kurtyka.

Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Ms. Melissa Cannata	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Tara Hyder	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes

Ms. Netto: Motion the Board of Education approve the superintendent's contract.

Mr. Gildea: A motion has been made. Is there a second?

Mr. Kurtyka: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Mr. Kurtyka. Any discussions. Motion carries.

VIII. Subcommittee Reports

Finance Committee	Mrs. O'Hara
Negotiations and Personnel Committee	Mr. Kurtyka
School/Community Relations and Policy	Mrs. Harris
Plant and Facilities Committee	Mr. Gildea
Academic & Curriculum	Mrs. Hyder
Regionalization	Mr. Gildea
Athletic Committee	Mr. Marcucio
Student Health and Safety Committee	Mrs. Netto

Mr. Gildea: Subcommittee Reports. Finance.

Ms. O'Hara: Nothing.

Mr. Gildea: Nothing new in Finance. Negotiations, Mr. Kurtyka.

Mr. Kurtyka: Doc, are you bringing that up tonight.

Dr. Conway: Which one?

Mr. Kurtyka: The contract.

Dr. Conway: The contract. It's on the agenda.

Mr. Kurtyka: We appreciate everyone's cooperation we got. They agreed one-year extension of contract.

Mr. Gildea: Plant and Facilities Committee. We submitted a list of proposed work to the school. Academic and Curriculum.

Ms. Hyder: Nothing new.

Mr. Gildea: Regionalization. We have to finalize the curriculum for all schools. We are having a meeting on 9/28 where we will talk about program studies and getting regionalization update on costs of renovating schools. Athletic Committee, Mr. Marcucio?

Mr. Marcucio: No.

Mr. Gildea: Student health and safety committee.

Ms. Netto: No report.

Mr. Gildea: Policy committee.

Ms. Harris: Two policies tonight for first read.

IX. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Conway: Superintendent's report. Go right to the reopening perspective.

Ms. Netto: Do you want to see if the kids are ready.

Dr. Conway: Yes, they are ready.

Mr. Gildea: Ken, is your computer muted.

Ms. Netto: Now it is.

Ms. Olson: I want to thank the Board for allowing us the opportunity to present tonight. In one of my first days over at the high school, a student asking me for help, elective class. Is there a way that we could have a conversation about this? So tonight with us, we have a few of our students and we have some teachers.

So the students in a moment are going to talk to you about this proposal and why it's important to them. I'll turn it over to the students so they can make their presentation. And I'm going to wrap it up by take a look at last year's yearbook. And so I'll turn it over to the students.

Students giving their presentation.

Mr. Gildea: Any questions from the Board. Outstanding presentation on behalf of the Board, I think two things side up that make us proud is students advocating for themselves. Students coming talk to us. It's very exciting. It's nice to see. Thank you so much for coming out to talk to us.

Thank you for having us.

Mr. Gildea: Awesome. Thank you so much.

Ms. Olson: I want to give tremendous credit to the yearbook committee that we're passing around yearbooks right now for people to look at. With a limited number of students participating in the class, it really allows much of the copy writing and things like that, and the book is beautiful and being able to expand. So Rachel and we're also having Ms. Reilly join us as well. Ms. Reilly, would you like to share?

Mr. Gildea: Congratulations.

Ms. Olson: Consider having electives, that way our honor students won't feel compelled not to take the classes because there would be no negative impact on their GPA. It is good having negative impact on students who in academic classes reach and are successful.

So we wouldn't want to take that away from students. So the proposal to have an honors track and a cp track seem to make more sense. What we envision right now is having Ms. Reilly coach the class with Ms. Minardi. Blended classroom of cp and honor students together. All students would have the same expectations for work. However, the honor students would have an additional responsibility that would rise to the level of honors quality work. And the benefit of it would be, Mr. Izzo listen up, no cost to the district because they already here on staff, Ms. Reilly already has a free period. She's in the library media center. So this is really part of a larger school wide conversation about how we really get access to all students and the type of programming interesting to them that's exciting and that meets our academics and personal means. Thank you very much for the opportunity.

Mr. Gildea: Okay. Very nice. So Rachel Reilly and Ms. Minardi, if you hear us can you give us a thumbs up. Congratulations.

Ms. Netto: Motion that the Board of Education approve the honors elective as directed by the high school.

Mr. Gildea: A motion has been made. Is there a second?

Ms. O'hara: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Ms. O'Hara. Any discussions?

Ms. Harris: Will this be added on to the program of studies at the high school?

Mr. Gildea: A motion has been made and seconded. Any further discussion? Motion carries.

Dr. Conway: Thank you very much.

Mr. Gildea: The students presented did an excellent job. Thank you again for a wonderful presentation and good luck with the program this year. Thank you.

Thank you for coming here.

Students: Thank you so much.

X. Reopening Perspective

Dr. Conway: Right now on the screen is our current percentages by school. It's about a 70/30 split overall.

Ms. Netto: There's issues with the computer.

Mr. Gildea: What do you want to do? Computer issues. We're going to go over the contracts. Everybody okay with that.

XIV. Connecticut State Colleges and Universities on behalf of Housatonic Community College

Motion Passed: The Board of Education approve the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities contract on behalf of Housatonic Community College for the 2020-2021 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools. passed with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara.

Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Ms. Melissa Cannata	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Tara Hyder	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes

Mr. Gildea: We're going to go over the Housatonic contract.

We can't get the technology piece or audio piece going. We're going to struggle through and go through the paraprofessional contract that you're amazingly good friend with George Kurtyka then the Housatonic contract.

Ms. Netto: Motion that the Board of Education approve the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities contract on behalf of the Housatonic Community College for the 2020/2021 school year as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Gildea: A motion has been made. Is there a second?

Mr. Kurtyka: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Ms. O'Hara.

Mr. Kurtyka: Okay.

Mr. Gildea: Ms. O'Hara, second. Any discussion.

Dr. Conway: Yes, we had this contract in place.

Mr. Izzo: 21 kids lined up this year.

Mr. Gildea: Well 21 is new.

Mr. Izzo: Well 21 is new.

Mr. Gildea: A motion has been made and seconded. The contract has been discussed. Any discussion. Motion carries.

XV. UPSEU Local 424 - Paraprofessionals Contract

Motion Passed: The Board of Education approve the UPSEU Local 424 Paraprofessional's contract for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools. passed with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mrs. Tara Hyder.

Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Ms. Melissa Cannata	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Tara Hyder	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes

Ms. Netto: Motion the Board of Education approve the UPSEU Local 424 - paraprofessional contract for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30th, 2021 as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Gildea: A motion has been made. Is there a second?

Ms. Hyder: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Ms. Hyder. Any discussion. Motion carries.

XVI. Derby High School Principal Search Update

- September 16, 2020 Selection Advisory Committee Finalizes Posting
-
- September 17 - Oct. 1, 2020 - Post position externally for two weeks
-
- October 2 - 9, 2020 - Selection Advisory Committee screens applications and conducts reference checks.
-
- October 12 - 16, 2020 - HR contacts applicants and selection advisory committee members to schedule interviews for week of Oct 19 - 23,, 2020
-
- October 19 - 23, 2020 Conduct first round interviews. (Interview Questions that Tap into Candidates' True Competencies)
-
- October 26 - 30, 2020 Conduct 2nd round interviews (Performance Assessments that Require Candidates to Respond to Realistic School Scenarios)
-
- November 2 - 6, 2020 - Schedule visits to finalists current schools
-
- November 9 - 13, 2020 - Selection Advisory Committee meets to recommend selection to the Superintendent.
-
- November 19, 2020 Superintendent makes recommendation to the Full Board

XVII. Discussion about Fall Sports

XVIII. Policy 2151 and Regulation - Hiring Process

XIX. Policy 5145.44 - Title IX

XX. Honors Level Electives

XXI. Adjourn

Motion Passed: The Board of Education adjourn its meeting. passed with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mr. George Kurtyka.

Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Ms. Melissa Cannata	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Tara Hyder	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes

Ms. Netto: Motion that the Board of Education adjourn it's meeting.

Mr. Gildea: Motion to adjourn made. Second.

Mr. Kurtyka: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Mr. Kurtyka. Any discussion. Motion carries.

Marianne Samokar
Recording Secretary