

Board of Education Meeting

September 15, 2016 6:00 PM
Derby Middle School Cafetorium

Attendance Taken at 6:30 PM:

Present Board Members:

Mr. Dan Foley
Mr. Jim Gildea
Mrs. Laura Harris
Mr. George Kurtyka
Mr. Andy Mancini
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio
Mrs. Janine Netto
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara
Mrs. Christine Robinson
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara

I. Call to Order

I.a. Opening Ceremonies

I.b. Roll Call

I.c. Additions/deletions to agenda - Add Policy #5114 Students Removal, Suspension, Expulsion Policy as a First Read

Motion Passed: To Add Policy #5114 Students Removal, Suspension, Expulsion Policy as a First Read. passed with a motion by Mr. Andy Mancini and a second by Mr. George Kurtyka.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

II. Public Participation

Discussion:

Marc Garofalo - 95 Academy Hill Road: spoke regarding the nepotism policy. He asked what the process is for "first read". Dr. Conway stated that in order to change a policy it has to go to a subcommittee meeting. Then there is a first and a second read at full board meetings. Mr. Garofalo stated that he feels it's a mistake to remove sections from the policy as he feels it allows for allegations of favoritism. He is recommending against making changes to the policy.

III. Chairman's Report

There was nothing to report.

IV. Superintendent's Report

Discussion:

Dr. Conway updated the Board on his past month's activity. He attended several meetings throughout the month including, the Board of Aldermen, CAPSS BOD, Housing Task Force, SCASA, and BHCare BOD. He reviewed and submitted the ADA Corrective Action Plan, held a DEA meeting, and conducted interviews for an IT Director. Mr. Gildea asked if they would be discussing the SBAC results. Dr. Conway said they could be reviewed at a COW meeting. Mr. Gildea has a safety concern with the weight of the backpacks. He asked if something could be done, i.e. more time allowed going to lockers. It was mentioned that the backpacks are only allowed to and from school, not carried during the school day. Ms. Netto thanked Dr. Conway for all his hard work in helping to get an unregistered student registered.

V. Administrator's Reports

V.a. Facilities Report

Discussion:

Mr. Foley asked if there has been any improvement in the HVAC system at the middle school. Mr. Nardone said there is nothing that they can do because a major repair needs to be done and it would have to be city funded. The company has gone out of business and they can't go back to them to correct the issue. Dr. Conway said that he is working with Mr. McLiverty on the repairs and the CO. The Board discussed that all the schools have heating and cooling issues. Mr. Kurtyka clarified that this is a chilling/water system not air conditioning system. Mr. Nardone said the building committee made the decision to use that type of system. Ms. Harris suggested that Mr. McLiverty attend the next meeting and Dr. Conway will schedule a meeting to review this with him within the next few days for an update.

V.b. Technology Report

Discussion:

Mr. Conklin thanked the summer help get everything ready for the opening of school. Mr. Marcucio thanked Mr. Conklin for all his work and that he will be really missed. The Board took at short recess to celebrate Mr. Conklin's time here.

VI. Approval of Minutes

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education approve the minutes from the following meetings:

- a. August 18, 2016 - Board of Education Meeting
- b. August 24, 2016 - Discipline Committee
- c. August 29, 2016 - Policy Committee

Ms. Harris noted that Terri Kuskowski was not the recording secretary for the Discipline Committee and Policy Committee meetings passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mr. George Kurtyka.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

VII. Financial Report

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education approve the financial report for the period through August 31, 2016, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools. passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mr. George Kurtyka.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

VIII. Policy # 5114 Suspension, Removal, Expulsion Policy

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education review Policy #5114, Removal, Suspension, Expulsion, as a first read, as recommended by the Policy Committee. passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mr. Jim Gildea.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

IX. Policy # 4112.8 Nepotism

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education review policy #4112.8, Nepotism Policy, as a first read as recommended by the Policy Committee. passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

X. Policy #5142.2 Dismissal

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education review policy #5142.2, Dismissal Policy, as a first read as recommended by the Policy Committee. passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mrs. Christine Robinson.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes

Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education review policy #5142.2, Dismissal Policy, as a first read as recommended by the Policy Committee. passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mr. Kenneth Marcucio.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

XI. Exemptions to Healthy Foods Sales

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education take action to permit the sale of foods that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools. passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mr. George Kurtyka.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

XII. Harvard Diversity and Equity Strategic Partnership

Discussion:

Derby was one of eight districts accepted into this program.

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education approve the partnership with Harvard - the Diverse and Equitable Schools Project, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools. passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mr. George Kurtyka.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes

Mrs. Christine Robinson Yes

XIII. Paraeducator Grievance

Discussion:

The Board discussed a grievance from M. Mancuso. Annie MacDonald, the union representative, spoke about the grievance. They are now at step 3. The union feels he was unjustly terminated. He was a 12 year employee with no history of inappropriate behavior. Staff members stated that they had never seen him act inappropriate. The police were contacted and DCF conducted an investigation. DCF notified the grievant that the allegation were unsubstantiated. The police department did not get involved. Several witnesses' parents refused to allow them to be questioned by DCF with leads to questions about their creditability.

Dr. Conway said that following the DCF investigation, they do not receive anything more than a statement. The letter stated that the incident did not meet the statutory definition of risk. He said that doesn't mean that something didn't occur that affected the children involved negatively. The administrators spoke with the three victims and their statements were alarming.

XIV. Executive Session

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education enter into Executive Session at 7:54 PM to discuss the Paraeducator grievance, a notice of intent, personnel issues and to review the appointment list, and that the Superintendent of School is invited to attend. passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mr. George Kurtyka.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

Mr. Vitelli was invited by the Board to enter into executive session at 8:07 PM to discuss the grievance.

The meeting reopened at 8:50 PM.

XV. APPOINTMENT LIST

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education approve the appointment list as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools. passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education approve the appointment of John Netto as volunteer assistant baseball coach as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools. passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mr. Andy Mancini.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Abstain
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

XVI. Resignations

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education accept the resignations of: Nelly Tuzzo, Paraeducator, Irving School, effective October 3, 2016, with regret and best wishes. passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education accept the resignations of: Tabbetha Rivers, Behavior Analyst, Irving School, effective October 28, 2016, with regret and best wishes. passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mr. Andy Mancini.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education accept the resignation of: John Barsevich, IT Specialist, effective September 14, 2016, with regret and best wishes. passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mr. George Kurtyka.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes

Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

XVII. Paraeducator Grievance

No action was taken.

XVIII. Adjournment

Motion Passed: That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting at 8:54 PM. passed with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mr. George Kurtyka.

Mr. Dan Foley	Yes
Mr. Jim Gildea	Yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	Yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	Yes
Mr. Andy Mancini	Yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	Yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	Yes
Mrs. Christine Robinson	Yes

Terri Kuskowski
Recording Secretary

Minutes are subject to approval at the next Board meeting.