

**Regular Meeting
Stafford Board of Education
Stafford Elementary School
Monday, February 25, 2019, 6:30 p.m.**

Board Members Present:

Ms. Jennifer Davis
Mr. Mike Delano
Mrs. Andrea Locke, Secretary
Mr. George Melnick
Ms. Sonya Shegogue, Chairperson
Mrs. Kathy Walsh

Absent: Ms. Kathy Bachiochi

Also Present: Mr. Steven Moccio, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Steven Autieri, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Jonathan Campbell, Assistant Principal, Stafford Middle School
Mr. Devin Cowperthwaite, Supervisor of Building Services
Mrs. Peggy Falcetta, Principal, Staffordville School
Mr. Dean Fortin, IT / Network Coordinator
Mr. Damian Frassinelli, Director of Athletics and Recreation
Ms. Anna Gagnon, Principal, West Stafford School
Mr. Marco Pelliccia, Principal, Stafford High School
Ms. Diane Peters, Business Manager
Ms. Jolene Piscetello, Director of Pupil Services
Mr. Nick Wyse, Student Representative
Miss Grace Zopelis, Alternate Student Representative

Item I. Call to Order- Establishment of Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

Item II. Pledge of Allegiance

The student representatives led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item III. Secretary's Report- Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting, February 11, 2019

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Walsh, that the Board approve the Secretary's Report for the regular meeting held on February 11, 2019, as presented. Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, Mr. Melnick and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried.

Item IV. Consent Agenda

- A. Bills, 18-19, 02-12-19, \$154,040.50
- B. Bills, 18-19, 02-19-19, \$39,137.03
- C. Grants, 18-19, 02-19-19, \$1,194.57
- D. Staffordville School Obsolete Equipment

Mrs. Walsh made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Davis, that the Board approve the items listed in the consent agenda, as presented. Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, Mr. Melnick and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried.

Item V. Correspondence

A.1. and A.2.

Ms. Shegogue read the two meeting reminders that were posted on the agenda.

Item VI. Board Reports

A. Student Representatives' Report

Mr. Wyse reported on the following topics:

- SVS Update including newsletter, conferences, Read Across America, Fun Run
- SHS Update including honor roll ice cream social, blood drive, district concert
- WSS Update including PTA meeting, conferences, sharing assembly

Miss Zopelis reported on the following topics:

- SMS Cupcake War, Courage to Speak presentation, HS GSDA to present to SMS

Item VII. Superintendent's Reports

A. 2018 – 2019 Financial Report, July 1, 2018 – January 31, 2019

Mrs. Peters, Business Manager, provided an update of monthly spending and account balances, and highlighted areas of significance. She stated that anticipated Excess Cost Reimbursement from the Connecticut State Department of Education would be utilized to offset transportation and tuition expenses.

Mr. Melnick asked a clarifying question regarding the Excess Cost Reimbursement.

B. Continuation of the Discussion Regarding a Common Graduation Gown- Questionnaire Results

Mr. Pelliccia, Principal, Stafford High School, was present at the meeting to review the results of a questionnaire regarding a common graduation gown, prepared by students and provided to each of the students at Stafford High School. A copy of the results was provided for Board members via the portal. In addition, information regarding the gown color in towns with a single option was also provided via the portal.

Mr. Pelliccia stated that he has all of the statistical data from which they prepared the results summary, if Board members would like to see it. He thanked Erin Duffy, a high school senior, for her work on the questionnaire and gathering the data. Mr. Pelliccia stated that the results from questionnaire did not lean in one direction or another.

Board members noted that they are looking for feedback on one gown option for the entire school, which is more inclusive. Mr. Pelliccia and Mrs. Davis noted that in the near future the district may be required to move in this direction. She also acknowledged the work that senior class has done throughout this process.

The Board asked Mr. Moccio and Mr. Pelliccia to bring samples of the two choices with the most votes to the next regularly scheduled meeting, at which time they plan to make a decision regarding which gown will be selected. The two color choices are- blue cap with a blue gown and white cap with a white gown. The Board also asked Mr. Pelliccia to bring a variety of cords.

Item IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business.

Item VIII. Public Comment

There were no questions or comments.

Item X. New Business

A. Approval of the 2019 – 2020 Budget for the Stafford Public School District

Mr. Moccio presented the 2019-2020 budget, which totals \$28,330,602.09, and represents an increase of \$431,946.70, or 1.55% when compared to the 2018-2019 Connecticut State Department of Education Minimum Budget Requirement. He stated that he made no changes since the February 11, 2019, presentation. Administration and supervisors from across the district were present to answer any additional questions from the Board.

Provided below is a copy of the budget summary and budget history.

	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20 Proposed</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Change</u>
100 Salaries	\$16,256,360.13	\$16,522,931.98	\$16,811,093.16	\$288,161.18	1.74%
200 Benefits	\$4,785,416.84	\$4,576,485.54	\$4,828,184.67	\$251,699.13	5.50%
300 Professional Services	\$394,395.00	\$339,395.00	\$484,640.00	\$145,245.00	42.80%
400 Repairs, Rental, Other Property Services	\$868,653.22	\$807,153.22	\$741,458.00	-\$65,695.22	-8.14%
500 Transportation, Tuition, Other Services	\$3,562,167.16	\$3,671,526.61	\$3,702,380.34	\$30,853.73	0.84%
600 Utilities, Instructional & Building Supplies	\$1,283,599.26	\$1,237,099.26	\$1,126,693.16	-\$110,406.10	-8.92%
700 Equipment and Software	\$174,134.78	\$174,134.78	\$289,561.50	\$115,426.72	66.29%
800 Dues and Fees	\$334,274.00	\$330,274.00	\$346,591.26	\$16,317.26	4.94%
Subtotal	\$27,659,000.39	\$27,659,000.39	\$28,330,602.09	\$671,601.70	2.43%
CSDE MBR		\$239,655.00		-\$239,655.00	
Grand Total	\$27,659,000.39	\$27,898,655.39	\$28,330,602.09	\$431,946.70	1.55%

*Percent change compared to Connecticut State Department of Education Minimum Budget Requirement

		2018-2019 Approved Budget	\$27,659,000.39
		CSDE MBR Adjustment	\$ 239,655.00
		Total Revised 2018-2019 Budget	\$27,898,655.39
		Superintendent's Proposed 2019-2020 Budget - 1/28/19 (1.78%)	\$28,395,080.10
Description	Object Codes	Adjustments	Variance
Non-Certified Salaries	112	Position Changes (transfers, new hires)	\$ (1,460.51)
Non-Certified Salaries	112	Additional Maintenance Worker	\$ 34,944.00
Non-Certified Related	115	Remove Maintenance Overtime Budgeted (in lieu of additional worker)	\$ (5,000.00)
Certified Salaries	111	Retirement Savings	\$ (60,783.00)
Certified Salaries	111	Elimination of Special Education Teaching Position (retirement)	\$ (87,980.00)
Certified Salaries	111	Increase Band Teacher to Full-Time	\$ 22,516.40
Certified Salaries	111	Projected Degree Changes	\$ 31,611.00
Certified Salaries	111	Position Change (new hire for vacant business teacher position)	\$ (3,985.00)
Certified Salaries	111	Calculation Adjustment	\$ (8,163.30)
Non-Affiliated Salaries	114	Increase IT Position to Full-Time	\$ 17,377.93
Benefits	210	Adjusted benefits for changes in positions	\$ (4,555.53)
Travel	580	Increase Mileage Account - Supervisor Building Services	\$ 1,000.00
		Total 2019-2020 Budget	\$28,330,602.09
		Difference to Revised 2018-2019 Budget	\$ 431,946.70
		Budget Increase	1.55%

Mr. Moccio reported to the Board that earlier this week, Governor Lamont presented his proposed budget, which maintained the structure of how the Educational Cost Sharing (ECS) formula is calculated. He said that two significant changes were made. The first relates to how low-income students are identified, with only students directly certified for the National School Lunch Program now being included. The second is an acceleration of a phase-out for towns projected to receive decreased ECS funding as part of the October 2017 legislation. He

reported that the original legislation called for a 10-year phase out with small incremental changes each year, until funding levels were at calculated levels in fiscal year 2028. The Governor's proposed budget shortens the time frame to fiscal year 2022 and reduces Stafford's projected ECS funds by \$275,839.00 for next year.

Mr. Moccio also reported that he received a school consolidation / regionalization update from the Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST). A copy of the update was provided to Board members via the portal.

He stated that the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS) and his regional superintendents' group have been monitoring these bills and proposals. Mr. Moccio stated that he is actively working with his regional superintendents' group to prepare information that refutes certain aspects of regionalization, such as overall cost savings, impact on student achievement, and geographic and demographic concerns.

Board members inquired regarding funding for Teachers' Retirement and the possible impact on the district's budget. Mr. Moccio stated that Mrs. Peters is working on gathering that information.

Mrs. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Melnick, that the Board approve the 2019-2020 budget in the amount of \$28,330,602.09, which represents an increase of 1.55% over the 2018-2019 CSDE MBR. Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, Mr. Melnick and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried.

Item XI. Personnel Matters

There were no Personnel Matters.

Item XII. Student Matters

There were no Student Matters.

Item XIII. Adjournment

Mrs. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke, to adjourn. Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, Mr. Melnick and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine C. Marinelli, Recording Secretary

Sonya Shegogue, Chairperson

Andrea Locke, Secretary