

MINUTES OF THE HYBRID REGULAR WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Monday, July 17, 2023

Via WebEx <https://woodbridgeps.webex.com/woodbridgeps/j.php?MTID=m33b3b95761b443731c48d86122f4c446>

Meeting Number: 2488 161 3827 **Meeting Password:** FmtBPuhV736

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Lynn Piascyk, Chair, called the meeting to order (7:01 PM).

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Lynn Piascyk, Chair (in-person); Dr. Maria Madonick, Vice Chair (in-person); Dr. Jay Dayha (7:14 PM in-person); Ms. Sarah Beth Del Prete, Secretary (in person); Mr. Jeff Hughes (in-person); Dr. Michael Strambler (in-person) and Ms. Erin Williamson (in-person).

STAFF: Vonda Tencza, Superintendent; Analisa Sherman, Principal; James Sapia, Assistant Principal; Carrie Borcharding, Special Services Director and Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board.

CORRESPONDENCE – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #1 – CONSENT AGENDA

Move that we approve the consent agenda as presented.

Dr. Strambler

Second by Dr. Madonick

UNANIMOUS

Superintendent Report – Superintendent Tencza apprised the Board on safety, security and network enhancements, the hiring of paraeducators and a special education teacher and the selection of BRS into the CSDE master science of reading group.

BRS Update – Ms. Sherman noted that summer reading and math packets were available on the district web site and various summer program happenings.

Dr. Dahya arrived (7:14 PM).

BRS Town Building Committee – Mr. Hughes apprised the Board that Silver Petrucelli has been placed under contract by the Board of Selectmen to conduct the BRS roofing project.

CABE Liaison – Dr. Madonick informed the Board of two upcoming webinars – July 24 – *Paraeducator Health Care Deductible Assistance Program* and July 26 – *School Funding Changes from the 2023 Legislative Session* as well as the opening of registration for the CABE / CAPSS Conference in November.

NEW BUSINESS – Superintendent Tencza informed the Board of the resignation of Thanh Huntington the ELL teacher.

MOTION #2 – CERTIFIED STAFF RESIGNATION (HUNTINGTON)

Move that we accept the resignation of Thanh Huntington effective June 30, 2023 with regret.

Dr. Madonick

Second by Dr. Dahya

UNANIMOUS

Upcoming WBOE Committee / Meeting Schedule – the regular WBOE Meeting on August 21 at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

Executive Session

The Board entered Executive Session to discuss negotiations with respect to collective bargaining and to discuss personnel matters related to the appointment of a Beecher Road School Assistant Principal.

MOTION #3 – EXECUTIVE SESSION (7:21 PM)

Move that we enter Executive Session to discuss negotiations with respect to collective bargaining and to discuss personnel matters related to the appointment of a Beecher Road School Assistant Principal, and to invite the Superintendent and the candidate to the Executive Session

Dr. Madonick
Second by Ms. Del Prete

UNANIMOUS

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Lynn Piascyk, Chair (in-person); Dr. Maria Madonick, Vice Chair (in-person); Dr. Jay Dayha (in-person); Ms. Sarah Beth Del Prete, Secretary (in person); Mr. Jeff Hughes (in-person); Dr. Michael Strambler (in-person) and Ms. Erin Williamson (in-person).

The Board reviewed the WASA contract and interviewed the candidate for the Assistant Principal vacancy.

MOTION #4 – RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

Move that we return to Public Session (7:49 PM).

Mr. Hughes
Second by Dr. Strambler

UNANIMOUS

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Lynn Piascyk, Chair (in-person); Dr. Maria Madonick, Vice Chair (in-person); Dr. Jay Dayha (in-person); Ms. Sarah Beth Del Prete, Secretary (in person); Mr. Jeff Hughes (in-person); Dr. Michael Strambler (in-person) and Ms. Erin Williamson (in-person).

STAFF: Vonda Tencza, Superintendent; and Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board.

Chair Piascyk called the Public Session back to order (7:49 PM) and requested a motion to add an additional Public Comment to the agenda as a member of the public just arrived and was requesting permission to speak.

MOTION #5 – AMEND AGENDA – ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Move that we amend the agenda to add an additional Public Comment after action on the Assisant Principal.

Ms. Piascyk
Second by Dr. Dahya

UNANIMOUS

The recently negotiated contract with the school administrators was ratified by the Board.

MOTION #6 – WASA CONTRACT 2024 – 2027

Move that we approve the Agreement between the Woodbridge Board of Education and the Woodbridge Association of School Administrators (WASA), effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027.

Mr. Hughes
Second by Dr. Dahya

UNANIMOUS

Superintendent Tencza outlined the interview process and presented the selected candidate, Cheryl Tafel, for appointment as Assistant Principal.

MOTION #7 – APPOINTMENT ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Move that we accept the Superintendent’s recommendation to hire Cheryl Tafel as Assistant Principal of Beecher Road School effective August 1, 2023, and authorize the Superintendent to commence the employment process consistent with the relevant collective bargaining agreement and the discussion in Executive Session.

Ms. Piascyk
Second by Dr. Madonick
UNANIMOUS

The Board extended a warm welcome to Ms. Tafel. Ms. Tafel indicated she is looking forward to being a part of the Beecher Road School community.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Josh Taylor, a BRS parent, spoke regarding the SRO and the removal of the SRO from the summer programs. Parents are concerned and on-site security at BRS is an important safety factor. The Police Commission meeting held earlier this evening indicated that there may be a sustainable solution for the armed security guard hired for the summer to continue into the fall which would then allow the Police Department to fill potential vacancies by reassigning the current SRO. The Police Commission indicated they would be requesting a meeting with the Board in the near future to pursue further discussion of this topic. As student safety is crucial, the Board was urged to inform parents and community members of this meeting well in advance to allow for appropriate consideration and participation for all stakeholders.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: (7:58 PM)

Mr. Hughes
Second by Ms. Del Prete
UNANIMOUS

Recorded by Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board