

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Monday, June 18, 2018
Stella Library Media Center

CAPSS SUPERINTENDENT/STUDENT AWARD RECOGNITION: The Board recognized five (5) Grade 6 students. This award is designed to recognize students who contribute to school, peers and/or community; achieve relative to their ability and/or display leadership and/or qualities of citizenship. This award is not based on academic achievement. Teachers, parents and families of each student were in attendance. Superintendent Gilbert and the Board congratulated the five recipients, their families and teachers.

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Hamilton, Chair called the meeting to order (7:08 PM).

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Margaret Hamilton, Chair; Ms. Claire Coleman, Ms. Maegan Genovese, Secretary; Mr. Garrett Luciani, Ms. Nancy Maasbach (7:35 PM), Vice Chair; Ms. Lynn Piascyk, Mr. Paul Testa and Mr. John Vultee.

STAFF: Mr. Robert Gilbert, Superintendent; Cheryl Mammen, Special Services Director; Al Pullo, Director of Business Services/Operations; Gina Prisco, Principal; Analisa Sherman, Assistant Principal; and Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Pua Ford, Stillman Jordan, Prashi Paliwal and Joyce Shavers, community.

Superintendent Gilbert provided a brief description for the correspondence process noting that upon Board receipt of information he will follow-up with direct contact to the individual(s) either via email or telephone to address the issue and/or provide guidance for attaining resolution.

CORRESPONDENCE – Ms. Genovese noted the Board had received an email regarding the Ad Hoc Enrichment Committee inclusive of a list of interested parents.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Stillman Jordan thanked the Board for considering the proposal brought forward by Ms. Shavers and the formation of the Enrichment Committee. He asked for clarification on committee membership selection of both staff and parents and hoped consideration would be given to increasing the number of parent participants. Also, it would be helpful to know when this item would appear on meeting agendas. It was noted that WBOE meetings are public meetings and even if you are not selected as a committee member, public participation is still possible.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #1 – CONSENT AGENDA

Move that we approve the consent agenda as presented.

Ms. Piascyk

Second by Mr. Luciani

UNANIMOUS

REPORTS

Ad Hoc Enrichment Committee – Ms. Hamilton apprised the Board on the proposed membership and outlined the charge for this committee. Membership would include 4 parents (2 from the interested parent group and 2 from lottery), 2 board members, 2 administrators, 3 teachers and 1 non-certified staff member. The charge to the committee is to make a recommendation to the WBOE at the October 2018 Board meeting on the ways the Board can support the initiatives of the School-Wide Enrichment Model (endorsed by the Board in their Strategic Development Plan) including the needs of the high-achieving/high-ability students. Dr. Fleischman will chair this committee. The October timeframe is crucial to determine the potential impact for development of the 2019/2020 budget.

Discussion ensued regarding the short time limitation and scope. This is an opportunity to look at ways other schools challenge students and if those students benefit from acceleration or differentiation, and the scope / charge should include broader questions for cross-curriculum achievements to create an academic environment that fosters more and it is likely that would exceed the October timeframe. A suggestion was made to expand the membership to six parents with four from the interested parent group. It was noted that these meetings would be public and no one would be precluded from

attending or participating. It was agreed that this would be a fairly large committee and limiting representatives from various stakeholder groups would garner functionality and balance.

MOTION #2 – AD HOC SCHOOL-WIDE ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE

Move that we establish an Ad Hoc School-Wide Enrichment Committee as presented.

Ms. Piascyk
Second by Ms. Genovese
UNANIMOUS

PTO Update – No Report

Superintendent Report – Superintendent Gilbert highlighted the CAPSS recipients, retirees – Laurie Garret, Mary Sell and Caron Stebinger, the 2018/19 Teacher of the Year Elizabeth Heagney, recent hires Heather Minardi, Jeanne Ciarleglio and Kathleen Marlow, the 6th grade graduation on Tuesday, the start of summer programs on June 25th, the school-wide field day and outdoor read, the Superintendent / Parent Forum on School-wide Enrichment with CSDE Consultant Gil Andrada, family night at Quassy, and the ongoing budget deficit.

BRS Report – Ms. Prisco extended a sincere thank you to the PTO for the new climbing wall / mats and the water bottle refilling stations. Activities noted included family night at Quassy, summer curriculum work in math, science, social studies, technology and world language, and the school-wide field day.

Wellness / Tools for Schools – It was noted that BRS continues to create a school environment that promotes health and well-being of students. The Café has enhanced menu offerings as well as healthy snacks. The Tools for School Committee focus is on indoor air quality and how we improve the air quality for everyone concerned. Annual inspections are conducted with a representative from the Quinnipiack Valley Health District. It was suggested that the green leaf school initiative be explored to increase sustainability and waste reduction practices.

Panorama Parent Survey – Superintendent Gilbert reviewed the results of the parent, staff and student surveys. Overall, results followed similar trends as in past years. As was done in prior surveys, neutral responses were not included in the positive or negative calculations and the same survey questions were asked to attain accurate comparison values. The survey fulfills mandated CSDE requirements, provides feedback for continuous improvement and measures growth in targeted areas. The response rate for families was 28.7% compared to 51.7% in 2016. This was the first year the survey was conducted with students (Grades 3-6) and staff with response rates of 93.5% and 90.3% respectively. All data will be further analyzed to assess progress as well as identify and target areas for improvement and focus.

Board Retreat – The WBOE Retreat will be held on July 25 from 5:00 – 8:00 PM with Bob Rader, Executive Director of CAFE as facilitator. Board members were asked to complete the Board self-evaluation form, review the strategic plan, meeting structure / committee participation, and identify areas of focus for development of the 2018/19 Board Goals. It was agreed the July regular meeting would be cancelled.

Facilities Committee – A meeting was held prior to the public session to receive a presentation on the roof as well as updates on building/grounds.

Finance Committee – Ms. Hamilton reviewed the June 11 committee meeting and presented the 2018/19 budget reconciliation for action by the Board as a result of the \$50,000 reduction by the Boards of Selectmen and Finance.

MOTION #3 – 2018/19 BUDGET RECONCILIATION

Move that we authorize reconciliation of the 2018/19 budget as presented by administration.

Ms. Maasbach
Second by Ms. Piascyk
UNANIMOUS

Curriculum Committee – Ms. Piascyk reviewed the June 7 meeting which focused on summer curriculum writing and curriculum review cycles. This committee will not meet until the fall.

Policy Committee – Ms. Maasbach indicated that dependent upon what feedback is received from the Enrichment Committee, the Policy Committee may wish to revisit the homework policy.

CABE Liaison – Ms. Genovese noted the August 13 Leadership Conference as well as the Collective Bargaining Workshop that she recently attended.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Gilbert presented the recently negotiated contract with the CILU Union, which represents custodians, cafeteria and clerical.

MOTION #4 – CILU CONTRACT RATIFICATION

Move that we ratify the contract with the CILU #80 effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021, as presented.

Ms. Maasbach

Second by Mr. Luciani

UNANIMOUS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joyce Shavers thanked the Board for establishing the Ad Hoc Enrichment Committee. She inquired how representation from teachers and administration would be made and who would make them. An invitation was extended for the committee to meet with Sally Reiss, wife of Joe Renzuili, during the week of July 9-13.

Stillman Jordan requested clarification on the structure of committees and whether the Ad Hoc Enrichment Committee would be a voting committee. He suggested Ms. Reizfeld as a teacher representative noting that it is summer and teachers may not be readily available. He also offered his services as an energy engineer.

The Board entered Executive Session to review the 2018/19 contract for the Business Manager.

MOTION #5 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

Move that we enter Executive Session (8:49 PM).

Ms. Piascyk

Second by Mr. Testa

UNANIMOUS

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Hamilton, Chair called the Executive Session to order (8:51 PM).

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Margaret Hamilton, Chair; Ms. Claire Coleman, Ms. Maegan Genovese, Secretary; Mr. Garrett Luciani, Ms. Nancy Maasbach, Vice Chair; Ms. Lynn Piascyk, Mr. Paul Testa and Mr. John Vultee.

STAFF: Mr. Robert Gilbert, Superintendent.

The Board reviewed the 2018/19 contract for the Business Manager.

MOTION #6 – PUBLIC SESSION

Move that we return to Public Session (9:37 PM).

Mr. Luciani

Second by Mr. Testa

UNANIMOUS

MOTION #7 – BUSINESS MANAGER CONTRACT EXTENSION AND SALARY (2018/19)

Move that we extend the contract of the Business Manager through June 30, 2020, including a salary of \$119,759 for the 2018/19 school year and with an additional annuity equal to 1.5% of the 2018/19 salary.

Ms. Hamilton

Second by Ms. Genovese

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MOTION TO ADJOURN: (9:39 PM)
Ms. Piascyk
Second by Mr. Testa
UNANIMOUS

Recorded by Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board