

**Regular Meeting
Stafford Board of Education
Stafford Elementary School
January 29, 2018, 6:30 p.m.**

Board Members Present: Ms. Kathy Bachiochi
Mrs. Andrea Locke, Secretary
Mr. George Melnick
Ms. Sonya Shegogue, Chairperson
Mrs. Kathy Walsh

Absent: Mr. Peter Kovaleski (resigned as of 1/23/18)
Mr. Jeff Roberts

Also Present: Dr. Paul Smotas, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Jonathan Campbell, Assistant Principal, Stafford Middle School
Mr. Devin Cowperthwaite, Supervisor of Building Services
Mr. Dominic DePellegrini, Computer Technician
Mrs. Peggy Falcetta, Principal, Staffordville School
Mr. Dean Fortin, IT / Network Coordinator
Ms. Anna Gagnon, Principal, West Stafford School
Miss Autumn Gagnon, Senior Class Student Representative
Ms. Caroline Hargraves, Assistant Principal, Stafford Elementary School
Ms. Beth LaPane, Supervisor of Food Services
Ms. Susan Mike, Assistant Principal, Stafford High School
Mr. Steve Montgomery, Principal, Stafford Elementary School
Ms. Jennifer Murrehy, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Marco Pelliccia, Principal, Stafford High School
Ms. Diane Peters, Business Manager
Ms. Jolene Piscetello, Director of Pupil Services
Mr. Nicholas Wyse, Junior Class Student Representative

Item I. Call to Order- Establishment of Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m.

Item II. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Smotas led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item III. Secretary's Report- Approval of Minutes

Budget Committee Meeting, 1/8/18
Regular Meeting, 1/8/18

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Walsh, that the Board approve the Secretary's Report for the committee meeting and regular meeting held on 1/8/18, as presented. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Locke, Mr. Melnick and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried.

Item IV. Consent Agenda

- A. Bills, 1/11/18- \$105,431.03
- B. Grants, 1/11/18- \$1,950.77
- C. Resignation- Certified Staff Member

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

Item V. Correspondence

A. Board Meeting Reminder

Ms. Shegogue read the Board meeting reminder that was posted on the agenda.

Item VI. Board Reports

A. Report from Student Representatives

Miss Gagnon reported on the following topics:

- SMS Update, including Pasta Dinner / Student of the Month Celebration
- SES Update, including Get Caught Caring initiative
- SHS Update, including the National Honor Society Induction

Mr. Wyse reported on the following topics:

- Update on Events at West Stafford School, including PK and K Registration
- Update on Events at Staffordville School

B. Budget Committee

The Budget Committee members are Ms. Shegogue, Mrs. Locke and Mr. Roberts. There was no update from this committee.

C. Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee members are Ms. Shegogue, Ms. Bachiochi and Mr. Melnick. Ms. Shegogue stated that a committee meeting was held prior to the Board meeting. She said that topics discussed were- curriculum revision and portal for centralized location to allow teachers easier access; Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS); and community partnerships (i.e. members of the Historical Society meeting with students).

D. Policy Committee

The Policy Committee members are Mrs. Walsh, Ms. Bachiochi and Mr. Melnick. There was no update from this committee.

E. Negotiation Committee

The Negotiation Committee members are Mrs. Locke, Ms. Shegogue and Mr. Roberts. There was no update from this committee.

F. District Climate Study Committee

The District Climate Study Committee members are Ms. Shegogue, Ms. Bachiochi, and Mr. Melnick. Ms. Shegogue stated that at the end of the Board meeting she'd like to try to coordinate schedules and determine when the committee could meet.

Item VII. Superintendent's Reports

A. The Connecticut Writing Project: Bob Pirrie, 1st Place Creative Non-Fiction and Caitlin Donahue, Honorable Mention

Dr. Smotas introduced Mr. Marco Pelliccia, Principal of Stafford High School. Mr. Pelliccia stated that two of his staff members, Mr. Bob Pirrie, Chemistry Teacher, and Ms. Caitlin Donahue, English Teacher, were recognized by UCONN's Connecticut Writing Project. Mr. Pirrie won first place in the creative non-fiction category, while Ms. Donahue won an honorable mention in the poetry category. Their pieces of writing were published in UCONN's Teacher-Writer Magazine. Both teachers were present at the meeting.

B. Presentation of the Proposed 2018 – 2019 Budget for the Stafford Public Schools

Dr. Smotas presented the proposed 2018 – 2019 budget for the district as summarized below. The complete budget presentation and a more detailed breakdown of expenses is available on the district's website at www.stafford.k12.ct.us

Account	2017-18	2018-19 Proposed	Difference	% Change
100 Salaries Total	\$ 16,256,360.13	\$ 16,738,475.10	\$ 482,114.97	2.97%
200 Benefits Total	\$ 4,785,416.84	\$ 4,886,485.54	\$ 101,068.70	2.11%
300 Professional Services Total	\$ 394,395.00	\$ 439,395.00	\$ 45,000.00	11.41%
400 Repairs, Rental, and Other Prop. Svc	\$ 868,653.22	\$ 820,653.22	\$ (48,000.00)	-5.53%
500 Transportation, Tuition and Other S	\$ 3,562,167.16	\$ 3,762,475.25	\$ 200,308.09	5.62%
600 Utilities, Instructional Supplies Tota	\$ 1,283,599.26	\$ 1,256,099.26	\$ (27,500.00)	-2.14%
700 Equipment and Software Total	\$ 174,134.78	\$ 174,134.78	\$ -	0.00%
800 Dues and Fees Total	\$ 334,274.00	\$ 334,274.00	\$ -	0.00%
Offset-Medicaid Reimbursement		\$ (100,000.00)		
Offset-PreK Tuition		\$ (35,000.00)		
Offset-Student Tuition-Eastford		\$ (30,829.00)		
Offset-Excess Cost Reimbursement		\$ (100,000.00)		
Grand Total	\$ 27,659,000.39	\$ 28,146,163.15	\$ 487,162.76	1.76%

Item VIII. Public Comment

There were no comments.

Item IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business.

Item X. New Business

A. Use of Acronyms

Ms. Bachiochi stated that she received a call from a resident that was extremely frustrated with the district's use of acronyms. She explained that the proper use of an acronym in a document is to write out the words followed by the acronym in parenthesis. The acronym can then be used within the document.

Ms. Bachiochi asked that the principals remind staff members to be mindful of the proper use of acronyms.

Item XI. Personnel Matters

There were no Personnel Matters.

Item XII. Student Matters

There were no Student Matters.

Item XIII. Adjournment

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Melnick, to adjourn. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Locke, Mr. Melnick and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Christine C. Marinelli, Recording Secretary**

Sonya Shegogue, Chairperson

Andrea Locke, Secretary