

**Regular Meeting
Stafford Board of Education
Stafford Elementary School
Monday, March 11, 2019, 6:30 p.m.**

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

Absent: Ms. Jennifer Davis

Also Present: Mr. Steven Moccio, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Steven Autieri, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Mrs. Peggy Falcetta, Principal, Staffordville School
Mr. Damian Frassinelli, Director of Athletics and Recreation
Ms. Anna Gagnon, Principal, West Stafford School
Mr. Timothy Kinel, Assistant Principal, Stafford High School
Ms. Susan Mike, Principal, Stafford Middle School
Mr. Steve Montgomery, Principal, Stafford Elementary 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 6:30 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 25, 2019
Special Meeting, March 1, 2019

Mrs. Walsh made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke, that the Board approve the Secretary's Report for the regular meeting held on February 25, 2019, and the special meeting held on March 1, 2019, as presented. Ms. Bachiochi, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, Mr. Melnick and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried.

Item IV. Consent Agenda

- A. Bills, 18-19, 03-05-19, \$200,507.14
- B. Grants, 18-19, 03-05-19, \$763.27
- C. Cafeteria Profit and Loss Statement through January 31, 2019
- D. Stafford High School Obsolete Equipment

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

Item V. Correspondence

A. and B.- Ms. Shegogue read the two meeting reminders that were posted on the agenda.

Mr. Moccio stated that the West Stafford PTA was awarded a \$1,000 grant to hold a digital family community event. Ms. Gagnon noted that the grant award was one of only 200 awarded nationwide.

Item VI. Board Reports

A. Student Representatives' Report

Mr. Wyse reported on the following topics:

- WSS- Sharing Assembly, Early Head Start Yoga Class, Read Across America and School Spirit Week, PK Registration
- SVS- Author Visit, Dress Up as a Cowboy
- SHS- Ski and Adventure Club Trip, Unified Basketball Game, NEAS&C Visit begins April 1
- SHS Sports Update

Miss Zopelis reported on the following topics:

- SES- Operation Life Saver; Invention Convention, 3/21, 6:30 p.m.
- SMS- Chorus and Band Eastern Regional Music Festival, Stage and Select Choir Sang National Anthem at Wolf Pack Game in Hartford, District Concert

Item VII. Superintendent's Reports

A. Fall and Winter Athletic Presentation and Update

Members of the Stafford fall and winter sports teams were present at the meeting, accompanied by their coaches and Mr. Frassinelli, and provided an update regarding their seasons. Those present at the meeting were the following: Coach Dunn- Cross Country; Anna Murphy, Adrianna Allevo, and Marissa Kallenbach- Girls Soccer; Coach Mazzone and Nick Wyse- Football; Coach Langer, Assistant Coach Morgan, Pia Garreffa, Katie Hornung and Julianna DeSantis- Field Hockey; Coach McCloskey and Cole Murdock- Boys Soccer; Coach Dunn and Erin Duffy- Indoor Track; Coach Martin, Diana Robert and Julianna DeSantis- Girls Basketball; Coach Fitzgerald- Boys Basketball; and David Ives, Connor Sheerin and Angelina Chaverri- Wrestling.

Mr. Frassinelli thanked the Board, Superintendent Moccio and the high school administrators for their support.

Ms. Shegogue congratulated the athletes for a successful season.

B. Update on the Self-Funded Health Insurance and Dental Programs, July 2018 – January 2019

Mrs. Diane Peters, Business Manager, provided an update regarding the self-funded health insurance and dental account. Mrs. Peters stated that the report that was included in the portal was provided by the town CFO. She stated that the fund continues to perform as expected, with a slight decrease in the dental account.

C. Next Generation Accountability Report

Mr. Moccio, Superintendent of Schools, and Mr. Autieri, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, presented the 2017-2018 Next-Generation Accountability results for the district. Mr. Moccio reported that the state accountability system began in March 2016 and uses 12 indicators to help provide a more holistic perspective of how our students and schools are performing, showing student growth over time.

Mr. Autieri reviewed the PowerPoint presentation, which was provided for Board members via the portal. He stated that the Next Generation Accountability Report is relatively new and has only been available for the past

three years. He noted that the report tracks progress, identifies areas in which the districts can make improvements, and provides transparency to stakeholders. He reported that the new state accountability system began in 2016, in an effort to move districts away from teaching to the test (CMT, CAPT). Mr. Autieri said that the new reporting format provides districts with an opportunity to celebrate other areas of achievement. He then reviewed the 12 indicators that are measured and noted that the indicators can be arranged into four categories- Academic, Absenteeism, College and Career Readiness, and PE / Arts.

Mr. Autieri reported that over last couple of weeks, he has met with administrative teams and the Superintendent regarding goals for each school and the district, as well as next steps. Mr. Autieri and Mr. Moccio reported that the graduation rate gap between the non-high needs students and high needs students is only 2.8, as compared to the 12.7 State Average. They acknowledged the high school administration, pupil services department and teaching staff for their hard work.

Mr. Autieri briefly reviewed next steps and strategic priorities, which were outlined in the PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Shegogue asked a question regarding the 6-year graduation percentage for high needs students. Mr. Delano asked how the middle school and elementary schools could move to a “2” vs. a “3” rating. Mr. Moccio stated that the district is looking at the individual student indicators so that those students can be provided with additional support in specific areas of concern. Mr. Autieri stated that teachers are looking at student level data during the school year and across grade levels.

Item IX. Old Business

A. Discussion Regarding and Possible Approval of a Common Graduation Gown

Mr. Moccio reviewed the slide show that provided mock-ups of the various combinations of gown, cap, sash, and cord combinations. He noted that representations have been included that show how the valedictorian, salutatorian, class officers, and members of the National Honor Society may be adorned during graduation exercises. Mr. Moccio noted that although not depicted, the high school seal would be embroidered on the v-stole.

Mr. Moccio thanked the high school administration for gathering the information required to prepare the presentation for the Board. He also thanked the students for their respectful participation in the process of gathering information and offering their opinions.

After requesting input from the students present in the audience, Mr. Melnick made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Locke, that the high school graduation gown for all students consist of a blue gown, blue cap and white v-stole. Ms. Bachiochi, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, Mr. Melnick and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried.

Item VIII. Public Comment

A member of the audience complimented the art department and stated that although a small number of students participate in the class, the AP Art class is very worthwhile. She said that the art department is very powerful and has helped her daughter with her college coursework.

Item X. New Business

A. Review and Possible Approval of the 2019 – 2020 School Calendar

Mr. Moccio presented the proposed 2019 – 2020 school calendar, which he said has been reviewed by the administrative team, the teachers’ calendar committee, as well as the co-presidents of the non-certified union. He reviewed the changes to the calendar, as follows: Convocation day is proposed for Monday, August 26, followed by three professional development days to allow time for mandated trainings and district initiatives to be presented to teachers in preparation for the start of the school year. Students will start school following Labor

Day, as the first day of school is proposed to be Tuesday, September 3, 2019. The calendar maintains 181 student days, and the projected last day of school is Monday, June 15, 2020. Shortened days for conferences are formatted in green and early dismissal days for other purposes are formatted in red to assist in determining which dismissal time is associated with each day. A fifth early dismissal day has been added and will allow for additional staff professional development and collaboration across grade levels. Lastly, he said that a note is included at the bottom of the calendar alerting the community that should more than seven school cancellations occur, February 18, 2020, will be changed to a student day, followed by the elimination of days from April vacation, at the discretion of the Board.

Mr. Delano made a motion, seconded by Mr. Melnick, that the Board approve the 2019 – 2020 school calendar, as presented. Ms. Bachiochi, 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. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Delano, to adjourn. Ms. Bachiochi, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, Mr. Melnick and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine C. Marinelli, Recording Secretary

Sonya Shegogue, Chairperson

Andrea Locke, Secretary