

**Special Meeting
Stafford Board of Education
Electronic Meeting via Google Meet
March 30, 2020, 6:00 p.m.**

Board Members Present: Ms. Sonya Shegogue, Chairman
Ms. Kathy Bachiochi
Ms. Jennifer Davis
Mr. Mike Delano
Mrs. Andrea Locke, Secretary
Ms. Laura Lybarger
Mr. George Melnick

Also Present: Mr. Steven Moccio, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Steven Autieri, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Jonathan Campbell, Assistant Principal, Stafford Middle School
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
Ms. Caroline Hargraves, Assistant Principal, Stafford Elementary School
Mr. Timothy Kinel, Assistant Principal, Stafford High School
Ms. Beth LaPane, Supervisor of Food Services
Ms. Trish Lustila, Interim Director of Pupil Service
Ms. Mary Claire Manning, Principal, Stafford Elementary School
Ms. Susan Mike, Principal, Stafford Middle School
Mr. Marco Pelliccia, Principal, Stafford High School
Ms. Diane Peters, Business Manager

The special meeting agenda and copies of all Board meeting materials were posted on the district's website (www.stafford.k12.ct.us) prior to the meeting, in accordance with the requirements for electronic meetings. Audience members were able to participate by phone utilizing the phone number provided on the meeting agenda. The live recording of this meeting is available on the district website.

Item 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

Item 2. Update Regarding COVID-19 and Impact on Instruction

Mr. Steve Autieri, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, reviewed a PowerPoint presentation entitled *Stafford Public Schools District Interim Learning Plan Board of Education Update, March 30, 2020*. The presentation provided an overview of the learning plan, information regarding district and school communication with families, and an outline of the professional learning offered to staff members. A copy of the district's Interim Learning Plan and the schedule for staff professional learning was provided via the district website.

Item 3. Financial Report- July 1, 2019 – March 25, 2020

Mr. Moccio, Superintendent of Schools, and Ms. Peters, Business Manager, reviewed the Financial Report as of March 25, 2020. The unspent, unreserved amount of the 2019 – 2020 budget is \$183,958.77, with year to date expenses totaling 70.14% of the budget.

Board members asked questions regarding the district's transportation contract. Mr. Moccio and Ms. Peters stated that the district bus contract had been paid in full prior to the pandemic in order to take advantage of the discount that was offered for doing so. Mr. Moccio stated that the district is consulting with legal counsel regarding any possible reimbursement.

Item 4. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Pay for District Employees

Board members were in support of the Superintendent's plan to continue to pay district employees. Board members were also in support of having those employees that had the ability to work remotely do so to the greatest extent possible, while still addressing the essential functions of the district.

Item 5. Update Regarding the 2019 – 2020 School Calendar

Board members determined that no adjustment would be made to the 2019 – 2020 school calendar. Therefore, April vacation will remain as scheduled.

Item 6. Discussion Regarding Executive Order 71 and Impact on 2020 – 2021 Budget Process

Mr. Moccio stated that the Governor's Executive Order 71, section 13, provides guidance regarding the in-person budget adoption requirements for municipalities and further states that "the Board of Selectmen shall authorize the budget-making authority within said municipality to adopt a budget for the July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021, fiscal year and to set a mill rate sufficient ...without complying with any in-person budget adoption requirements, including but not limited to, annual town meetings requiring votes, referendum and special town meetings". Mr. Moccio said that he's been in contact with the First Selectman and confirmed that the town's "budget making authority" is the Board of Finance. He said that he will continue to keep the Board updated with any new information he receives.

Item 7. Public Comment

Ms. Milikowski, paraprofessional for the district, thanked the Board of Education for the tireless hours they work on behalf of the district and the students. She said that she appreciates being a part of the fabulous team in Stafford.

Item 8. Review and Possible Approval of Memorandum of Agreement between Stafford Education Association and the Stafford Board of Education Regarding Continuity of Educational Opportunities Due to COVID-19 Health Emergency and Authorization for Board Chairperson to Sign on Behalf of the Board (Executive Session Anticipated)

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Davis, that the Board place Item 8. **Review and Possible Approval of Memorandum of Agreement between Stafford Education Association and the Stafford Board of Education Regarding Continuity of Educational Opportunities Due to COVID-19 Health Emergency and Authorization for Board Chairperson to Sign on Behalf of the Board (Executive Session Anticipated)** into executive session. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, Ms. Lybarger, and Mr. Melnick voted for the motion, which carried.

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Davis to enter executive session. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, Ms. Lybarger, and Mr. Melnick voted for the motion, which carried. The Board entered executive session at 7:26 p.m. Executive session was held via conference call.

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Lybarger to return to regular session. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, Ms. Lybarger, and Mr. Melnick voted for the motion, which carried. The Board returned to regular session at 7:36 p.m.

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Delano, that the Board approve the memorandum of agreement between the Stafford Board of Education and the Stafford Education Association, as presented. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, Ms. Lybarger, and Mr. Melnick voted for the motion, which carried.

Mrs. Locke made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bachiochi, that the Board authorize Sonya Shegogue, Board Chairperson, to sign the Agreement between the Stafford Board of Education and the Stafford Education Association, on behalf of the Board. Ms. Bachiochi, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Delano, Mrs. Locke, Ms. Lybarger, and Mr. Melnick voted for the motion, which carried.

Item 9. Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Marinelli, Recording Secretary

Sonya Shegogue, Chairman

Andrea Locke, Secretary