

# Board of Education Meeting

February 8, 2018 6:30 PM  
Derby Middle School Cafetorium  
73 Chatfield Street

## Attendance Taken at 6:45 PM:

### Present Board Members:

Mr. Jim Gildea  
Mrs. Debra Borrelli  
Mr. Dan Foley  
Mrs. Laura Harris  
Mr. George Kurtyka  
Mrs. Janine Netto  
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara  
Mrs. Casey Picheco

### Board members not present:

Mr. Kenneth Marcucio was excused.

## I. Call to Order

### I.a. Opening Ceremonies

### I.b. Roll Call

### I.c. Additions/deletions to the agenda

## II. Public Participation

Discussion:

No one spoke.

## III. Appointment of Dean of Students

**Motion Passed:** The Board of Education approved the appointment of Mr. Mark Russo to the position of Dean of Students of the Derby Middle School with a motion by Mr. George Kurtyka and second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

## IV. Recognition

**IVa.** Arthur Newberg and Chris Morales were recognized for their participation in the University of Rhode Island Southern New England Honors Band Festival. They were the only students representing Connecticut in this ensemble.

**IVb.** The DHS Boys Indoor Track Team members were recognized for their accomplishments

- Boys 1600m Sprint Medley Relay team of Xavier Ibrahim, Bevon McLean, Jakwan Hale and Ken Little Jr. placed first in NVL Championship with a meet record of 3:46.80 (record was 10 years old)
- Tristan Pruzinsky and Brian Jalowiec placed 1 and 2 in the NVL Championship in Shot Put
- Jakwan Hale cleared 6'0" for 1<sup>st</sup> place in the NVL Championship in the Boy's High Jump
- Ken Little Jr. placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the NVL Championship in the 1000m with a time of 2:38.13
- Ken Little Jr. and Steven Stanley took 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 3200m at the NVL Championship
- Boys 4x400m team of Evan Sharpe, Javan Guevera-Cragwell, Bevon McLean and Jakwan Hale took 1<sup>st</sup> in the relay at the NVL Championship with a time of 3:41.64

Senator George Logan presented a Citation from the Connecticut General Assembly recognizing the Derby High School Boys Indoor Track for winning the NVL Championship three years in a row. "The Connecticut General Assembly offers its sincerest congratulations to the Derby Boys Indoor Track Team in recognition of your third consecutive year of winning the NVL Championship. This honor is a testament to a culmination of your hard work and effort which makes this title greatly deserved."

**IVc.** The DHS Girls Indoor Track Team members were recognized for their accomplishments

- Rachael Fleischer placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the NVL Championship in the Long Jump with a meet and personal record of 17'00"
- Ashia Cooper placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the Girls High Jump with a personal record of 5'0" at the NVL Championship

## **V. Student Representative Report**

Discussion:

Mr. Jason Boulton reported that the freshman, sophomore and junior students continue the course planning. Seniors are working on their future endeavors whether it be college, the military or a trade school. They also continue working on their transcriptions as well as pursuing scholarship opportunities.

## **VI. Educational Opportunities for Chinese Students**

Discussion:

Mr. Michael Jiang presented his program – The Bridge to Success. The offering would be for Chinese students to come to the region and stay with host families. Unlike the recent proposal for Marshall Lane Manor, these students will attend the public schools in their hosting towns. The exchange would provide tuition to the hosting school district as well as reimbursement to the hosting families. This could bring a valuable interaction to broaden the experiences for students from China as well as their counterparts in the local school districts.

## **VII. Subcommittee Reports**

Personnel and Negotiations Committee will be meeting on March 8, 2018.

The Budget Committee is ongoing and have been communicating with Board of Apportionment and Taxation members for informal preliminary discussions.

Policy Committee meeting has been changed from February 13, 2018 to February 27, 2018.

The By-laws Committee will be bringing forth updates to the March meeting.

## **VIII. Superintendent's Report**

Discussion:

Dr. Conway updated the Board on his activities over the past month. Under Academics, he continues the review of the assessment data for all K-3 students in regards to the Pre-K program and a final report should be presented possibly by the next meeting. He participated in a meeting with CSD regarding the Cultural Climate Initiatives they are proposing. He is working on the Alliance Priority School district application. He attended several City meetings as well as subcommittee and field house committee meetings. He attended a number of athletic and recreational events.

Renovations at the High School for the Advancement of Manufacturing program is well underway. Equipment purchased with funding thanks to a new program with the Housatonic Community College should be installed shortly. Auditorium seating renovations are underway with 200 seats being done at this time.

#### **IX. Administrator's Monthly Reports**

Mr. David Nardone was excused due to illness. Chairman Gildea noted a number of administrators are not in attendance this evening. Mr. Myzithras was present and reviewed his Technology Department report. All reports are available for viewing.

#### **X. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion Passed:** Motion: That the Board of Education approve the minutes from the Board Meeting held on January 18, 2018 with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mr. George Kurtyka.

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

#### **XI. Financial Report**

**Motion Passed:** The Board of Education approve the financial report through the period of January 2018, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mrs. Debra Borrelli

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

#### **Discussion:**

Mr. Mark Izzo indicated that Special Education spending has risen due to additional students compared to last year. The State Excess Cost Grant will provide a percentage of reimbursement that will offset this expense. He noted that the Board of Apportionment and Taxation agreed that this grant funding would be reimbursed to the school district rather than the past practice that was occurring prior to Dr. Conway's arrival which was to have this funding placed in the City's general fund. He continues to carefully administer the numerous grant submittals. There is significant time and oversight needed to insure that all necessary documentation and expenditure is within the requirements of each grant. He noted that the district was advised that the City was not awarded funding from the Security Grant in this round of disbursement. He will continue to pursue funding in future cycles of the grant.

The food services statement reflects that they should be on track for realizing their net revenue of \$60,000 by the end of the year as additional grant funding should be realized and the majority of expenses of materials have already been purchased.

As the fiscal year advances Mr. Izzo will be working to spend down the remaining funds in the 2017-2018 budget. He has been developing the 2018-2019 budget and projects a possible 3.25% increase. He will be presenting the report next month.

## **XII. 2019 Program of Studies**

**Motion Passed:** Motion: That the Board of Education approve the 2019 Program of Studies, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mrs. Laura Harris.

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

## **XIII. Derby High School Wrestling Class S Wrestling state Tournament**

**Motion Passed:** Motion: That the Board of Education approve an overnight field trip for our Derby High School Wrestling team to participate in the class s State Championship, February 16 – February 17, 2018, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mrs. Debra Borrelli

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

## **XIV. Derby High School Indoor Track Program**

### **Discussion**

Dr. Conway explained that with the tremendous growth in the High School Indoor Track program it would be beneficial to create a position of paid assistant coach. As with all programs, the coaching staff is determined dependant on the number of participants within the program and is reviewed yearly. Currently there is a paid coach and an assistant volunteer coach. Creating the position could enhance coaching support for event participation. Indoor Track is unique in that individual events can be staggered over many venues and locations. The current staffing arrangement is unable to effectively divide their presence. Funding within this budget can be found due to a coach position vacancy in the Middle School Basketball program.

**Motion Passed:** Motion: That the Board of Education approve the creation of a paid assistant coach for the High School Indoor Track Program, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mr. Dan Foley

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes

Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

## **XV. ACES Health Collaborative**

### **Discussion**

Dr. Conway explained that the district and the City continue to explore joining the ACES Health Collaborative. There could be a significant savings in administrative costs. There would be no changes that would affect the employees.

## **XVI. EXCEL – Excellence for English Learners**

### **Discussion**

Dr. Conway explained he has partnered with Shelton Superintendent Dr Christopher Clouet in pursuing Project Exc-EL, an enhanced comprehensive design that addresses the unique and urgent needs of schools and districts with EL populations. The program will be administered through Irving Principal Jennifer Olsen. There is no cost to the district to participate in the program.

**Motion Passed:** Motion: That the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent of Schools to enter into a grant agreement with the Project ExcEL program for English Language Learners with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mr. Dan Foley

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

## **XVII. Policy 3280 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests**

### **Second Read and adoption**

**Motion Passed:** The Board of Education review policy 3280 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests as a Second Read and adoption as recommended by the Policy Committee with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mrs. Laura Harris.

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

## **XVIII. Policy 6146 - Graduation Requirements**

**Motion Withdrawn:** The Board of Education review policy 6146 - Graduation Requirements as a Second Read and adoption as recommended by the Policy Committee. Motion made then withdrawn with a motion and withdrawal by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mrs. Laura Harris.

Discussion: Members sought further clarity as to the cheerleading classification as an activity.

**Motion Passed:** The Board of Education review policy 6146 - Graduation Requirements return to the Policy Committee with a motion by Mrs. Laura Harris and a second by Mrs. Janine Netto.

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

## **XIX. Policy 9271 – Code of Ethics**

### **First Read**

**Motion Passed:** The Board of Education review policy 9271 Code of Ethics as a First Read, as recommended by the Bylaws Committee with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mrs. Laura Harris.

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

## **XX. Athletic Complex Building Committee Update**

Discussion:

A meeting scheduled for February 9<sup>th</sup>.

A brief recess was taken at 7:55 p.m.

## **XXI. Executive Session**

The meeting reopened at 8:00 PM.

**Motion Passed:** The Board of Education enter into Executive Session to review the appointment list, to discuss a civil complaint and to accept letters of resignation, and the Superintendent of Schools is invited to attend at 8:00 PM. with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
----------------	-----

Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

Without objection the Board returned to open session at 8:31 p.m.

## **XXII. Appointment List**

**Motion Passed:** The Board of Education approve the appointment list, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

## **XXIII. Resignations**

**Motion Passed:** The Board of Education accept the resignation of Jane Viebranz, Paraprofessional at Bradley School, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

**Motion Passed:** The Board of Education accept the resignation of Chris Kalesavich, Derby High School Head Boys Varsity Soccer Coach, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mr. George Kurtyka.

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

#### **XXIV. Adjourn**

**Motion Passed:** The Board of Education adjourn its meeting at 8:37 PM passed with a motion by Mrs. Janine Netto and a second by Mrs. Laura Harris.

Mr. Jim Gildea	yes
Mrs. Debra Borrelli	yes
Mr. Dan Foley	yes
Mrs. Laura Harris	yes
Mr. George Kurtyka	yes
Mrs. Janine Netto	yes
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara	yes
Mrs. Casey Picheco	yes
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio	excused

#### **Information Items**

**Enrollment Report**

**Vacancy List**

**Discipline Reports**

**January 2018 Check Registers**

*Karen M. Kemmesies*

---

Karen M. Kemmesies  
Recording Secretary

*Minutes are subject to approval at the next Board meeting.*