

Southington Board of Education Meeting

Thursday, May 28, 2015 6:30 PM
Municipal Center Public Assembly Room 200 North Main Street
Southington, CT 06489
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Southington, CT 06489



BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. Executive Session to Discuss Personnel Matters ~ 6:30 p.m.
3. Celebration of Excellence ~ Public Introduction of New Principal of SHS ~ Brian Stranieri and 2014-2015 PROFILES IN PROFESSIONALISM HONOREES
4. Reconvene Meeting ~ Regular Session ~ 7:30 p.m.
5. Pledge of Allegiance
6. Approval of Minutes ~ May 14, 2015 and Special Board Meeting ~ May 21, 2015
7. Communications
 - a. Communications from Audience
 - b. Communications from Board Members
 - c. Communications for Administration
 - d. Communications from Student Representatives
8. Committee Reports
 - a. Curriculum Committee Meeting ~ May 11, 2015
 - b. Policy and Personnel Committee Meeting ~ May 18, 2015
9. Old Business
 - a. Town Government Communications
 - b. Construction Update
10. New Business
 - a. Appointment of Principal of Hatton Elementary School
 - b. Appointment of Principal of Strong Elementary School
 - c. Overnight / Out of State Field Trip Approvals
11. Adjournment

SOUTHINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT

REGULAR MEETING

MAY 14, 2015

The regular meeting of the Southington Board of Education was held on Thursday, May 14, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Center Public Assembly Room, 200 North Main Street, Southington, Connecticut with Executive Session scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Brian Goralski, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Present from the Board: Mrs. Terri Carmody, Vice-Chairperson, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mr. David Derynoski, Mrs. Patricia Johnson, Mrs. Terry Lombardi, Mrs. Jill Notar-Francesco, and Mrs. Patricia Queen. Absent: Mr. Zaya Oshana.

Present from Administration: Mr. Timothy Connellan, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Karen Smith, Assistant Superintendent.

MOTION: by Mr. Derynoski, seconded by Mrs. Clark:

"Move to go into Executive Session, excluding the public and the press, for the purpose of discussing Personnel and Student Matters, and upon conclusion reconvene to public session."

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL AND STUDENT MATTERS

Mr. Goralski declared the Executive Session ended at 7:02 p.m.

3. CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

At 7:05 p.m., in Celebration of Excellence, the Board of Education, with the assistance of Mr. John Duffy, Science Coordinator, presented the following honorees with a Certificate of Excellence:

State Science Fair Convention Award Winners:

- Matt Maciejewski: First Place for 7th Grade Life Science, Pfizer Life Science, EEsmarts, and Alexion Biotechnology.
- Trevor Messina: Third Place Middle School Mathematics and Physical Science Finalist
- Tara Brock and Hannah Sousa: Alexion Biotechnology Award – 5th Place
- Sarah Falcetti and Kiralyn Wadman: 2nd Honors
- Mary Bilodeau: Association for Women Geoscientists Award
- Julia Jackman and Sarah Mathew: J.A. Augustine Award for Excellence in Biology

- Mia Langston and Abigail LoPresti: William M. Mack AIA Architecture Award
- Hannah Platt: Pfizer Life Sciences 5th Place and an Office of Naval Research Certificate

Connecticut Invention Convention Award Winners:

- Jake Lausier, Derynoski Elementary School, Grade 4, The East Garbage, Recognized Inventor
- Timothy Nunn, Flanders School, Grade 4, The Zip Carrier, Recognized Inventor
- Hailey Camparone, JFK, Grade 6, Bun Fun 2000, Recognized Inventor
- Allie Stanton, JFK, Grade 8, The Tuft Taker, Recognized Inventor and UConn ECE Award Winner
- Jacob Dreschler, JAD, Grade 8, Brite Ball, UConn ECE Award Winner
- Payton Turnquist, JAD, Grade 6, The Super Space Saving Stool, Recognized Inventor
- Lucca Riccio, JAD, Grade 7, Hed Ryd, Recognized Inventor, CT Academy of Science and Engineering Award, ESPN Sports Award, Lincoln Financial Award, and the 3M Purification Inc. Award.

4. RECONVENE MEETING ~ REGULAR SESSION

The regular session was reconvened at 7:18 p.m. by Mr. Goralski, Chairperson. Board members present were Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mr. David Derynoski, Mrs. Patricia Johnson, Mrs. Terry Lombardi, Mrs. Jill Notar-Francesco, and Mrs. Patricia Queen. Absent: Mr. Zaya Oshana.

Present from the administration were Mr. Timothy Connellan, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Karen Smith, Assistant Superintendent (*left at 7:23 p.m.*); Mrs. Sherri DiNello, Director of Business and Finance; and Ms. Margaret Walsh, Director of Pupil Personnel Services.

Student representatives present were James Brino and Christopher Iverson.

5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by the student representatives.

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mr. Derynoski:

“Move to move Agenda Item 11.a ‘Appointment of Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction’ to Agenda Item 5.a.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- a. Appointment of Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction (*formerly Agenda Item 11.a*)**

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mr. Derynoski:

“Move to appoint Mr. Steven Madancy as the Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Curriculum and Instruction at an annual salary of \$155,000 with the contract to be negotiated by the Board.”

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mrs. Carmody, Mrs. Clark, Mr. Derynoski, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Lombardi, Mrs. Notar-Francesco, Mrs. Queen and Mr. Goralski. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Madancy thanked all his mentors who helped lead him to this point in his career as well as Mr. Connellan, Mrs. Smith and the Board of Education for their vote of confidence.

Mr. Goralski called for a recess at 7:23 p.m.

The regular meeting was reconvened at 7:45 p.m.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES ~ April 23, 2015

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mr. Derynoski:

“Move to approve the regular Board of Education minutes of April 23, 2015, as submitted.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

a. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes ~ May 12, 2015

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mrs. Carmody:

“Move to approve the special Board of Education minutes of May 12, 2015, as submitted.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Communications from Audience

There were no audience communications.

b. Communication from the Board Members:

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mrs. Carmody:

“Move to add ‘Student Expulsion Case #2014-2015-08’ to the agenda as Item 11.c.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mrs. Carmody:

“Move to add ‘Student Expulsion Case #2014-2015-09’ to the agenda as Item 11.d.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Mrs. Lombardi reported on the following:

- She recognized the Girls Sprint Medley Team comprised of Raquel Romano, Jessica Howe, Sarah Palko and Kelsea Allen who qualified for the National Track Competition from last weekend’s IRV Black Invitational Meet.
- Mrs. Debbie Moreau, teacher in the DePaolo Middle School Social Studies Department, and the team of students who did a unit on immigration and created a brochure for new families and students who attend Southington schools. They translated the brochure in five different languages. Four DePaolo Middle School students did a book review on American Immigration, which was recognized by the American Immigration Council and published on their website.
- The outstanding Southington High School Art Show where the students captured the feelings and understanding of the social issues in society.

Mrs. Carmody welcomed the students in the audience from Mrs. Kennedy’s Civics Class who were taking notes and observing firsthand how local government works.

Mr. Goralski reported that the Board was proud to host Governor Malloy and State Board of Education Commissioner Dianna Roberge-Wentzell who chose the Southington Public School district to visit and showcase All-Day Kindergarten and Preschool last Friday at Hatton Elementary School. Mr. Goralski thanked Mrs. Kamerbeek, the staff, and students for welcoming the dignitaries.

Mr. Goralski noted that the STEPS carwash would be held at the Southington YMCA on Saturday, May 16, 2015, from 10:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m. to raise monies for the Relay for Life. The Asset Building Classroom (ABC) training by STEPS will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2015 at the VOAG Center with two-sessions. The Board members are invited.

Mr. Goralski recognized Mrs. Queen for being appointed to serve on the State Commission on Children effective immediately through June 30, 2017 (*Attachment #1*). Mrs. Queen thanked Senator Joe Markley who recommended her to serve on this commission. They already had their first meeting. She noted that the Chairman is George Coleman, retired Deputy Commissioner of Education. The purpose of this commission is to translate the voice of children into recommendations for policymakers.

c. Communication from Administration:

Mr. Connellan reported on the following:

1. Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS):

Mr. John Duffy, Science Coordinator, gave a PowerPoint presentation with an overview and highlighting the following areas on the Next Generation of Science Standards in Connecticut (NGSS):

- Next Generation Science Standards are currently in the pre-adoption phase at the State Board of Education.

- The transition to new state standards and new assessments that was being presented could change.
- The Connecticut Science Standards have not been revised since they were adopted in 2004.
- The vision for science education in Connecticut within the development of the Next Generation of Science Standards.
- Connecticut's role in NGSS development, and the content match between Connecticut Science Standards and NGSS.
- The Next Generation Science Standards are written specifically with students learning through three intertwined "dimensions" of science.
- Science and engineering practices central to NGSS learning, core disciplinary ideas, crosscutting concepts with cause and effect.
- How NGSS would differ from previous science standards, the comparison of Connecticut Inquiry Standards to NGSS practices, and assessing Next Generation Science Learning.
- Engineering Design Cycle and applying science knowledge to solve real world problems.
- Engineering Design integrated with science
- Anatomy of an NGSS Standard
- Measuring success
- Envisioning a new system of assessments
- Making transitions
- Proposed Transition to Next Generation Science State Assessments
- State Supports for Teachers including Professional Development
- Cost considerations.

Mr. Duffy pointed out that the recommendation from the state is to wait a year and not to purchase materials as of yet. He will come before the Board in the 2015-2016 school year with some very clear needs and reasons to support the NGSS and to invest in high quality professional development offered by the state. Between the years of 2016-2019, there should be transformed teaching practices critical for student success on NGSS assessments.

Mr. Duffy will be emailing a survey to the Board members for their consensus regarding the Next Generation of Science Standards and then send that survey feedback to the state.

Mr. Goralski felt that it seemed like another unfunded mandate from the state and that Mr. Duffy will be working very hard with the Curriculum Committee. Mr. Duffy explained that it was not as much as an unfunded mandate as it is a necessary change. He thought that this was the most exciting thing that has ever happened in science since he has been in education. Mr. Goralski appreciated Mr. Duffy's passion for science, and stated that the Board was grateful he was the Science Coordinator.

Mrs. Lombardi noted that on the state survey feedback they do not ask the Board directly how this would be funded. She asked Mr. Duffy and Mr. Connellan to take the message back to the state that every Board of Education does not have the funding for this. She explained that the Board advocates for professional development, but was concerned about being able to do the professional development in the 2015-2016 school year. The other message

that she would like them to bring back to the state is not to implement this like they did the Common Core Standards and not to keep changing it.

Mr. Derynoski thought that it was a great presentation and that he was a big proponent of science and math. He thought that this item should have been a stand-alone agenda item rather than being submitted through an Administrative Report. He requested that in the future these types of presentations should be their own agenda item.

Mrs. Queen asked that, when Mr. Duffy sends the questions to Board members, he send the PowerPoint presentation as well.

2. Update Superintendent's Goals, Section I-c-v, Transition, Director of Technology:

Mr. Connellan noted that, in meeting with the Technology Director, it was apparent that what they asked him to do is to come in mid-year (January) and learn a district, learn staff capabilities, meet administrators, visit 11 buildings on a regular basis, and wrap up two middle school projects, and to have SchoolNet fully implemented by the coming school year. He felt that progress was being made on all those fronts. Mr. Connellan explained that he asked Mr. Jaime Olander, Director of Technology, to resurrect the district-wide Technology Committee next school year as part of his goals. Mrs. Queen requested that students be included on that committee as well.

Mrs. Lombardi stated that the Board is very interested in the SchoolNet implementation plan in the fall of 2015 as well as the resurrection of the Technology Committee. She asked if they could have a formal report on those things at the June 25, 2015 Board meeting. She also requested a draft of the organizational structure of the Technology Department if that was available for June 25, 2015.

3. Personalized Learning/Mastery-Based Learning:

- a. League of Innovative Schools
- b. Great Schools Partnership
- c. Nellie Mae Educational Foundation Community Engagement Project
- d. Four-District Collaborative on Mastery-based Learning

Mr. Connellan explained that there is a mixture of language used that identifies Personalized Learning or Student Centered Learning and that in Connecticut it is called "Mastery-Based Learning." Southington has been involved in the League of Innovative Schools and they had their final session of the year on May 7. He explained that the League of Innovative Schools is connected to the Great Schools Partnership which has a website with a lot of information that will be linked to our website. The Great Schools Partnership has provided documentation, research and training, and supported this effort. He noted that connected with that is the Nellie Mae Educational Foundation, which has supported research that is behind this and funding to some of our colleagues. He noted that these things are all tied together and that the Nellie Mae Educational Foundation has agreed to fund for us a Community Engagement Project. Mr. Connellan explained that there would be a four-district collaboration, comprised of Southington, Meriden, Wallingford and Cheshire, and that trainers will come in at the end of the month funded by the Nellie Mae Foundation. Each district is sending two teachers from Grade 8 and two teachers from Grade 9 to this training, and an additional person who will be a Trainer of Trainers. Southington will be hosting; therefore, we will be sending two additional teachers.

The teachers will be choosing one unit that they will be teaching in the fall. The trainers will help them redesign that unit with a Mastery-based approach, all tied to standards. The plan of the four districts is to replicate that with another content area and grow the process.

d. Communications from Student Representatives

Mr. Goralski explained that Mr. Oshana, Mr. Romano and Miss Veilleux were absent from the Board meeting due to a calendar conflict with Scholarship Night at the high school the same night as a Board meeting. He asked Mr. Connellan to ensure that it will not happen again next year, and that the high school does not schedule a major event the same night as a Board meeting.

Mr. Brino reported on the following:

- The Project Lead the Way Senior Night is scheduled for May 28 when the seniors present their capstone project.
- A half-day professional development is scheduled for May 20.
- The Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 25 with some high school clubs and organizations marching along with floats.
- Mr. Brino congratulated Christopher Iverson who received the CABA Award for leadership on Academic Awards Night.
- Next week, seniors will celebrate Class Day and Class Night.

Mr. Iverson reported on the following:

- To fund the entire All-Night Graduation party another \$6,000 needs to be raised. On Saturday, May 23, 2015 between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Mrs. Walsh will be standing outside Wal-Mart collecting donations.
- Scholarship Night was held on May 14, 2015.
- The Board of Education Student Representatives have begun the interview process to select a third representative for 2015-2016 to replace graduating senior Elizabeth Veilleux.
- The majority of the junior class has taken the Math SBAC, with the English SBAC coming up soon.
- Senior prom is Saturday, May 16, 2015 at the Aqua Turf Club.
- All the AP exams have been taken, and the students will get the results in June or July.

Mr. Iverson explained that the student representatives intend to present the new student representative to the Board on May 28, 2015 and that he will contact Mr. Goralski before that date. Mr. Goralski requested that they present the new student representative at the June 11, 2015 meeting.

8. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

a. Personnel Report

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mr. Derynoski:

“Move to approve the Personnel Report, as submitted.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

9. COMMITTEE REPORT

a. Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting ~ May 4, 2015

Mrs. Carmody reported that the committee reviewed and discussed the purchase and approval of the following textbooks to bring before the full Board for approval:

- Spanish is Fun: A Spanish textbook for Grade 8 to begin using for a pilot program at the middle schools.
- Human Anatomy & Physiology, 12th Edition: This is one of the best-selling textbooks for this subject. The book is to be used for a CCP class as a resource and the teaching staff would help the students interpret and learn.
- Ornamental Horticulture, Grades 11 & 12: This textbook would be for the UConn Horticulture ECE course and is a newer edition of the current book that they are using.

Mr. Christopher Palmieri, Assistant Principal at J. A. DePaolo Middle School, distributed a "Unified Arts Proposal Summary" (*Attachment #2*) to the Board and gave a PowerPoint presentation overview on the Middle School Unified Arts suggested curriculum revisions highlighting the following:

- The current program and the proposed changes for Physical Education, Health, Music Education, Art, Technology Education, Computers, Family & Consumer Science, and Study Hall.
- The proposal is to change from a three-day rotation to a six-day rotation, similar to the high school model.
- Teaming
- Linking Unified Arts to academic teams
- Design, development, resources, commitment to teaming for several years for effectiveness to grow over time and common planning time.
- Sample schedules
- Steps taken thus far to move forward with this plan
- The next steps.

MOTION: by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mrs. Johnson:

"Move that the Board of Education accept the new Middle School Unified Arts Plan, as presented."

Mrs. Notar-Francesco questioned if they would be utilizing the existing staff, with no new staffing requests. Mr. Palmieri replied that they are not looking for additional staff or funds. The only thing that they would potentially be looking for is professional development.

Mrs. Clark loved the change with the music education because she thought it was difficult for a student to determine whether to go to their lesson or to their class. She questioned if the sixth graders would be required to have general music or if it would be eliminated. Mr. Palmieri replied that there would not be general music because those students would be in a level of computer instruction. Mrs. Queen asked if a student could be new to an instrument at

the beginning of sixth grade. Mr. Palmieri replied that there is a prerequisite for band and orchestra that a student would have to previously have taken instrument instruction. However, there is no prerequisite for chorus.

Mrs. Lombardi thought that the computer timeframe seemed without definition in terms of what that curriculum would like. She noted that at the elementary level some schools are doing coding and programming. Mr. Palmieri replied that the computer curriculum is the one area that needs the most work for next year regarding what it would look like. He noted that there has been a lot of discussion on this already, and over the summer they would do some curriculum work for those teachers. Mrs. Lombardi stated that she would be very interested to see this area when it comes forward to the Curriculum and Instruction Committee. Mrs. Carmody noted that Mr. Palmieri would be working on rewriting the curriculum in all the above mentioned areas if the Board approves this.

Mr. Goralski questioned how they would address grading. Mr. Palmieri replied that they currently have trimesters for grading and it would not change. Mr. Goralski questioned what made culinary and textiles have a longer period of study versus some of the technology classes. Mr. Palmieri replied that it was due to being currently linked to health and they want to pull health out of the culinary. By removing health and making it stand alone, it gave them some extra time. Mr. Goralski would like to see life skills made part of the curriculum. Mr. Palmieri stated that this is the first step towards making that curricular connection, and that they needed to set up the framework to be able to deliver it.

Mr. Goralski thought that this was a classic example when they let the in-district experts make recommendations to improve curriculum because they know what our students need to make good changes, keep the cost minimal, and maximize utilization. He thought that the State of Connecticut should learn from Southington how to change curriculum cost effectively and efficiently. He recommended that Mr. Palmieri and administration share their ideas for change with Commissioner Wentzell versus the state dictating and demanding.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10. OLD BUSINESS

a. Town Government Communications

Mrs. Queen gave a report on the Facility Advisory Committee meeting of May 13, 2015 highlighting the committee's discussion on the turf field usage, maintenance, concession stand, the Engraved Brick Fundraiser program, and advertising around the field. Mrs. Queen spoke to Town Attorney Mark Sciota to discuss jurisdiction with regard to the signage program. She learned that, when town property is being used for school purposes, the Board of Education has jurisdiction. The Board of Education currently has an advertising policy that states that the location and content of advertising on school grounds is subject to Board of Education approval. She shared this with the Facility Advisory Committee and proposed a collaborative approach to coming to agreement as to what makes the most sense for the signage. She also shared this with Mr. Goralski who had some suggestions on how to proceed.

Mr. Goralski explained that he spoke to Mrs. Clark after being contacted by Mrs. Queen. Since the Facility Advisory Committee's last meeting there was extensive communication from

Mr. Connellan regarding the baseball complex using the Board's existing policy. Mr. Goralski noted that the existing policy is long overdue for revision. At the next Policy Committee meeting scheduled for next week, Mrs. Clark will invite Mr. DeFeo to provide feedback and then the Policy Committee will work with Mr. Connellan. He noted that the existing policy, as written, seems to work; however, with some tweaking it would allow the new Turf Advisory Committee to work on grounds with some consistency. Mr. Goralski would like Mr. Connellan, Mrs. Smith and Mr. Madancy involved with this collaboration.

Mrs. Queen added that all parties are learning as they move forward, and that they are working together very well as a committee. Mr. Goralski added that the policy is good and needs tweaking, but the regulation is useless and needs to be rebuilt. Mrs. Clark stated that they need some clarification as to how they are going to work together because they are not only talking about the turf field, they are also talking about a concession stand, bleachers, the entire facility and who is in charge of what. She thought that this was an excellent opportunity for all concerned parties to come to some agreement as to how this facility is going to operate moving forward in the future, especially when they have outside entities also using it on a regular basis.

Mrs. Lombardi commended Mrs. Queen in terms of the work and research that she has done because the Board has been addressing this issue for over two years.

b. Construction Update

Mr. Goralski reported that the Middle School Building Committee will meet on Tuesday, May 19. They will be addressing the last two phases of the project and the courtyards. The project is moving along with the punch list items being addressed on an ongoing basis, instead of at the end. The outside work will be done during the summer. He praised Newfield Construction and the middle school administrators for their efforts in making it seamless while the students are in the building.

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. Appointment of Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
(*Moved to Agenda Item 5.a*)

b. Reallocation / Adoption of 2015-2016 Operating Budget

Mrs. DiNello explained that on Monday, May 11, 2015, the Town Council adopted the Board of Education budget and endorsed the recommendation made by the Board of Finance. The Board of Education now needs to make a reduction of \$530,000 to the budget. Mrs. DiNello gave an overview of the administrative recommendations to balance the budget. She explained the proposed adjustments in salaries, benefits, purchased services, supplies and major projects and equipment (*Attachment #3*).

Mr. Derynoski questioned the Ornamental Horticulture textbooks request discussed earlier this evening. Mrs. Carmody replied that at the next Board meeting her committee will be bringing all the textbooks that are already in the budget before the Board for approval, including the Ornamental Horticulture textbooks.

Mr. Derynoski felt that some of the class sizes in Grade 4 were quite high at Derynoski Elementary School, and he was concerned because they are reducing two teachers in that grade. He noted that Hatton and Thalberg Elementary Schools had similar situations. Mr. Connellan replied that there were a number of areas that they are watching. The enrollment grid that the Board was looking at (*Attachment #4*) was all inclusive at this point in time, and they are talking about all the Open Choice seats being filled. They tried to also capture potential transfers from private schools. They tried to take into account every possibility of a student placement, so the enrollment numbers right now are for just about everybody that they could capture. Mr. Derynoski added that, historically, every August they are adding one or two teachers. Mr. Goralski pointed out that the August Board meeting when they do the enrollment review is on August 13 so they would have two weeks to make any adjustments, if necessary. Mr. Derynoski felt that from a timing aspect it is wonderful, but from a budget standpoint he felt that they had a problem.

Mrs. Notar-Francesco stated that she had some grave concerns that there were a number of large elementary class sizes and that reducing four FTEs was very ambitious. She would be more comfortable if the four FTEs were spread across the elementary, middle schools, and high school; however, it seems that elementary class size is what they always target. Mr. Connellan pointed out that they are also going to review the middle schools and high school class sizes as well.

Mrs. Johnson questioned how they would accomplish hiring teachers after August 13. Mr. Connellan replied that, historically, the job market favors the employer at the elementary level and just about every level except in very difficult to staff positions where there are shortage areas. Mrs. Johnson felt that it has been common practice in Southington to have Grades 4 and 5 with class sizes of 23, 24 and 25. She felt that it was unacceptable to have Grade 3 with class sizes of 24.

Mrs. DiNello explained that all the enrollment is done, and Mr. Connellan will now look at the number of students registered at both the middle schools and high school to see if there is an ability to pick-up one or two FTEs, if necessary.

Mr. Derynoski was concerned with the technology lease reduction because the Board has tried over the last five to six years to keep the technology current in the schools and replacing outdated equipment. He was not in favor of pushing out the technology lease another year.

Mrs. Lombardi stated that she needed to have the whole picture of the district enrollment and not just elementary class sizes. She is not an advocate of the class sizes of 23 or 24 in any school. She also agreed with Mr. Derynoski regarding the three-year Technology Plan and that the Board worked hard on getting the Network Manager position. She objected to the technology lease of \$85,000 being removed. Mrs. Lombardi asked if they could re-open any contracts, such as supplies, to get better pricing at this point in time. Mrs. DiNello pointed out that the administration went through the entire budget document to determine where to make these recommended reductions. She noted that she would be concerned if the Board did not have some level of discomfort because a \$530,000 reduction should cause some discomfort. They need to come to a place where they feel they can live with this level of discomfort. Mrs. DiNello's recommendation is to see how the end of the year plays out and to see what happens over the summer with how registrations and transfers affect enrollment. Mrs. DiNello plans to

work with the Technology Director on where they are with the current Apple leases and what equity they could possibly take out of that without spending any additional dollars and still get some new hardware. Mrs. DiNello pointed out that they need to close out the current year. On June 9, 2015, she will be meeting with the Board of Education Finance Committee and putting together a Purchase Plan in the event that, during the month of June when they finish paying all the salaries, they can pre-purchase items.

Mrs. Queen felt that they needed to be clear to the public that the enrollment grid and reductions in FTEs are not set in stone and are only a potential scenario.

MOTION: by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mrs. Notar-Francesco:

“Move that the Board of Education adopt the 2015-2016 Operating Budget, as revised.”

Mr. Goralski stated that Mr. Oshana had some concerns about the Network Manager and that it will be in the budget next year in full as a large increase. He noted that Mr. Oshana was uncomfortable with reduction in the new math textbooks in Grade 7. Ms. Riedinger shared that, aside from the current textbook that they are using, they have online resources available so they will be able to make do with this reduction. Mr. Goralski stated that Mr. Oshana questioned whether deferring the technology lease would cost more money in the long run. Mrs. DiNello replied that was hard to answer because it is a set dollar amount and depends on the timing.

Mr. Derynoski questioned if the current balance was hovering around breakeven and asked where it stands now. Mrs. DiNello stated that they did get the anticipated Excess Cost reimbursement dollar amounts with the cap at 80.5%, which puts them in better shape than she originally thought. She was confident that they will not have any issues getting through the end of the year in the black.

Mrs. Queen pointed out that, based on the way the motion reads, the document that was on the CAFE portal is part of that motion and it states under “*Teachers’ Salaries (Reduce 4 FTEs due to elementary enrollment).*” *Instead*, she would be more comfortable if the motion states, “*Reduce 4 FTEs.*”

AMENDED MOTION: by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mrs. Notar-Francesco:

“Move that the Board of Education adopt the 2015-2016 Operating Budget, as revised with the four (4) FTE reduction.”

Mrs. Lombardi proposed that the first area of recovery outside of the teachers would be the Technology Lease. Mrs. Notar-Francesco said that this would come through the Finance Committee. Mrs. Notar-Francesco agreed that would be an area of recovery for her as well and, if there is any way that they could do it with the end of the year funds, they should address the technology lease. Mrs. Carmody agreed with that too.

Mrs. Clark reiterated that the class sizes are fluid, change on a regular basis, and that the current grid will be different in August.

Mrs. DiNello clarified that the technology lease needs to be new dollars versus the Purchase Plan dollars. The way to do that would be to move things out of 2015-2016, as far as supplies or textbooks, to free up the money and use the new year budget to start the lease.

Mrs. Johnson expected to get a report from Mrs. Passamano, District Registrar, on how kindergarten registration is going and how true the numbers are with the new concept of online registration and the change in registration procedures.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mrs. Carmody, Mrs. Clark, Mr. Derynoski, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Lombardi, Mrs. Notar-Francesco, Mrs. Queen, Mr. Goralski. **Motion carried unanimously.**

c. Student Expulsion 2015-2016-08:

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mr. Derynoski:

“Move to expel student case number 2014-2015-08, as stipulated by the Superintendent of Schools.”

Motion carried by voice vote with Mr. Goralski abstaining.

d. Student Expulsion 2015-2016-09:

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mr. Derynoski:

“Move to expel student case number 2014-2015-09, as stipulated by the Superintendent of Schools.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Mr. Derynoski, seconded by Mrs. Clark:

“Move to adjourn.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Blanchard
Recording Secretary

The minutes presented within this document provide a summary of the discussion that took place at the Board of Education meeting. For the complete discussion of the agenda items, please view the video of the Board meeting on our website at www.southingtonschools.org.



State of Connecticut

SENATOR LEONARD A. FASANO

SENATE MINORITY LEADER

34th DISTRICT

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April 28, 2015

Patricia Queen

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
Southington, CT 06489

Dear Ms. Queen,

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 46a-126 it is my pleasure to appoint you to the **COMMISSION ON CHILDREN**. Your term is effective immediately and is shall end June 30, 2017.

I hope that your service in this position will be challenging and satisfying. I know that the talents and expertise you bring to it will be of great value and service to our state and its citizens.

Your desire to volunteer your time and expertise is commendable and very much appreciated. Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Len Fasano
Senate Minority Leader

- Cc: Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
- Denise Merrill, Secretary of the State
- Martin Looney, Senate President Pro Tempore
- Bob Duff, Senate Majority Leader
- Brendan Sharkey, Speaker of the House
- Joe Aresimowicz, House Majority Leader
- Themis Klarides, House Minority Leader
- John C. Geragosian, State Auditor
- Robert Ward, State Auditor
- Garey B. Coleman, Senate Clerk
- Martin J. Dunleavy, House Clerk
- Carrie Rose, Legislative Library
- Joe Markley, State Senator, District 16
- Joette Katz, Commissioner, Dept. of Children and Families
- Sarah Egan, Child Advocate, Office of the Child Advocate
- Elaine Zimmerman, Executive Director, Commission on Children

Unified Arts Proposal Summary

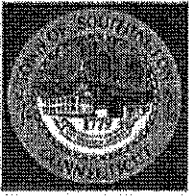
Currently:

PE	60 days (every third day all year)
Health	20 days (every third day for 1/3 of the year)
Culinary	20 days (every third day for 1/3 of the year)
Textiles	20 days (every third day for 1/3 of the year)
Art	60 days (every third day all year)
Computers	60 days (every third day all year)
Tech Ed.	60 days total, but 15 in 4 separate trades (every third day – trades change each quarter)
Music/Study Hall	60 days (every third day all year)

Proposed:

Change from a three day rotation to a six day rotation in order to link some designated areas to teams

All Year	1/3 of the year
Maintain PE for 60 days (every third day - two out of six days all year)	Maintain 60 days of Art instruction, however the 60 days will be taught consecutively in trimesters. Each grade level academic team would have Art for a specified trimester (alternating with Tech Ed and Culinary/Textiles).
Add 10 days to Health for a total of 30 days instruction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No longer linked to Culinary & Textiles 1/6 days all year Add Play By The Rules to Health Curriculum 	Maintain 60 days of Tech Ed instruction, however the 60 days will be taught consecutively in trimesters. Each grade level academic team would have Tech Ed for a specified trimester (alternating with Art and Culinary/Textiles).
Add 30 days to music instruction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3/6 days all year 2/6 days will be large group 1/6 days will be lessons Eliminate study hall – Students not taking performance based music would instead have computer class 	Increase Culinary and Textiles instruction by 10 days each for a total of 30 days in each trade. Students would have 30 days consecutively in Textiles class and then 30 days consecutively with Culinary class and then switch. Each grade level academic team would have Culinary and Textiles for a specific trimester (alternating with Art and Tech Ed).



SOUTHINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*SHERRI DINELLO
DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS AND FINANCE*

MEMO

TO: Board of Education Members
DATE: May 12, 2015
RE: Reallocation / Adoption of 2015-2016 Board of Education Budget

Attached is the administration's recommendation for the reallocation of the 2015-2016 Board of Education's Operating budget for the reduction of \$530,000 that was approved by the Town Council on May 11, 2015. Action on this item is planned under "New Business" at the Board of Education meeting on May 14, 2015. There is an explanation provided within the document and below is a brief overview, by section, of the major changes:

Salaries: There is a reduction of four (4) elementary teaching positions based on the latest enrollment projections. We will send the elementary class size grid to you under separate cover for your review. Class sizes at the secondary level are still in the process of being reviewed based on class selection and scheduling. In an effort to balance the budget, we plan to delay the hiring of the network manager until January 2016.

Benefits: Reductions taken based on actual renewal rates and a reduction in the employer contribution rate for the Municipal Employment Retirement System.

Purchased Services/Supplies: I had mentioned numerous times throughout the budget process that a review of the electricity and gas budget was being done by Titan Energy, the new consultant hired for the town and schools. They had an opportunity to review our usage and take into account the middle schools expansion and the energy performance enhancements completed in providing us updated budget numbers. The electricity budget proved to be accurate; however, they suggested a substantial reduction to the gas heat budget. Therefore, you will see a reduction of \$197,000 in that account.

The New Textbook Account is being reduced by \$60,000 because a Grade 7 math book that meets the Common Core Standards has not been found.

Major Projects & Equipment: Due to the reduction of our budget, and in an effort to balance the budget, we will defer beginning a new technology lease for another year.

Please feel free to contact Mr. Connellan, Superintendent of Schools or me if you have any questions regarding this document.

**Southington Public Schools
Operational Budget Recommended Adjustments
2015-2016**

BOE Operational Budget Request 2015-2016	90,197,401	3.59%
BOF Approved Operational Budget	89,667,401	2.98%
Town Council Approved Operation Budget (May 11, 2015)	89,667,401	2.98%
Reductions Needed	530,000	

Proposed Adjustments by the Administration:

Salaries

11300 Teachers salaries- (Reduce 4 FTE's due to elementary enrollment)	(194,400)	
11135 Network Manager- (Wait to fill vacancy in January)	(32,500)	

Benefits

20110 Municipal Employee Retirement -Reg. Ed	(20,000)	
20110 Municipal Employee Retirement -Sp. Ed (Employer contribution rate was reduced for 15-16)	(15,000)	
20510 Workers Compensation-Reg. Ed	(4,500)	
83205 Workers Compensation-Sp. Ed (Renewal is less than projected budget for 15-16)	(1,500)	

Purchased Services

32120 Electricity	(439,139)	
32135 Energy Performance Contract Payments (Titan Energy projections received and utilized, the original budget projections were good however a change made to set up an account for repayment of performance contract work)	439,139	
32910 Care of Drives & Walks (Additional sites need to go out to bid and based on recent storm history and bid responses an increase is needed)	63,454	
32319 Other Equipment Repairs: Fire Alarm Panel Monitoring (SFD no longer monitoring panels therefore need to outsource)	8,000	
32415 Student Insurance (Renewal is higher than projected budget for 15-16)	8,446	

Supplies

41850 Gas Heat (Titan Energy projections received and reduction forecasted from their review)	(197,000)	
42200 New Textbooks-Math grade 7 (Textbook has not been recommended that meets the CCSS)	(60,000)	

Major Projects & Equipment

74400 Technology lease (Reduction made to balance budget due to funding cut)	(85,000)	
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Total Adjustments

-530,000

Budget in Balance

0

2014-2015 ENROLLMENT MOVED FORWARD TO 2015-2016
Using Enrollment numbers from 4/23/2015 with Actual Grade K 2015/2016 Enrollment

REFLECTS MOVEMENT TO SOUTH END FOR FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROGRAM GRADE K - OPEN CHOICE PLACEMENTS - ADDED
REGISTRATIONS AND PRINCIPAL INPUT ON INCOMING FROM PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS

	GRADE K	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5	TOTAL	NET STAFF
DES ENROLLMENT	86.00	87.00	97.00	107.00	93.00	125.00	595.00	
2014-2015 FTE'S	5.00	5.00	6.00	5.00	6.00	5.00		32.00
2015-2016 PROJECTED SECTIONS	6.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.00	6.00		31.00
NET STAFF DIFFERENCE	1.00	0.00	-1.00	0.00	-2.00	1.00		-1.00
CLASS SIZE	14/15	17/18	19/20	21/22	23/24	21		
MAX ALLOWED	18	22	22	24	24	24		
FLANDERS ENROLLMENT	28.00	56.00	56.00	48.00	55.00	51.00	294.00	
2014-2015 FTE'S	3.00	3.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	2.00		16.00
2015-2016 PROJECTED SECTIONS	2.00	3.00	3.00	2.00	3.00	3.00		16.00
NET STAFF DIFFERENCE	-1.00	0.00	1.00	-1.00	0.00	1.00		0.00
CLASS SIZE	14	18/19	18/19	24	18/19	17		
MAX ALLOWED	18	22	22	24	24	24		
HATTON ENROLLMENT	51.00	63.00	60.00	64.00	70.00	71.00	379.00	
2014-2015 FTE'S	4.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00		19.00
2015-2016 PROJECTED SECTIONS	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00		18.00
NET STAFF DIFFERENCE	-1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		-1.00
CLASS SIZE	17	21	20	21/22	23/24	23/24		
MAX ALLOWED	18	22	22	24	24	24		
KELLEY ENROLLMENT	33.00	54.00	56.00	55.00	52.00	64.00	314.00	
2014-2015 FTE'S	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00		18.00
2015-2016 PROJECTED SECTIONS	2.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00		17.00
NET STAFF DIFFERENCE	-1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		-1.00
CLASS SIZE	16/17	18	18/19	18/19	17/18	21/22		
MAX ALLOWED	18	22	22	24	24	24		
PLANTSVILLE ENROLLMENT	43.00	46.00	46.00	52.00	43.00	48.00	278.00	
2014-2015 FTE'S	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.00	2.00	2.00		15.00
2015-2016 PROJECTED SECTIONS	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.00	2.00		16.00
NET STAFF DIFFERENCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00		1.00
CLASS SIZE	14/15	15/16	15/16	17/18	21/22	24		
MAX ALLOWED	18	22	22	24	24	24		
SOUTH END ENROLLMENT	34.00	46.00	32.00	40.00	40.00	41.00	233.00	
2014-2015 FTE'S	3.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00		13.00
2016-2016 PROJECTED SECTIONS	2.00	3.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00		13.00
NET STAFF DIFFERENCE	-1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
CLASS SIZE	17	15/16	16	20	20	20/21		
MAX ALLOWED	18	22	22	24	24	24		
STRONG ENROLLMENT	32.00	51.00	50.00	43.00	64.00	59.00	299.00	
2014-2015 FTE'S	3.00	3.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	3.00		17.00
2015-2016 PROJECTED SECTIONS	2.00	3.00	3.00	2.00	3.00	3.00		16.00
NET STAFF DIFFERENCE	-1.00	0.00	1.00	-1.00	0.00	0.00		-1.00
CLASS SIZE	16	17	16	21/22	21/22	19/20		
MAX ALLOWED	18	22	22	24	24	24		
THALBERG ENROLLMENT	47.00	67.00	83.00	72.00	58.00	86.00	413.00	
2014-2015 FTE'S	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.00	4.00	3.00		22.00
2015-2016 PROJECTED SECTIONS	3.00	4.00	4.00	3.00	3.00	4.00		21.00
NET STAFF DIFFERENCE	-1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-1.00	1.00		-1.00
CLASS SIZE	15/16	16/17	20/21	24	19/20	21/22		
MAX ALLOWED	18	22	22	24	24	24		
								-4.00

**SOUTHINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT**

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MAY 21, 2015

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education was held on Thursday, May 21, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room #2 of the Southington Municipal Center, 200 North Main Street, Southington, Connecticut.

Board Members Present: Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mr. David Derynoski, Mrs. Patricia Johnson, Mrs. Terry Lombardi, Mrs. Jill Notar-Francesco, Mr. Zaya Oshana, Mrs. Patricia Queen, and Mr. Brian Goralski.

Administration Present: Mr. Timothy Connellan, Superintendent of Schools, and Mr. Steve Madancy, Principal, John F. Kennedy Middle School (Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction effective July 1, 2015.)

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Brian Goralski, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS FOR PRINCIPAL OF SOUTHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ~ Executive Session Anticipated**

MOTION: by Mr. Derynoski, seconded by Mrs. Clark:

“Move that the Board goes into Executive Session, excluding the public and the press for the purpose of candidate interviews for the Principal of Southington High School and, upon conclusion, reconvene to public session.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:00 p.m.

At 10:35 p.m., Mr. Goralski declared the Executive Session ended, and the Board reconvened public session at 10:35 p.m.

3. **PROPOSED PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENT ~ Southington High School**

MOTION: by Mr. Derynoski, seconded by Mr. Oshana:

‘Move to appoint Brian Stranieri as Principal of Southington High School effectively immediately at a starting salary of \$143,547.’

YES – Mr. Derynoski, Mr. Oshana, Mrs. Lombardi, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Carmody, Mrs. Queen, Mr. Goralski. NO – Mrs. Notar-Francesco, Mrs. Johnson.

4. ADJOURNMENT

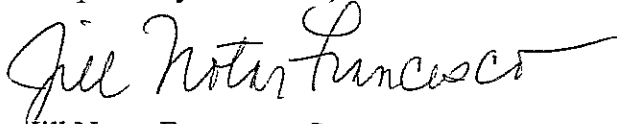
MOTION: by Mr. Derynoski, seconded by Mrs. Clark:

“Move that the Special Meeting of the Board of Education be adjourned.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The Special Meeting of the Board of Education adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jill Notar-Francesco". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Jill Notar-Francesco, Secretary
Southington Board of Education

Board of Education

Administrative Report

May 28, 2015



1. Four District Collaborative on Mastery Based Learning

2. Community Engagement Project



SOUTHINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Southington, Connecticut Curriculum and Instruction Committee Meeting May 11, 2015

Committee chairperson, Mrs. Terri Carmody, called the Curriculum and Instruction Committee meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mrs. Patricia Johnson, and Mrs. Patricia Queen.
Absent: Mrs. Jill Notar-Francesco.

Administration Present: Mrs. Karen Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Learning (left at 10:45 a.m.).

In attendance from the district:

Social Studies Staff (left at 10:10 a.m.): Mr. Frank Pepe, Principal, DePaolo Middle School; Mr. Richard Terino, Assistant Principal, Southington High School; Ms. Heather Allenback, Mr. Rich Aroian, Ms. Debra Moreau, Ms. Diane Raczynski.

English Language Arts Staff (arrived at 10:10 a.m., left at 10:55 a.m.): Mrs. Stephanie Lawlor, Language Arts Coordinator; Ms. Catherine Disantis, Ms. Rachel Gilbertie, Ms. Regina Hackett, Ms. Jennifer Jorgensen, Ms. Rebecca Migliaro, Ms. Kathleen Reilley.

Literacy and Information Technology Staff (arrived at 10:55 a.m., left at 11:15 a.m.): Mrs. Linda Lackner, Principal, Strong School; Ms. Laura Abed Mr. John O'Neil, Ms. Stephanie Patterson, Ms. Kate Wakefield.

Agricultural Science and Technology Staff (arrived at 11:15 a.m., left at 11:45 a.m.): Mr. Brian Stranieri, Interim Principal, Southington High School; Mrs. Marion Stannard, Director, Agricultural Science and Technology Program.

Social Studies Curriculum, Grades K-12

Ms. Allenback shared that the State Department of Education was interested in finding model districts to work with to re-establish the curriculum and they selected Southington as one of the districts. They then created a committee that includes elementary, middle, and high school teachers and administrators who will work with the state to design our curriculum. This is an amazing opportunity for the district. Some changes to the curriculum include:

- Kindergarten will be included.
- They are coordinating which topics to teach and when those topics will be taught.
- There are some areas in U.S. History that were lacking and are being addressed.
- Civics is moving to be taught at a later time.

It was stated that the areas covered and when they are covered will provide for a better foundation and will also benefit those who take AP classes.

There was discussion about how the teaching staff felt about the state moving civics to Grade 11 and Ms. Allenback stated that they supported the change and found it to be age-appropriate.

Throughout the next five-year cycle, all levels will be working together. They will take the proposed curriculum and enhance it throughout that cycle. As the committee continues to develop the curriculum, they are working together with the middle school team to ensure that their vision is articulated throughout the school years.

The social studies curriculum is being redesigned and Ms. Allenback and Mr. Aroian are the leaders of the committee. They shared that the district will be visited by a representative from the State Department of Education on June 3, 2015 for a workshop for social studies teachers in Grades K-12. The program will be optional, but they are confident most teachers will attend. It's a fabulous opportunity for the district.

TIMOTHY F. CONNELLAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
SCHOOLS

KAREN L. SMITH
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
FOR INSTRUCTION AND
LEARNING

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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BOARD CHAIRPERSON

TERRI C. CARMODY
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JILL NOTAR-FRANCESCO
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TERRY G. LOMBARDI

ZAYA G. OSHANA

PATRICIA A. QUEEN

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Proposed Course for the 2016-2017 School Year

Ms. Allenback shared that she had a proposed course request for the 2016-2017 school year. The course is *America At War* and is a half-year course that utilizes technology. This is a section that would be added to the curriculum where they would teach ancient history. This is an excellent CP level class and they have some great role models at the school with military experience that will add to the learning experience.

Textbooks

Ms. Allenback introduced the World Religions textbook to the committee. She explained that the readability was a higher level, but they are happy with the choice. There is a great deal of content included in the book that is excellent for the course. The provided text is one of a few that they have available for high school students. The text is identified as being appropriate for an introductory course. The committee was concerned about the readability, as well as why the section of Islam wasn't introduced until the end. Ms. Allenback stated that she would follow-up with the teacher of that course and get back to the committee with some answers.

Because of time constraints, the committee was not able to get through all the books being presented for social studies. The committee invited the social studies group to return to their June meeting to continue the review of textbooks.

English Language Arts Curriculum, Grades 9-12

Stephanie Lawlor introduced and thanked her committee for all their work over the past three years as they have been writing and revising the curriculum. She also recognized the dedication of Regina Hackett, Department Chairperson, who is retiring this year from Southington High School. Taking over the position of department chair will be Rebecca Migliaro beginning with the 2015-2016 school year.

Southington is currently working in collaboration with Cheshire, Meriden, and Wallingford to create a mastery level unit. Mrs. Lawlor explained that there are three shifts in the common core that have been embedded in all units:

1. Building knowledge through content rich non-fiction, including literary nonfiction.
2. Reading, writing and speaking grounded in text evidence, both literary and informational.
3. Regular practice with complex text and its academic language.

Ms. Disantis shared that there was a big shift in Grade 9 with vertical alignment. The text and necessary skills are more complex and they spend time in the first quarter setting the foundation for writing and reading. This foundation is crucial for students in order to prepare them for Grades 10-12.

Grade 10 was introduced by Ms. Reilly. She explained that the focus is on tone and mood in literature and they model after Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC). There is a focus on theme and literary terms. Common assessments use non-fiction, coupled with fiction. Students search for articles and are able to work independently. The skills that students were exposed to during their freshman year are built upon each year.

Ms. Gilbertie and Ms. Migliaro shared information pertaining to Grades 11 and 12. They explained that in Grade 11, they begin where the students left-off in Grade 10. When students read the units, there are similar performance tasks. Learning includes close reading and citing sources. They use multiple sources and take learning to the next level. Students are getting prepared for college by being required to utilize a rubric.

When they enter Grade 12, students are expected to work more independently on their papers while utilizing all the skills they learned. In addition, students in the CP level have the opportunity to choose their own topics to explore. They are given the expectations, the rubric, and the guidelines. This is an in-depth look at the research section of a paper. There is a focus on where the students are getting their evidence and how to support the evidence. The teaching staff is seeing better writers now than they did four years ago.

The committee asked if the teachers do anything interdisciplinary and Ms. Hackett replied that they do some blending during professional development time. There is discussion between the English and Social Studies departments to where they use the same rubrics. They are working on coordinating more time together to collaborate.

Agriculture Science and Technology Curriculum, Grades 9-12

Ms. Stannard recently met with the Curriculum and Instruction Committee and gave details about the curriculum coming forward. She gave an overview of the differences in this new curriculum:

- The curriculum is aligned to the UbD (Understanding by Design) and the state content standards.
- They added a specialty.
- There's more uniform across all teacher content areas.
- The standards are different.
- They included a fall semester that focuses on working safe.
- There's a unit for Public Speaking for all Grade 10 students.

Ms. Stannard explained that students in Grade 9 are doing some writing and they are working with the literacy specialist. In Grade 10, they have the opportunity to spend time in the different areas to explore. This helps them make decisions for their interests as they enter their junior and senior years. Grades 11 and 12 are together on a rotating schedule. There are five specialty areas. They split the Animal Science section into two sections; large animals and small animals. Throughout their junior and senior years, there is peer instruction with laboratory activities.

There are other programs in the state that include subject areas that we aren't offering in Southington. Ms. Stannard believes that the Southington program has a strong focus and it's exactly where she would like to see the program. The enrollment can increase slightly, but not exceed 150.

Information and Literacy Technology Curriculum, Grades K-12

Mrs. Lackner introduced the committee that has been working on this curriculum. She stated that there are four goals for elementary.

1. Inquiry-based learning ~ WISER ~ Wonder, Investigate, Synthesize, Express, Reflect
2. Technology operations to use current systems effectively
3. Digital Citizenship ~ advocate safe and responsible use of technology
4. Growth ~ Interaction with peers

Ms. Wakefield stated that there have been two major focuses at the elementary level: role of the elementary library media specialists and shifting from the old curriculum to the new curriculum.

The library media specialists have three roles:

1. Technology integration coach/advance technology to enhance learning ~ teach students and be models for teachers to use tools in a more current way.

2. Technology teacher/more technology operations ~ teaching how to use different devices and software applications.
3. Traditional specialists ~ teaching how to think about information and how to evaluate it. Digital literacy; media literacy.

Ms. Abed stated that the best learning outcomes are through a flexible learning approach. They teach problem-solving content and methods that are used to learn and produce can be adapted as things change. The curriculum is more learner-driven with projects such as computer programming, robotics clubs, STEM activities, and technology leadership groups.

The assessment of the flexible approach includes an assessment rubric. There are questioning and note-taking skills, evaluating websites, presentations, and evaluating how students present their projects in alignment with the standards. Students are evaluated by the classroom teacher and the library media specialist.

The skills being taught at the elementary level (keyboarding, software, etc.) will carry-through to the middle school years where there is more of an emphasis on speed and accuracy.

Ms. Patterson explained that she and Mr. O'Neil are working to create a partnership to transfer skills from Grade 6-12. There are teaching for understanding and using inquiry and motivation. They are actively working to bridge a balance and navigate priorities of the classroom teacher and the process. The UbDs are designed for the different processes.

Ms. Patterson sent some articles to the committee to review pertaining to co-teaching. This process would include two adults facilitating and understanding the learning taking place in the classroom. The library media specialist would take notes, confer with the classroom teacher, establish weaknesses and strengths, and then create a plan.

Mr. O'Neil stated that there has been a great deal of success at the middle schools working together with the social studies department. They are transitioning students and teachers to design projects that encourage students to do more in-depth learning and research. By working with students and breaking into sub-topics, they find the areas of difficulty and work on those areas.

The Curriculum and Instruction Committee thanked all those who presented and shared how appreciative they are of the work they are doing in the classrooms and throughout the district. The district is very fortunate to have such dedicated teachers and administrators.

By Mrs. Queen, seconded by Mrs. Johnson

“Move that the Curriculum and Instruction Committee meeting be adjourned.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Passamano

Executive Secretary to the

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Learning



SOUTHINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Southington, Connecticut Policy and Personnel Committee Meeting May 18, 2015

TIMOTHY F. CONNELLAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

KAREN L. SMITH
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
FOR INSTRUCTION AND LEARNING

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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PATRICIA P. JOHNSON

TERRY G. LOMBARDI

ZAYA G. OSHANA

PATRICIA A. QUEEN

Committee chairperson, Mrs. Colleen Clark, called the Policy and Personnel Committee meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. (start time was delayed due to a prior meeting that ended late).

Committee Members Present: Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mrs. Patricia Johnson, and Mrs. Patricia Queen. Absent: Mr. Zaya Oshana.

Other Board Members Present: Mr. Brian Goralski

Turf Field Discussion

The committee discussed policy #1325, Community Relations, as it applies to the turf field, the athletic complex, and advertising at Southington High School. The discussion included an agreement that all committee members would review the policy with regard to community use so that changes to the existing policy and regulations could be discussed at the next meeting. Mrs. Clark will contact Mark Sciota, Town Attorney, for further clarification as to which town entities have oversight pertaining to regulations. In addition, Mike DeFeo and Eric Swallow would be invited to an upcoming meeting to discuss potential changes in Board of Education policy and regulations.

By Mrs. Queen, seconded by Mrs. Johnson

“Move that the Policy and Personnel Committee meeting be adjourned.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen Clark

Colleen Clark
Board of Education

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**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT**

Informational Only Board Meeting Date May 28, 2015

Decision Requested _____ Agenda Code 9 a.

AGENDA REPORTING FORM

Agenda Topic: Town Government Communications

Summary of Issue: Communications (when applicable) will be discussed.

Background: N/A

Alternative Strategies: N/A

Cost (if applicable): N/A **Funding Source:** N/A

Beginning Date of Program or Project: N/A

Ending Date of Program or Project: N/A

Recommendation or Comment: N/A

Timothy J. Connellan

Signature of Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION
SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT

Informational Only _____ X _____

Board Meeting Date May 28, 2015

Decision Requested _____

Agenda Code 9 b.

AGENDA REPORTING FORM

Agenda Topic: Construction Update

Summary of Issue: The District's Phase II Construction and Renovation/Expansion of buildings are listed below with their current status.

Phase II Construction Projects:

South End Elementary School - New Construction:

The administration is monitoring a recurring moisture issue when extreme temperature changes occur. This may be caused by winter into spring temperature swings. The project will be closed out when this issue is resolved.

Kennedy & DePaolo Middle School - Renovation/Expansion:

All roofing is complete. Phases C4, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10 punchlist items for these areas are 99% complete. Phase C11 of 12 phases currently under construction and is 50% complete. Finishes starting throughout spaces. Courtyard bids have been received.

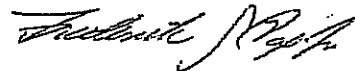
Background: At the September 14, 2000 Board of Education meeting, Chairman, David Derynoski, requested a permanent agenda report for school construction projects.

Cost (if applicable): \$16,860,000 – South End \$89,725,000 – Middle Schools

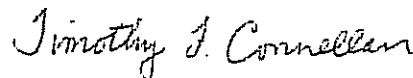
Funding Source: State & Local

Beginning Date of Program/Project: Varied Ending Date of Program or Project: Varied

Recommendation or Comment: _____



Signature of Staff Member Submitting Report



Signature of Superintendent of Schools

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT**

Informational Only _____ Board Meeting Date May 28, 2015

Decision Requested x Agenda Code 10 a.

AGENDA REPORTING FORM

Agenda Topic: Appointment of Principal of Hatton Elementary School

Summary of Issue: The Principal of Hatton Elementary School became vacant due to Sally Kamerbeek retiring effective June 30, 2015.

Background: The Board of Education interviewed candidates for the Principal of Hatton Elementary School on Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at a Special Board of Education meeting.

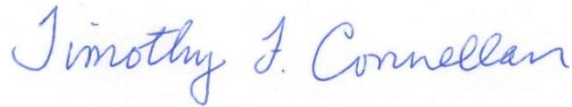
Alternative Strategies: N/A

Cost (if applicable): N/A **Funding Source:** N/A

Beginning Date of Program or Project: N/A

Ending Date of Program or Project: N/A

Recommendation or Comment: To appoint the Principal of Hatton Elementary School with a date and salary to be determined.



Signature of Superintendent of Schools

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT**

Informational Only _____ Board Meeting Date May 28, 2015

Decision Requested x Agenda Code 10 b.

AGENDA REPORTING FORM

Agenda Topic: Appointment of Principal of Strong Elementary School

Summary of Issue: The Principal of Strong Elementary School became vacant due to Linda Lackner retiring effective June 30, 2015.

Background: The Board of Education interviewed candidates for the Principal of Strong Elementary School on Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at a Special Board of Education meeting.

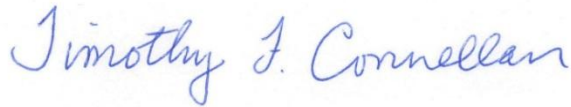
Alternative Strategies: N/A

Cost (if applicable): N/A **Funding Source:** N/A

Beginning Date of Program or Project: N/A

Ending Date of Program or Project: N/A

Recommendation or Comment: To appoint the Principal of Strong Elementary School with a date and salary to be determined.



Signature of Superintendent of Schools

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT**

Informational Only _____ **Board Meeting Date** May 28, 2015

Decision Requested X **Agenda Code** 10 c

AGENDA REPORTING FORM

Agenda Topic: Out of State: Overnight/Out of State Field Trip Approvals

Summary of Issue: The Board of Education must give approval to field trips that are over 200 miles in distance from Southington, trips to foreign countries, or overnight field trips. Presented with this packet is a trip to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the Southington High School Cross Country team to participate in the Briarwood Invitational competition.

Background: N/A

Alternative Strategies: N/A

Cost (if applicable): N/A **Funding Source:** _____

Beginning Date of Program or Project: N/A

Ending Date of Program or Project: N/A

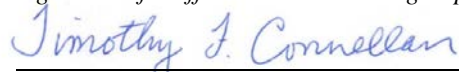
Recommendation or Comment: Move that the Board of Education approves the Southington High School Cross Country field trip to Pennsylvania as presented by the administration.

Titles of Attachments:

1. Field Trip Application and Itinerary



Signature of Staff Member Submitting Report



Signature of Superintendent of Schools

Southington Public Schools
Southington, Connecticut

Application for Out-of-State/In-State/Overnight Field Trip

Submit to Assistant Superintendent

Date: 5/6/15
 Out of State: Yes No
 Overnight: Yes No
 Miles Round Trip: 210

Southington High School School Cross Country Class/Group September 18 & 19, 2015 Date of Trip

Name and Address of Destination Belmont Plateau ~ Philadelphia, PA

Reasons for Field Trip Compete in Briarwood Invitational

Itinerary (attach if needed) Itinerary Included

Departure Date/Time 9/18/15, 2:15 p.m. Return Date/Time 9/19/15, 11:00 p.m.

of Students 28 # of Teacher/Chaperones 3 coaches # of Buses 1 Coach Bus

Have definite arrangements been made at the field trip destination? Yes No

Have met with nurse to address student health needs.
 Nurse's Signature _____ Date _____

Have NOT met with the nurse. Will meet with the nurse to address student health needs when the student roster is complete. This meeting will take place approximately one-month prior to the scheduled trip.

Destination is handicap accessible: Yes No Lift Van Needed? Yes No

COST AND FINANCING

Source of Funds	Totals	Additional Notes
TOTAL Anticipated Cost of Trip	\$3,944	Includes coach bus and hotel
Board of Education Contribution	\$	
Other	(\$360)	Entry fee ~ covered by Cross Country booster club
Fundraising Activity	(\$0)	
BALANCE	\$3,584	
Student Contribution		
Transportation	\$2,800	28 Students @ \$100
Entrance Fees, Room & Board	\$784	28 Students @ \$35
TOTAL Cost of Trip to Each Student	\$135	*The total does not include meals. Students will pay for meals on their own.

SIGNATURES

Teacher Dan Dachelet (signature on original) Date 5/18/15
 Dept. Head Eric Swallow (signature on original) Date 5/18/15
 Principal Brian Stranieri (signature on original) Date 5/18/15

Comments _____

Assistant Superintendent Karen L. Smith Date 5/20/15 Approved
 Not Approved

Board of Education Approval*** YES NO Date _____

XC

Cross Country 2015
Briarwood Invitational Itinerary



Friday ~ 9/18/15

2:15 – End of School Day

2:20 – Depart SHS

6:00 – Arrive at Belmont Plateau to do course run through (tentative based on traffic)

7:00 – Leave course for hotel and showers

7:30 – Depart for Dinner

10:00 – Lights out

Saturday ~ 9/19/15

7:30 – Reveille

7:35 – Jog and stretch

8:00 – Breakfast at hotel

10:00 – Depart for Belmont Plateau

TBD – Exact meet timeline and seeding for our team will be provided 1 week prior to meet.

TBD – Depart Belmont Plateau

TBD – Arrive at SHS