

# Board of Education Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2017

Board Members Present: President Jamie Doucette, William Bloethe, Linda Mrowka and Thomas Shillo

Also Present: Superintendent/Principal Karen Goodwin, Board Secretary Michele Klimczak, Business Manager James Eagan, Student Liaisons Charles Snyder and Caroline Toldo and community

## 1. School Community Session

1.1 Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance- President Doucette called the meeting to order and led in the pledge at 5:01 pm.

1.2 Public Participation- There were no questions or comments at this time.

### 1.3 Celebrations

1.3A Letter from a New Student's Family; Came with \$500 deposit for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade student for the 2017-18 school year; Next meeting student numbers for each grade will be shared.

1.3B Student Independent Study on Drones: Nick Oickle to program a drone to become proficient at programming languages. Nick plans on flying it through the school and providing narrated school tour. Additionally, Thad Allen is studying an antique flute with CT mentor and Mr. Dollar to perform at the school concert.

1.3C Student Leadership- Internship involvement Improv Class: Devin Kucsera- Internship with Community Center teaching Improv; Caroline Toldo- Earth Day- Island Cleanup Day, Cookout and craft day as a part of her internship.

1.3D Eastern Regional Invention Convention Finalists: 1600 CT student participants; FIS had 4 participate-all moved forward to finals. (Constance Toldo, Lily Kane, Andie Steele, and Arabella Hatfield.)

1.4 Additions to Agenda: 3.14 - School Window Repair; 3.15 - Student School Service Proposal; 3.16- Spanish Exchange Program; 3.17 – Donation of old basketball uniforms; If Jay Cushing comes, move section 4.8. Also move section 4.2 to be after 2.5 due to its topic.

## 2. Business Office Reports

2.1 Warrants Approved by Claims Auditor Sharon Patterson (Jan-March). Summary printouts shared.

## 2.2 Business Manager Reports

- A. Budget Status Report as of March 31, 2017-Summary printouts shared.
- B. Reconciliation Report Approved by Superintendent and Treasurer (Jan.-March)-Summary printouts shared.

## 2.3 Business Transfers: None

## 2.4 Cancellation of NY COL Penalty Assessment-Jim successfully petitioned to reverse charges .

## 2.5 Audit Update – Chris Reno, during last conference call, wanted more info on a few items regarding potential journal entries. Jim set up to work on this next week and scheduled 4/27 conference call with updated info.

Additional item discussed, Status of Furnace (**Section 4.2 on agenda**) currently working and has been evaluated by an independent contractor as being generally in good shape; spare parts were suggested (<\$1K) to keep in stock/installed as needed to keep furnace functioning.

**\*\*Jay Cushing, FI Utility arrived\*\*Moved item 4.8 FI Utility Recommendations for New High Voltage Cables/Jay Cushing (per Superintendent’s previous request)** Jay summarized the current age/questionable status of cable. No records on cable however, cables like these typically fail after 20 years. Jay has proposed to install new cable to run along ball fields. Benefit would be more reliable and more up to date cable. Scheduled install would allow for shorter scheduled outage for school, rather if the cable had to be replaced due to failure. Written proposal was provided.

## 3.Action Items (Board Chairman)

- 3.1 Motion: To Approve the Minutes of the March 15, 2017 Board of Education Meeting- Motion Made: Tom, Bill Seconded; All in Favor.
- 3.2 Motion: To Approve High School Grading Policy #4710 (Second Reading)- Motion Made: Linda, Bill Seconded; All in Favor.
- 3.3 Motion: To Approve Code of Conduct Policy Sections #5300.35-5300.40 (Second Reading)-Motion Made: Linda, Seconded Bill; All in Favor.
- 3.4 Motion: To Approve Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup> as an Excused Absence for the Senior Class (Return from Educational Field Trip) Motion Made: Linda, Bill Seconded; All in Favor.

- 3.5 Motion: To Approve a 10% Increase for the 2017-2018 School Year Tuition (4-6 \$3630, 7-12 \$3850) – Discussion: Tuition has not been raised in 4 years. Motion Made: Tom, Linda Seconded; All in Favor.
- 3.6 Motion: To Approve the Position Description for the School Custodian/Maintenance Worker Position-Motion Made: Linda, Bill Seconded; All in Favor.
- 3.7 Motion: To Modify the Medical Insurance Provision of the Superintendent’s 2017-2018 Contract from State of CT Plan to Individual District Health Insurance Plan effective July 1, 2017 – Discussion: CT Plan is more expensive. Motion Made: Bill, Linda Seconded; All in Favor.
- 3.8 Motion: To Approve the 2017-2018 Program of Studies (Email) Discussion: Two changes, Graduation requirements and Spanish 3 prerequisites. Motion Made: Bill, Linda Seconded; All in Favor.
- 3.9 Motion: To Approve the School Counselor Job Description (Handout) - Motion Made: Linda, Bill Seconded; All in Favor.
- 3.10 Motion: To Approve the FI School Conservancy Summer Program for Current Grades 3-4 Students at cost to district of \$416.62. Motion Made: Bill, Linda Seconded; All in Favor.
- 3.11 Motion: To Not Schedule a Special Meeting on April 19<sup>th</sup> for the Sole Purpose of Voting on the BOCES Budget. Motion Made: Tom, Bill Seconded; All in Favor.
- 3.12 Motion: To Approve the Proposed Basketball Activity (Zach Hoch and Matt Edwards to oversee 6-12th graders for 2 day/week after school basketball program (>4:30) to start after Spring Vacation) Motion Made: Tom, Linda Seconded; All in Favor.
- 3.13 Motion: To Adopt a Budget of \$3,650,419 (Option C) for the 2017-2018 school year. A detailed, in-depth discussion on the provided documents took place. Motion Made: Bill, Tom Seconded; All in Favor.
- 3.14 School Windows in Need of Repair-Art Room and Mrs. Burns’s classroom. Repair vs. replacement of windows was discussed; Tom and others indicated that repairing would not be wise as it would only be a temporary fix. Tom is re-writing specs for replacement; TABLED.
- 3.15 Student School Service Proposal- Craig Mrowka and Ben Weber to paint the boys’ locker room. Written proposal submitted; Motion made to approve up to \$150 for this activity. Motion Made: Bill, Tom Seconded; All in Favor.

3.16 Spanish Exchange Proposal- Students from Spain come to Fishers Island in Fall and Fishers Island students travel to Spain during February break. Field trip proposal to be done. Concept met with approval, specific details forthcoming.

3.17 Donation of Old Basketball Uniforms to Little Pebbles. Mr. Baber proposed old uniforms and old equipment as well. Motion Made: Bill, Linda Seconded; All in Favor.

#### 4. Superintendent/Principal Report

##### **Prior Business**

4.1 Senior Class Trip Update

4.2 FIS Heating System Update- Previously covered

4.3 Duct Cleaning Update: April 17-19, 2017-Provided a proposal from “Duct & Vent Cleaning of America, Inc”. Cost was 1/3 of similar bid from BD.

4.4 Principal Search Update-3 candidates coming out April 27<sup>th</sup> to meet with students/staff. May 3<sup>rd</sup> interview with Board of Education; Full Written report forthcoming.

4.5 Generator Project Update Closer- Engineering called today (April 12), need for engineering stamp and New York Stamp. Vendor understands the situation but payment can't be delivered until these details are addressed.

4.6 Sidewalk Repair Update- On Hold

##### **New Business**

4.7 Gallium Incident Summary- details within packet, hopeful that insurance will cover cleanup cost.

4.8 FI Utility Recommendation for New High Voltage Cables/Jay Cushing- Previously discussed.

4.9 2017-2018 Proposed Grade 7-12 School Trip – Albany, Lake Placid, Montreal. Principal shared draft of trip, pending passage of 2017-18 budget.

4.10 Policy #5300.45-Code of Conduct – Alternative Instruction (First Reading) Documents provided.

4.11 Policy #5300.50-Code of Conduct-Discipline of Students with Disabilities (First Reading) Documents provided.

Executive Session:

7:07 pm: Motion made to go into Executive Session to discuss a confidential student matter, and personnel matter -Motion Made: Linda, Seconded by Tom.

The Board left Executive Session at 7:38 p.m.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by Linda Mrowka, seconded by William Bloethe.

President Doucette adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.