

**SOUTHINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MARCH 13, 2014**

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The regular meeting of the Southington Board of Education with Executive Session was held on Thursday, March 13, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Center Public Assembly Room, 200 North Main Street, Southington, Connecticut.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Brian Goralski, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**2. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACTS, STUDENT MATTERS, SAFETY AND ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING BOARD DISCUSSION OF LAWN MOWING BIDS ~ 6:30 p.m.**

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

**"Move to go into Executive Session, excluding the public and press, for purposes of discussing Contracts, Student Matters, Safety, and Attorney-client privileged communications concerning Board discussion of Lawn Mowing Bids, and upon conclusion the Board will return to public session."**

**Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

An Executive Session meeting was held from 6:33 p.m. through 7:20 p.m.

Board members present were Mr. Brian Goralski, Chairperson; Mrs. Terri Carmody, Vice Chairperson; Mrs. Jill Notar-Francesco, Secretary; Mrs. Colleen Clark (*arrived at 6:34 p.m.*), Mr. David Derynoski, Mrs. Terry Lombardi, Mr. Zaya Oshana and Mrs. Patricia Queen. Absent: Mrs. Patricia Johnson.

Present from the administration were Dr. Joseph Erardi, Jr., Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Karen Smith, Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. Sherri DiNello, Director of Business & Finance, and Mr. Fred Cox, Director of Operations.

Present from Shipman & Goodwin was Board attorney, Rich Mills, Esq.

**3. BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOGNITION**

At 7:24 p.m., the Board of Education recognized Nicole Proffitt, a teacher at Southington High School, for being selected as Advisor of the Month from Best Buddies of Connecticut. Dr. Erardi stated that Nicole Proffitt is smart, conscientious and compassionate in her work. Under her leadership, over 50 youngsters take part in our chapter. This is one of the most impressive programs we have, giving students an opportunity to work on meaningful activities.

*At 7:28 p.m., Mr. Goralski called for a recess.*

**4. RECONVENE MEETING ~ REGULAR SESSION**

The regular session was reconvened at 7:42 p.m. by Chairperson, Mr. Brian Goralski. Board members present were Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mr. David Derynoski, Mrs. Terry Lombardi, Mrs. Jill Notar-Francesco, Mr. Zaya Oshana and Mrs. Patricia Queen. Absent: Mrs. Patricia Johnson.

Present from the administration were Dr. Joseph Erardi, Jr., Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Karen Smith, Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Sherri DiNello, Director of Business and Finance, Mr. Frederick Cox, Director of Operations and Dr. Perri Murdica, Director of Pupil Services.

Student representatives present were Miss Gabrielle Baker and Miss Abigail Harris.

There were approximately 36 people in the audience.

**5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by two Boys Scouts in attendance.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES ~ February 20, 2014 Regular Meeting**

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

**“Move to approve the Board of Education Regular meeting minutes of February 20, 2014 as submitted.”**

**Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

**7. COMMUNICATIONS**

**a. Communications from Audience**

There was no communication from the audience.

**b. Communications from Board Members and Administration**

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

**“Move Agenda Item 9c. Lawn Mowing Bid #2014-BID-20 to 7d., and Agenda Item 10c. Lawn Mowing Trimming DES/JVP Bid #2014-BID-21 to 7e.”**

**Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.**

**MOTION:** by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mr. Oshana:

**“Move to add Agenda Item 10d. Student Expulsion 2013-2014-05 to the agenda.”**

**Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.****Communication from Board Members:**

Mrs. Notar-Francesco received a flyer from CABA / CAPSS on their Convention taking place on November 14 and 15, 2014. They are asking districts to send talented groups of students to perform at the Convention. She asked the administration to consider sending students in the district to perform at the sessions on Friday and Saturday morning.

Mrs. Carmody took a moment to acknowledge the STARS program at Southington High School and thank them for providing the Board with wonderful treats at the last few meetings. These students are thrilled about the Unified Theater performance on Friday evening when all children in Unified Arts will be stars. All are invited to the show, which begins at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

Mr. Oshana stated a concern that has been raised at a parent safety meeting concerning parent pick up. Dr. Erardi stated safety is always at the forefront and is taken very seriously. Mr. Cox is investigating the protocol used at dismissal at each elementary school, as every building is unique. Mr. Oshana stated that one issue came up at dismissal time where students are walked out and cars are coming into a paved play area. This is confusing to students and a concern to parents. Dr. Erardi stated that the Southington Police Department, along with Mr. Cox, reviewed the dismissal protocol and both felt very comfortable with the procedure. However, this doesn't mean that there can't be improvements or changes with recommendations being brought back to the Board. From administration's perspective, they welcome the expertise of the parents who they believe have a very interesting skill set that they can bring to administration. Administration takes this very seriously. There is an ongoing dialogue that will be taking place with recommendations coming forward.

Mrs. Lombardi stated that she visited a number of schools last Friday, looking at the new Smarter Balanced practice testing underway. She observed a class taking a practice test at Kelley School. One technology piece that stood out to her was that keyboarding skills are delaying students writing quickly. She could see a good writer being set back by not being quick enough on keyboarding. She noticed the content to be a bit harder, reading digitally vs. paper. She also visited DePaolo where she observed really great things occurring. She didn't realize how much progress has been made in the building process.

Mr. Goralski gave the following updates:

- Superintendent Search – Focus group meetings have been completed by the consultants; meetings have been held in Executive Session and a profile has been established for our next leader.
- SEA partnership has expanded out to our community and in a meeting with the Board of Finance. On Saturday, March 15 they will be hosting a brunch to say thank you to our local officials.
- Middle Schools' color panels are on display this evening. Thank you to Kate Ryan and Dan Casinelli from Fletcher Thompson for being at the meeting tonight. Board members had an opportunity prior to the meeting to speak with and review colors in detail with them. The Building Committee formally accepted all panels. The colors are lively and vibrant and will bring much life into the buildings.

**Communication from Administration:**

Dr. Erardi reported on the following:

- Veterans Partnership:
  - a. Posting – Mission Statement – All Schools  
Through this partnership, a framed copy of the newly-adopted mission statement will be placed in every school in the district.
  - b. Regional Collaboration  
An agenda item addressed at the last committee meeting regarding what was a slanted argument from a history teacher in a surrounding community. The committee has chosen to invite members from the American Legion and VFW in three contiguous communities to learn what they are doing and share with them what we are doing.
- Unified Theater – SHS Students as Partners:
  - a. Anti-bullying Skits – Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. A very special evening and great way to start the weekend off feeling terrific; he encourages all to attend.
- Math Olympiad Grant – Grades 4 and 5:
  - a. Two Year Award - \$64,000  
Through the hard work of an administrative aspirant, Kim Kalat, 45 youngsters will launch the program at Middlesex Community College this Saturday. In partnership with Christine Boulanger, grant writer, we will have the Math Olympiad program for the next two years at no cost to the district. The enrichment programs are coming to fruition through the very hard work of our cohort panel.

**c. Communications from Student Representatives**

Miss Baker reported the following:

- She is excited for the middle schools, and the colors look awesome.
- Winter sports are coming to a close with a very successful season. Zach Maxwell received first place in states for wrestling for the second year in a row; our cheerleaders placed fifth in the state; the gymnastics team placed first in the state. Spring sports begin on March 24.
- A dodgeball tournament with Cheshire High School will be held on March 19 in Cheshire. Students and faculty will be playing, with all proceeds going to Relay for Life.
- Knights at the Round Table – Two student representatives from each sport will meet to talk about the Southington athletic program, what they appreciate, and what can be changed.

Miss Harris reported on the following:

- On March 18, CAPT testing begins; juniors and seniors can come in late or are encouraged to attend AP sessions.
- First Robotics competition is next weekend, Friday through Sunday. Forty schools will be attending, and admission is free.

- Theater news – *Aida* will be held March 28-29. SHS students are directing the Flanders Drama Club *Alice in Wonderland* to be held March 22 & 23.
  - Miss Harris encourages everyone to come to the Unified Arts show on Friday. It is an awesome show, and it will be a beautiful night.
- d. **Lawn Mowing Bid #2014-BID-20 for Southington High School, Joseph A. DePaolo Middle School, John F. Kennedy Middle School, Kelley, Plantsville, and South End Elementary Schools (formerly agenda item 9c.)**

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

**“ Move to approve Lawn Mowing Bid #2014-BID-20 for Southington High School, JAD, JFK, Kelley, Plantsville, and South End Schools, as presented.”**

Mr. Oshana asked to amend the motion to vote on each school separately. He stated in the past he tried to bring information on bids to the Board and was told facts should be vetted out to the Finance Committee. He stated that there were some scheduling issues, but neither of these bids came to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Oshana stated that he has been involved in loss control since 1984, the purpose of which is to minimize and eliminate risk to provide a safe environment. The fact that we never had language in the bid contract about legal issues involving vendors until recently concerns him; in addition, the fact that we continue to contract with vendors with lawsuits against them that involve our town shock him as a Board member. We say that safety is our main concern and, when we know facts and still continue to do things the way we do them, it concerns him. Sometimes cases in the loss control realm are settled with no admission of guilt and while there huge settlements that may be made, when a victim is affected, we have to take that into account when we review a bid that takes place in our town. What was the cause, and how can we prevent them from happening again? One way to do that is not to do business with people who have cost our town, residents and employees, sometimes seriously. In the past ten years there have been multiple slips and falls on ice causing injury to our people, with lost service time of teachers and staff out of work totaling 11.05 years. This does not include people who have lost their careers beyond their injury. Did we do any analysis as to slips and falls on the ice, what schools they were in, who the vendors were and what the injuries were, what caused them and what we can do to prevent them? Why do we choose not to award on the normal protocol of low bidder? If we are aware of a lawsuit against a vendor, what is our liability as a Board for not putting that information out there? Safety involves transparency, we need to let our residents, staff and students know who is on our property and if there are issues. It is critical to their safety and security. It is hard to believe we do not keep a list of vendors involved with lawsuits involved with our town. Issues are out there and not using that information known to us when we go out to look at who gets the bids in our town affects students, staff and residents, this includes after school activities. We say over and over that safety is our number one priority and it is our responsibility to vet out all vendors. When we vote on it, we determine who comes on our property. This is a major responsibility and should be taken very seriously. We need to review injuries incident by incident, and annually we should be reviewing injuries that happen on our property and determine what it is that we can do to prevent them from happening again. We have seen multiple injuries of the same sort and we need to look at the cause of those injuries, whom the vendors are, and if we should continue to do work with those people. It does not serve

our town, residents or staff well and gives the impression in his eyes that safety is not our number issue, and he knows that it is.

Finally, with much respect to our Board attorney, Mr. Oshana finds it disturbing that, as a Board of Education, we had to seek legal advice on how to proceed with this topic. If we're presenting the truth, why do we need legal counsel or fear any reprisals? The truth is the truth. Members of our community have the right to know what we do and why we do it. Transparency is critical. He stated that he is very proud to be on this Board, all members are very committed to the work that we do, his concern has to do with safety.

Mr. Goralski thanked his colleague for his remarks. He stated that this Board holds nothing higher than safety, just as the Superintendent spoke to earlier regarding safety and the research they do regarding dismissal and the use of parking lots. We get these ideas from parents, from Board members and, whenever we get them, we act on them. Safety is our number one priority. He stated that the administration has taken notes on Mr. Oshana's comments and, if there is an opportunity for better practice through research, it will become part of our regular practice. As a Board, we have an obligation that practice always improves. Regarding separate motions on items and bids, our typical practice is to do our motions as a whole. Mr. Oshana asked for a friendly amendment to the motion which can be considered by the Board members who made the motion. Regarding the Finance Committee meeting, they could not meet because of scheduling issues around Committee members' work habits and the snowy winter, and were unable to reschedule. Further, actions from the committee level are recommendations only, and only the Board can take action. Oftentimes things come to the Board as a whole. Bid language is a new item, and he personally invited the Board attorney to the meeting. Mr. Goralski stated that it is his obligation as Chairman to protect the Board and see that the Board acts in the best interest of the community. It is his obligation to protect each person in the Southington Public Schools. He asked the Board attorney to be present to be sure the bid document reflects language that is appropriate, and that each member act in the best interest of the Board, the community and themselves. Mr. Goralski thanked Mr. Mills for attending tonight.

Mr. Goralski continued that the safety issues Mr. Oshana speaks of are serious. Our number one priority is safety, and the administration is exemplary in their ability to be sure safety is number one. It is an important item when we hire people. It is an important item when we watch how people perform their duties. Why don't we go to low bidder? Our bid document states we must hire the 'most qualified' and we count on our experts on the administrative team to determine who are most qualified based on their service, performance and insurance. Lawsuits are followed and, based on legal advice from our Board attorney and our town attorney, we keep track of what we are required to, perhaps that may be broadened. We do annual reviews, perhaps we could come up with some ideas for those as a Board.

As the person who made the motion to approve the lawn mowing bid award, Mrs. Notar-Francesco declined to amend the motion and approve the awards separately, stating that it is their normal practice to do as she presented. Seconded by Mrs. Carmody.

Mr. Oshana asked for an explanation of how the particular vendors were selected. Mrs. DiNello stated that bids are reviewed at Central Office and recommendations are made based on price and the level of performance that we have received. Mr. Oshana asked if the award didn't go to the low bidder was it awarded to a vendor we didn't have complaints with or performance issues in the past. Mrs. DiNello did not state that; she stated that, based on the most recent evaluations and input from Central Office staff, there is a situation where they decided not to

give the award to a low bidder. Mr. Oshana asked if we are selecting vendors who have ever had issues with our town in their performance of work. Mrs. DiNello stated that in regards to lawn mowing she is not aware of any complaints. Mrs. Oshana asked if we were selecting a vendor who had ever had issues with our town, whatever it may be: lawn mowing, snow plowing, grass planting. Mrs. DiNello stated that regarding issues there are protocols for follow up at school buildings to find out how performance is going and at times vendors will be called back. Especially with the snowy winter, there are times when we ask vendors to return to the property to do additional plowing / sanding. They've had issues with many vendors depending upon the type of storm. And, there have been other storms with the same vendors where there were no issues. Mr. Goralski asked Mr. Cox if he had a general practice for procedures for following up that we get the services we need and that, when necessary, he has a procedure for remedying performance. He asked Mr. Cox if his office, in collaboration with other staff, gives recommendations to the Board based on which vendors do good work for us. Mr. Cox stated that the general practice is to follow up on performance with principals and custodians. Reference checks are done, and site-by-site visitations are done after storms. They are out all the time to check walkways, driveways and the like. The same applies to lawn mowing. Mr. Oshana asked if a vendor for lawn mowing was not selected due to poor performance? Mrs. DiNello stated no.

Mrs. Notar-Francesco requested that they move the question.

**ROLL CALL:** NO – Mr. Oshana. YES – Mrs. Carmody, Mrs. Clark, Mr. Derynoski, Mrs. Notar-Francesco, Mr. Goralski, Mrs. Lombardi, Mrs. Queen.

**Motion carried 7-1.**

**e. Lawn Mowing and Trimming DES/JVP Bid #2014-BID-21 (formerly agenda item 10c.)**

Mrs. Notar-Francesco deferred to administration on the next bid. Mrs. DiNello stated that Bid #2014-BID-21 Lawn Mowing and Trimming for Derynoski Elementary School and the John V. Pyne Center was inadvertently omitted in the original bid document. They are in year three of a three-year contract with the current vendor and had to issue an additional bid document. Board members have the bid results in front of them and administration is recommending to award to the low vendor.

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

**“Move to approve Lawn Mowing and Trimming at DES/JVP Bid #2014-BID-21, as presented.”**

Mr. Oshana asked to have his comments from the last motion placed again with this motion. Mr. Goralski made the same request for his comments to also be added here. Both comments are referenced above.

**ROLL CALL:** NO – Mr. Oshana. YES – Mrs. Carmody, Mrs. Clark, Mr. Derynoski, Mrs. Notar-Francesco, Mr. Goralski, Mrs. Lombardi, Mrs. Queen.

**Motion carried 7-1.**

## **8. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

### **a. Personnel Report**

**MOTION:** by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mr. Derynoski:

**“Move to approve the Personnel Report, as presented.”**

**Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

### **b. Policy & Personnel Meeting ~ February 24, 2014**

Mrs. Clark stated that the committee met on February 24, along with the Curriculum and Instruction Committee and invited Dr. Murdica to come and respond to questions both committees had on the Lead ABA Therapist position and ABA program. Dr. Murdica is in the process of gathering information from this meeting and will get back to us. Mrs. Clark requested an amendment to the minutes to add Mrs. Lombardi as being present at the meeting.

### **c. Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting ~ March 11, 2014**

Mrs. Carmody reported that the committee met on Tuesday and received an update from Mr. Halloran on changes in the World Language Department at the high school and the vacancies that exist. He stated that all classes are covered and postings will remain active until filled. Also discussed was an update to the Teacher Evaluation plan and recent changes coming from the State Department of Education. She was very proud of the teachers on the Teacher Evaluation Committee who attended the meeting and stated that they want to continue the evaluation process as it was started, and that they believe in excellence in our system. She commends them for their dedication. They agreed to select one, not two, SLOs which will not preclude end-of-year conversations, and will not use CMT or CAPT data during the 2013-14 school year. Smarter Balanced testing will begin in the spring. CMT and CAPT will not be administered in the areas of language arts and math. We need to continue to contact our legislators and urge them to leave the evaluation process up to the district.

Mrs. Queen echoed Mrs. Carmody's comments regarding teacher evaluation and commended the administration to establish the committee with participation of both teachers and administrators. Mrs. Queen stated that she is very proud of the work and fidelity of this committee and that teachers want to continue to work with the evaluation program put in place this year and not change it mid stream, even though that option is now available. She thanked everyone involved for working through a very difficult and challenging set of circumstances.

Mrs. Lombardi asked about the numerical scoring in each domain and if we have to follow that process and if we have the ability to reduce the number of observations. Mrs. Smith stated that the committee debated the pros and cons at length and unanimously agreed to the number of observations required, even as the state recommended flexibility now. For the sake of fairness and fidelity of the program, the committee opted at this time not to make that level of change, even as the requirements of administrators is extraordinary. The committee has made the decision to have flexibility with the option of SLOs, which could, upon mutual agreement, be changed from two to one. The committee will meet over the summer and may re-write our total



plan. This would require approval of the Board of Education and the Connecticut State Department of Education. The Southington plan complies with the intention of the law, to determine categories, but feels defining a teacher by a number is insane. They are not in favor of assigning a numerical score. There will be a narrative dialogue and an overall status as a teacher.

Mrs. Notar-Francesco questioned if the Board needed to vote on the change in the plan for this current school year. Mrs. Smith said that the Board does. Mr. Goralski stated that this can be put back on as an agenda item under Old Business to have an in-depth discussion. Mr. Derynoski stated that it is not tied to Curriculum and Instruction and, to go as in-depth as we did, it should have its own agenda item. Dr. Erardi stated that it was opted to be on the agenda once a month. Mr. Goralski stated that it would be an agenda item for the next meeting.

## **9. OLD BUSINESS**

### **a. Town Government Communications**

Mr. Goralski stated that the budget season is ongoing. Last evening there was a Board of Finance workshop. Communication between the Board of Education and Board of Finance is outstanding. The Finance Board asked in-depth questions and supports the work we are doing.

Important upcoming dates:

- March 27 – Board of Finance – Town Hall, 7:00 p.m. – Vote on budget recommendations
- April 28 – Town Council Public Hearing on budget - Derynoski Auditorium - 7:00 p.m.
- May 12 – Town Council votes on budget
- May 14 – Last official meeting of the budget season, Board of Finance sets mill rate

The Turf Advisory Committee met last week and discussed in great detail the fundraising piece. Mr. Goralski reached out to the high school rugby team regarding a dual fundraiser, as well as other leagues in town for both entities; more information will be forthcoming. He stated that the Turf Advisory will be reconfigured, becoming more in depth in future planning and expansion of shared services, as the field serves the entire community. On the new Committee, Mr. DeFeo will represent the Parks Board, Mrs. Miceli will represent the Town Council, Athletic Director Mr. Swallow will also serve, and Mr. LePrey will represent Parks and Rec. He asked that any Board members let him know if they are interested in joining as the representative from the Board of Education.

Mrs. Lombardi publicly acknowledged Mrs. DiNello for the enormous amount of work she has done on the Board's behalf this budget season.

### **b. Construction Update**

Mr. Cox stated that the move into new additions would be in one month. Front faces of the buildings will look dramatically different within the next four weeks. Mr. Goralski stated that, at the Building Committee meeting last week, a new phasing plan was approved, turning over more areas and beginning earlier in other areas. Newfield has done an amazing job so far; this plan is excellent.

- c. **Lawn Mowing Bid #2014-BID-20** (moved to agenda item 7d.)

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Approval of Sabbatical Leave**

**MOTION:** by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mr. Derynoski:

**“Move to approve the Sabbatical Leave of Absence for Franca Imme from August 25, 2014 to January 19, 2015.”**

**ROLL CALL:** YES – Mrs. Carmody, Mrs. Clark, Mr. Derynoski, Mrs. Notar-Francesco, Mrs. Lombardi, Mr. Oshana, Mrs. Queen, Mr. Goralski.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **South End Elementary School World Language Magnet**

Dr. Erardi stated that South End Elementary School would be enrolling three sections of Kindergarten in the 2014-2015 school year. Currently, 39 students have enrolled, with a placeholder of 18 students per class. This pilot will offer an opportunity to parents from around the district to fill another 15 seats, with the understanding they must provide transportation. If the Board is comfortable, Mrs. Karen Smith and Mr. Jim Quinn will organize a letter of opportunity to be sent to all parents of incoming Kindergarten students, with a lottery system in place depending on the response. These students will be approved to attend South End through fifth grade. The salary cost will be absorbed through existing staff at the high school. The recommendation is to start in Grades K and 1, the following year Grades K, 1 and 2, and eventually adding an additional grade each year. Dr. Erardi thanked Mrs. Tina Riccio, Mr. Jim Quinn, and Mrs. Karen Smith for their extraordinary work, and gave a strong endorsement from administration to move forward.

Tina Riccio and Jim Quinn gave a presentation on incorporating a pilot program to introduce Spanish to students in Grades K and 1 at South End School.

**MOTION:** by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mrs. Clark:

**“Move to approve World Language Pilot Program at South End Elementary School, as presented.”**

Mr. Derynoski stated that he is favor of the pilot, and the presentation was great. However, he has not seen an outline of the curriculum. Mrs. Smith stated that they are asking the Board to endorse the concept of the pilot and then a curriculum will be created and brought back to the Board.

Mrs. Clark stated that she loves the idea and is excited about giving students an opportunity to learn another language. As a nursery school teacher, she reads many books to her students in Spanish and thinks that this is fabulous.

Mr. Oshana stated that it is much easier to learn a second language at a young age and feels that it is so important for students to have once they get in the working world.

Mrs. Lombardi thanked Mrs. Riccio for her vision and her passion. She gives her full support and feels that this has a much bigger potential if we attract students from contiguous areas with funding from the outside as a magnet school, and not wait for this pilot to end, but do it in concert while the pilot is going on. We should use this as a funding avenue in our budget.

Mrs. Queen stated that she endorses the program 100%, and that students need a global education to be bilingual speakers. She sees this as a good starting point, not only as a magnet school at South End, but sees it taking on a life of its own with demand increasing across the district.

Mrs. Notar-Francesco stated Dr. Erardi spoke to staff costs being neutral, but what about transportation costs? Dr. Erardi stated that this is contingent on the parent responsibility for transportation as so many parents already drive their children to school. Mrs. Notar-Francesco thanked them and encouraged them to fill those seats with children.

Mr. Goralski asked why South End School was chosen. Dr. Erardi explained that, when the educational specifications were made for South End, it was projected to have an enrollment of 300 students. With spot redistricting, the present enrollment is 235 students. The school has the space, and it will be an opportunity to meet the projected enrollment. Mr. Goralski stated that World Language is an area of greatest need for teachers, as science was years ago. Does Mrs. Riccio see this pilot as a way of attracting teachers to Southington? Mrs. Riccio absolutely thinks so. In fact, three or four former students are trying their best to graduate in May to apply for our openings. Mr. Goralski thanked Mr. Quinn and Mrs. Riccio for being a part of this, and stated that he strongly endorses it.

**ROLL CALL:** YES – Mrs. Carmody, Mrs. Clark, Mr. Derynoski, Mrs. Notar-Francesco, Mr. Goralski, Mrs. Lombardi, Mr. Oshana, Mrs. Queen.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

c. **Lawn Mowing Trimming DES/JVP Bid #2014-BID-21** (moved to agenda item 7e.)

d. **Student Expulsion 2013-2014-05**

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

**“Move to expel student 2013-2014-05, as stipulated by the Superintendent of Schools.”**

**Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.**

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

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

**“Move to adjourn.”**

**Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Patricia Smolinski*  
Recording Secretary