

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. These minutes are considered a draft until approved at the following regular Board of Education meeting.

SOUTHINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT

REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 28, 2016 (Revised 2-25-16)

The regular meeting of the Southington Board of Education was held on Thursday, January 28, 2016 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 6:33 p.m.

Present from the Board: Mr. Robert Brown, Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mrs. Juanita Champagne, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mr. David Derynoski, Mrs. Terry Lombardi, Mrs. Patricia Queen and Mr. Zaya Oshana.

Present from Administration: Mr. Timothy Connellan, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Steven Madancy, Assistant Superintendent; and Mrs. Sherri DiNello, Director of Business and Finance.

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

"Move to go into Executive Session, excluding the public and the press, for the purpose of discussing a Student Expulsion, Paraprofessional Negotiations, Contractual matter, and Personnel, and upon conclusion reconvene to public session."

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS STUDENT EXPULSION, PARAPROFESSIONAL NEGOTIATIONS, CONTRACTUAL MATTER AND PERSONNEL

Mr. Goralski declared Executive Session ended at 7:42 p.m. and the Board returned to public session.

3. RECONVENE MEETING ~ REGULAR SESSION

The regular session was reconvened at 7:51 p.m. by Mr. Goralski, Chairperson. Board members present were: Mr. Robert Brown, Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mrs. Juanita Champagne, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mr. David Derynoski, Mrs. Terry Lombardi, Mr. Zaya Oshana and Mrs. Patricia Queen.

Present from the administration were: Mr. Timothy Connellan, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Steven Madancy, Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. Sherri DiNello, Director of Business and Finance; Mr. Peter Romano, Director of Operations; and Ms. Margaret Walsh, Director of Pupil Services.

Student Representatives present were Mr. Christopher Iverson and Miss Samantha Martins.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. Goralski called for a moment of silence in memory of Mrs. Shirley DiBiaso who recently passed away. She retired in 1989 as the secretary at Kelley Elementary School (formerly West Ridge School) after 27 years of service to the Southington Public Schools.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES ~ January 14, 2016

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

“Move to approve the regular Board of Education minutes of January 14, 2016, as submitted.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Communications from Audience

There was no audience communication.

b. Communication from Board Members

The Board members reported on the following:

- Mr. Brown thanked Mr. Connellan for the CEA Teacher Evaluation Plan. He encouraged the Board members to read it. He thought it was the direction that the Board wants to go.
- Mr. Goralski announced that CABE will hold a workshop “A Day on the Hill” on March 2, 2016 at the Bushnell. He had a flyer for any Board member who would like to attend.
- Mr. Goralski read a statement from Mr. Myers, Executive Director of the Southington YMCA, thanking the entire school system for continued support of the Polar Plunge, which raised over \$36,000 for children to attend the YMCA Camp Sloper. Also, on Wednesday, February 3, 2016, the Southington YMCA 37th Annual Meeting will be held at the Aqua Turf Club and some of the award recipients have affiliation to the school system (Terry Lombardi, Social Responsibility; Steve Nyerick, Person of the Year; Brian Durocher, Catherine Myers, and Natiya Washer, Youth Leadership; and the Giving Back Girls, Social Responsibility).

c. Communication from Administration

Mr. Connellan requested a moment of silence in memory of the tragic Challenger disaster 31 years ago on January 28th with a crew that included teacher Christa McAuliffe on board.

Administration reported on the following:

1. Professional Development: Mr. Madancy explained that they were gearing up for professional development on February 16. He updated the Board on the professional development this past month that included:
 - Eight teachers attending the Atomic Math Conference.
 - Training with all the Champions relative to SchoolNet on data analysis and creation of assessments.
 - Training with administrators relative to SchoolNet on how to run reports using multiple data points on school level performance across a grade level.
2. Scientific Research Based Intervention (SRBI): Mr. Madancy explained how administrators can go into the SchoolNet portal to run a report using Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI), which the Board purchased, and the DRA, which teachers administer, to see students who are at risk or below grade level at reading and need to be seen by the specialists.
3. District Data Team (DDT): There will be a meeting on Friday, January 29 to fully launch the DDT with the goal to finalize the definition of the indicators on how student progress will be monitored.
4. SchoolNet: Mr. Madancy addressed this above.
5. World Language Expansion: Mr. Madancy met with interested parties regarding exploring expanding World Language across the district. More information, including community input, will come before the Board in the future.

d. Communications from Student Representatives

Mr. Iverson reported on the following:

- The Oratorical Contest recently was held at the high school. Two Southington High School students tied for second place and two tied for third place.
- The Board of Education and staff had the most representatives at the Polar Plunge.
- The 3rd Art Showcase will be held at Paul Gregory's Restaurant on February 4, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. He noted that student art is also displayed at other local businesses throughout Southington.
- Advance Placement (AP) Night will be held on February 2 in the high school cafeteria.

Miss Martins reported on the following:

- Mid-term exams have ended.
- The second semester started on Monday, January 25, 2016 with schedules switched around for students.
- Navigating the College Process event will be held on February 11, 2016 for juniors from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

- There will be a Valentine's Day Dance for freshmen and sophomores.

Mrs. Carmody noted that she, Mr. Connellan, and Mr. Stranieri [Principal of Southington High School] were the judges of the Oratorical Contest and they were very impressed with the students.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Curriculum and Instruction Committee Meeting ~ January 19, 2016

Mrs. Carmody reported that the committee discussed a proposed new course named "AP Computer Science Principles" that was presented by Southington High School teachers Mr. Lasbury and Mr. Adams. The course will be taught within the math department. The committee recommends approval of the course. The committee also reviewed the Homework Policy and the amount of homework being assigned. A survey will be sent to parents for feedback. Mrs. Carmody noted that some Board members are visiting schools to interview students regarding homework.

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

"Move to add item 9.c 'Student Expulsion 2015-2016-05' to the agenda."

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote

b. Finance Committee Meeting ~ January 25, 2016

1. Transfer of Funds

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

"Move to approve the Transfer of Funds, as submitted."

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

2. Bid Award ~ Derynoski Fire Alarm – 2016-BID-21

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

"Move to award the Derynoski Fire Alarm bid #2016-BID-21 to Integrated Systems, as recommended by the Finance Committee."

Mrs. Queen asked how long it would take to install the fire alarm once it is approved. Mr. Romano stated that it would be done the week of April vacation.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

3. Athletic Training Contract

Mrs. Clark reported that the recommendation from administration was to extend the three-year contract with Select Physical Therapy and that the Athletic Director, Greg

Ferry, and the committee acknowledged Select's great work. However, committee members came to a consensus that in order to perform their due diligence a Request for Proposal (RFP) should be done to give other businesses the opportunity to submit a proposal. The committee acknowledged that that it would not be cost alone but about having an open process.

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

"Move to bring a Request for Proposal (RFP) before the entire Board."

Mr. Goralski pointed out that, in the past, contracts were extended when it was financially in the best interest of the district. He was very comfortable with the administration's recommendation because he knew that Select Physical Therapy was doing a great job for the school system. Mr. Goralski does not support the recommendation to do a RFP. Mrs. Queen added that Select Physical Therapy has served Southington students extremely well and spoke highly of the quality of their service. Mrs. Lombardi agreed with Mrs. Queen regarding Select's service; however, she stated that the Finance Committee wanted an open process and transparency because it had been five years since it had gone out to bid. She stressed that it was not only cost that decisions are made but quality, service, and experience. Mr. Oshana agreed that Select Physical Therapy provided wonderful service but it did not matter who the vendor was, it was a matter of the process and being transparent. He thought that financially, and economically, it was the right thing to do to look at other vendors and if it comes down to service and quality, then that was what the Board needed to look at. Mrs. Queen believed that if service and quality was already established and the price was reasonable along with an established relationship with a vendor then she did not know why they would go through the RFP process; especially, when they have a history of extending that same courtesy and contract extension with other vendors in different types of industries. Mrs. Carmody agreed with Mrs. Queen and felt that the Board needed to put their trust in administration's recommendation. Mrs. Clark pointed out that they have a good relationship with Select Physical Therapy and she was of the mindset that if something was working well, and the past practice has been to continue relationships with vendors when their service was excellent, then she would like to continue with a vendor who has not had any complaints.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mr. Derynoski, Mrs. Lombardi, Mrs. Champagne, Mr. Oshana
NO – Mrs. Carmody, Mrs. Clark, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Queen, Mr. Goralski. **Failed Motion with four in favor and five opposed.**

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

"Move to waive the bid process."

Mr. Goralski explained that the motion to waive the bid process allows the Board to continue with the current vendor. To waive the bid process requires a two-thirds vote of the Board.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mrs. Carmody, Mrs. Clark, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Queen, Mr. Goralski. NO – Mr. Derynoski, Mrs. Lombardi, Mrs. Champagne, Mr. Oshana. **Motion failed with five in favor and four opposed.**

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

“Move to table.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Mr. Goralski explained that this item needed to go back to the Finance Committee. Mrs. DiNello stated that the Athletic Trainer Contract expires on June 30, 2016.

Mrs. Clark reported that the Finance Committee discussed the Self Insurance Report, Financial update, Southington High School Atrium bid and tentative future Finance Committee meetings.

8. OLD BUSINESS

a. Town Government Communications

Mr. Goralski reminded everyone of the budget calendar dates.

- February 10, 2016, 6:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers, Board of Finance meeting with the Board of Education presenting their budget.
- March 7, 2016, Public Hearing by the Board of Finance at DePaolo Middle School at 7:00 p.m.
- March 30, 2016, 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall, Board of Finance Meeting to adopt the budget.
- April 25, 2016, 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Center, Town Council budget **public hearing**.
- May 9, 2016, 7:00 pm. at the Municipal Center, Town Council approval of all budgets.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Review / Adoption of 2016-2017 Board of Education Budget

Mr. Connellan thanked the Board members, administrative leadership team, central office staff and Mrs. DiNello for their input on the Superintendent’s 2016-2017 Budget. Mrs. DiNello provided the Board members with Adjustments to the Superintendent’s Budget 2016-2017 (*Attachment #1*). After Workshop #2, the revised Superintendent’s budget was an increase of 3.65%. Since that workshop, Mrs. DiNello met with energy consultant, Titan, and reductions were made in the electricity and gas accounts, bringing the revised budget amount to \$92,901,729 for a 3.61% increase. Mrs. DiNello also provided the Board with a Summary of Grant Revenues (*Attachment #2*) as requested by Mr. Goralski. She explained the Educational Cost Sharing Grant as well as the grant revenues directed to the town and grant revenues provided to the Board of Education. The revised Grant Revenues Summary will replace page 77 in the Superintendent’s budget once approved by the Board of Education.

Mrs. DiNello reported that the follow-up questions and answers document from Workshop #2 was forwarded to the Board members earlier in the week.

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

“Move to adopt the Superintendent’s 2016-2017 Operating Budget for \$92, 901,729 which represents a 3.61% increase.”

All the Board members praised the transparent budget presented and thanked the administrative team and staff for all their efforts. Board members noted that this budget represents significant cuts already and that it was not a budget of wants but was a budget of needs and represented incremental improvement.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mr. Brown, Mrs. Carmody, Mrs. Clark, Mr. Derynoski, Mrs. Lombardi, Mrs. Champagne, Mr. Oshana, Mrs. Queen, Mr. Goralski. **Motioned carried unanimously.**

b. AP Computer Science ~ Program Approval

MOTION: by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mr. Brown:

“Move to approve the proposed AP Computer Science Principles Course, as recommended by the Curriculum and Instruction Committee.”

Mrs. Queen thought that it was wonderful that Southington was on the front edge of this because this year was the first year that the College Board was offering this class. The school district was fortunate to have a staff member who was ready to teach this course and administration that was receptive to this new course. Mrs. Lombardi noted that the Wall Street Journal stated that only 50% of the high school’s across the nation offer this course. Companies are employing people from other countries because the United States is lacking in Computer Science.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

c. Student Expulsion – 2015-2016-05

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

“Move to expel Student 2015-2016-05 as stipulated by the Superintendent of Schools.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Mr. Oshana, seconded by Mrs. Queen:

“Move to adjourn.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Blanchard

Recording Secretary

Adjustments to the Superintendent's Budget 2016-17

ATTACHMENT #1

<u>Acct #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
	Superintendent's Budget	\$ 92,782,522	3.47%
	Opening Adjustments:		
20310	Health Insurance-shortfall revenue	\$ 15,564	
20310	Health Insurance- Counseling grant ends	\$ 80,000	
33800	Magnet School Tuitions-add'l invoices	\$ 53,688	
33100	Transportation-administer SAT	\$ 4,325	
	Opening Adjustments subtotal:	<u>\$ 153,577</u>	0.17%
	Revised Superintendent's Budget	<u>\$ 92,936,099</u>	3.65%
	Additional Adjustments		
32120	Electricity	\$ (25,700)	
41650	Gas	\$ (8,670)	
	Additional Adjustments subtotal	<u>\$ (34,370)</u>	-0.04%
	Revised Budget prior to 1/28 BOE meeting	\$ 92,901,729	3.61%

SUMMARY OF GRANT REVENUES

ATTACHMENT #2

GRANT REVENUES DIRECTED TO TOWN

	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	Estimated 2015-2016	Estimated 2016-2017
Educational Cost Sharing	\$20,283,476	\$20,299,614	\$20,361,334	\$20,537,047	\$20,568,713
Transportation-Public	\$147,092	\$160,743	\$162,129	\$152,300	\$152,300
Transportation-Non-Public	\$37,649	\$37,665	\$46,615	\$39,169	\$39,088
Health Services Grant	\$55,924	\$60,942	\$60,316	\$56,617	\$56,498

GRANT REVENUES PROVIDED TO BOARD OF EDUCATION

	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	Estimated 2015-2016	Estimated 2016-2017
Adult Education	\$11,553	\$14,305	\$13,195	\$11,098	\$11,098
Consolidated Grant (ESEA)					
Elementary and Secondary Education Act					
Title I: Improving Basic Programs (Remediation)	\$235,480	\$361,834	\$428,353	\$445,561	\$445,561
Title II Part A: Improving Teacher Quality	\$113,678	\$109,274	\$109,736	\$110,079	\$110,079
Title III: English Language Acquisition	\$17,690	\$17,580	\$17,158	\$15,242	\$15,242
IDEA Entitlement Grant: Part B Section 611	\$1,380,700	\$1,308,254	\$1,357,077	\$1,356,931	\$1,356,931
IDEA Entitlement Grant: Part B Section 619	\$47,911	\$45,480	\$45,460	\$45,460	\$45,460
Special Education Excess Cost Grant	\$2,125,974	\$2,426,614	\$2,198,153	\$1,800,000	\$1,775,263
Perkins	\$45,714	\$43,630	\$46,864	\$49,022	\$49,022
Elementary School Counseling Grant	\$0	\$389,789	\$398,416	\$385,788	\$385,788
Open Choice	\$114,000	\$114,000	\$238,324	\$238,000	\$238,000
Open Choice: Early Beginnings Program	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$22,500	\$38,000	\$38,000
Sheff Settlement: Open Ch. Acad. & Soc. Support	\$25,025	\$27,900	\$42,725	\$55,100	\$55,100
Excess Cost Student Supplement Grant	\$128,809	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
High Quality Schools & Common Core Implem.	\$0	\$237,923	\$0	\$0	\$0

**The State Department of Education has not calculated the funding for the 2015-2016 excess cost grant the amounts included are based on our calculations less the anticipated cap from SDE.