

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 (Special) MEETING

OCTOBER 6, 2016

The regular (special) meeting of the Southington Board of Education was held on Thursday, October 6, 2016 at 7:00 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

Mrs. Terri Carmody, Vice Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Board members present: Mr. Robert Brown, Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mrs. Juanita Champagne, Mrs. Colleen Clark (*arrived 6:33 p.m.*), Mr. David Derynoski, Mrs. Terry Lombardi, Mr. Zaya Oshana, and Mrs. Patricia Queen.

Board member absent: Mr. Brian Goralski, Chairman.

Administration present: 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 updates on SAA Negotiations, and upon conclusion reconvene to public session."

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS UPDATES ON SAA NEGOTIATIONS

Mrs. Carmody declared Executive Session ended at 7:00 p.m.

3. RECONVENE MEETING ~ REGULAR SESSION

The regular session was reconvened at 7:04 p.m. by Mr. Goralski, Chairperson.

Board members present: 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.

Administration present: 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 Mrs. Margaret Walsh, Director of Pupil Services.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The student representatives led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES ~ September 22, 2016

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

“Move to approve the regular Board of Education minutes of September 22, 2016, as submitted.”

Motion carried by voice vote with Mrs. Queen abstaining.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Communications from Audience

There was no communication from the audience.

b. Communication from Board Members

Board members discussed the following:

- The Wall of Honor ceremony is October 24, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at Southington High School.
- In celebration of literacy, all grades at South End School are reading the book Charlotte’s Web and the community is invited to read with them.
- The Stellar Program at Lincoln College, which is a special education program with seven students participating, held an open house at the college on September 28, 2016.
- The Technology Advisory Board will be sending out a notice of their next meeting.
- For the Wall of Honor next year, the committee will award a diploma to all the people who left school early to serve in Vietnam, did not graduate, and were killed in action.

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

“Move to move Agenda Item 9.b ‘2015-2016 School Resource Officer Annual Report’ to Agenda Item 6.e.’

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Mr. Goralski explained why the regular Board of Education agenda indicated it was called a “Special” meeting because the practice of the Board was to meet at 7:30 p.m. and with no celebrations it was agreed upon to meet at 7:00 p.m. instead. He noted that it was a public meeting and the time change would cause confusion. All the other town board’s meet at 7:00

p.m.; therefore, going forward and for public awareness, Mr. Goralski announced that the Board of Education meetings will start at 7:00 p.m. For the meeting's that have Celebrations of Excellence, it will start at 7:00 p.m. with the Board meeting immediately following (no start time will be listed). Mr. Goralski will be sending out a press release. The Board discussed the time for Executive Session.

c. Communication from Administration

Administration reported on the following:

1. Food Service Grant: Mrs. DiNello reported that the Food Service Program was the recipient of the New England Dairy and Food Council grant and will receive \$4,541 that will fund a new blender to make Smoothies and dressings in the Food Service Program at the high school, a refrigerator and other equipment.
2. Lindsey Vonn at SHS: Mr. Connellan reported that the CIAC sponsored the event to have Lindsey Vonn, Olympic Alpine Skier, at Southington High School. It was attended by many Ski Clubs across the state. Lindsey Vonn was promoting her new book Strong is the New Beautiful, which some Board members wanted added to the Southington High School Library.
3. EdLeader 21 Professional Learning Experience: Mr. Connellan reported that he and Mr. Madancy, along with some other staff members, attended the conference last week, which was about 21st Century skills and how to incorporate creativity, collaboration, critical thinking and communication (the 4C's) into all content areas.

Mr. Connellan announced that through the STEPS Program and Kelly Leppard, Youth Prevention Coordinator, the high school was the recipient of eight new breathalyzers'.

d. Communications from Student Representatives:

Miss Samantha Steeves reported on the following:

- New DECA officers were inducted, including Miss Steeves, last Tuesday and the Slushies were debuted at that time.
- The "Southington Blue Day" honoring police officers was held on Friday, September 30, 2016. STEPS, culinary students, Best Buddies, Band and Key Club helped by making signs, cookies and banners and everyone wore blue to celebrate.
- All the sport teams are doing great.

Miss Martins reported on the following:

- The partnership of sports teams is off to a great start. The Girls Swim Team was paired up with the Baseball Team, who has shown support at swim meets. It draws attention to the sports teams not normally recognized.

Mr. Martin reported on the following:

- There is no school on Monday, October 10, 2016, Columbus Day.
- The Drug Free Rally will be held October 13, 2016.
- The Welcome Dance will be held on Friday, October 14, 2016.
- The PSATs will be held on Wednesday, October 19, 2016.

- Soup Night at Southington High School is on October 19, sponsored by the local restaurants to benefit Bread for Life.
 - Multi-Racial Student Union will be holding an event “Express Yourself” on October 20, 2016. Mr. Martin will report back to the Board regarding this event.
 - Music of the Knight will be held on October 22, 2016 and is the Marching Band’s home competition.
- e. **2015-2016 School Resource Officer Annual Report (formerly Agenda Item 9.b)**

The current School Resource Officer, Kevin Naranjo, spoke to the 2015-2016 School Resource Officer Annual Report prepared by Officer Chad Butler who was the previous School Resource Officer (SRO). Officer Naranjo introduced himself and his background as a police officer. He is bilingual and fluent in Spanish. He is a Southington High School graduate and has children who are of high school age. Officer Naranjo will be serving at the high school for four years instead of the two years that previous SRO’s served. Officer Naranjo and Mr. Brian Stranieri, Principal of Southington High School, answered questions from the Board members.

Mr. Stranieri announced that he had some Lindsey Vonn books and that there were a dozen in the high school library. The Breathalyzers will be used to test 100% of the students who enter school dances. A parent update will be sent out.

7. SUPERINTENDENT’S REORT

a. Personnel Report

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

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

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Finance Committee Meeting ~ September 28, 2016

Mrs. Clark reported that the committee discussed Transfer of Funds, the Self Insurance Report, Snow Removal Bid Awards, Online payment options, contract listing, copier leases, security bid waiver and a debit card.

1. Transfer of Funds:

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

“Move to approve the Transfer of Funds, as submitted.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

2. Snow Removal Services Award 2017-Bid-16:

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

“Move to award Bid #2017-BID-16, Snow Removal & Sanding for Southington High School, Kennedy Middle School, Hatton, Kelley, Plantsville and South End elementary schools, as recommended by the Finance Committee.”

Mr. Oshana shared his concern of doing business with any vendors who have lawsuits against them and was happy that there were no lawsuits against any of the Snow Removal & Sanding vendors awarded at these schools.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

9. OLD BUSINESS

a. Town Government Communications

Mr. Romano was questioned about the solar panels being installed on the Hatton School roof and in the Hatton School field. Mr. Romano stated that he had a structural concern about putting the solar panels on the roof, which was addressed by Greenskies and a Structural Engineer who agreed that the roof would support the panels. Mr. Romano addressed the life cycle of the roof. He discussed the six steps that the town and Greenskies will be taking regarding the integrity of the roof. He noted that at the end of the roof warranty period, the Board of Education will include the cost to replace the roof in their Capital Plan to the town. The town has agreed to all the stipulations. The warranty on the portion of Hatton School roof, where they are putting the panels, expires in April 2024.

Mr. Goralski emphasized that, by state statutory requirement, the Board of Education are the stewards of the school buildings and has the final say about what happens to these buildings. They are owned by the town but the Board of Education has the final say to what happens to them by state statute.

Mr. Romano reported that the solar programs occurred at both middle schools over the summer months. They are completed and the town is inspecting. DePaolo Middle School has been inspected and approved and needs to go through the commissioning process and next week Kennedy Middle School is being inspected.

Mrs. Queen reported that the Facility Advisory Committee met during the week. During mid-summer the ProGrass people performed the annual deep cleaning of the turf field at the high school and the warranty has been extended another year. The ProGrass people emphasized that the turf field should never be plowed. The track has cracks on the outer edges; it is still under warranty and Dalton Track will be contacted to look at the problem. The committee discussed the brick fundraising program, the signage program and financial status at the close of the last fiscal year.

b. 2015-2016 School Resource Officer Annual Report (Moved to Agenda Item 6.e.)

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Proposed 2016-2017 Superintendent's Goals ~ Second Reading

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

“Move that the Board approves the Superintendent's Goals for 2016-2017, as presented.”

The Board discussed the Superintendent's fiscal budget goal.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

b. Draft Policy #4112.5, Personnel ~ Security Check/Fingerprinting ~ Second Reading

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

“Move to table Draft Policy #4112.5, Personnel ~ Security Check/Fingerprinting and return it to committee for further review and discussion.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

c. Draft Policy #4118.2, Personnel ~ Psychotropic Drug Use ~ Second Reading

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

“Move to approve Draft Policy #4118.2, Personnel ~ Psychotropic Drug Use, as recommended by the Policy and Personnel Committee.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

d. Draft Policy #4212.42, Personnel ~ Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus Drivers ~ Second Reading

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

“Move to approve Draft Policy #4212.42, Personnel ~ Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus Drivers, as recommended by the Policy and Personnel Committee.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

e. Obsolete Textbooks

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

“Move that the Board approves the disposal of outdated textbooks presented by the school administration.”

Mr. Madancy explained that the administration is contacting Follett Repurchasing Services to see what books they would want to purchase back and that administration is working

with a Parish in Louisiana that is in need of textbooks. Two teachers at DePaolo Middle School are coordinating that delivery.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

“Move to adjourn.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Blanchard

Recording Secretary