

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

OCTOBER 20, 2016

The regular meeting of the Southington Board of Education was held on Thursday, October 20, 2016 at 7:00 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 7:04 p.m.

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 and Ms. Margaret Walsh, Director of Pupil Services.

Student representatives present were Samantha Steeves and Joseph Martin.

2. CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE ~ RETIREES OF THE SOUTHINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

In Celebration of Excellence, the Board of Education and administration recognized the following retirees of the Southington Board of Education:

Employee	Position / Facility	Years of Service
Karen Aduskevich	Grade 5 Teacher / Thalberg	42
Jacqueline Belanger	Paraeducator /JAD	22
Letizzia Benoit	Crossing Guard / District	18
Teresa Burger	Speech Pathologist / District	35
Stephen Carpenter	Technology Education Teacher / SHS	35
Mary Ann Chiappetta	School Nurse / JFK	22
Nancy Chiero	Special Education Teacher / SHS	22
Diane Colite	Grade 4 Teacher / Plantsville	27
John Brian Durbin	Social Studies Teacher / SHS	11
Lisa Epperson	Paraeducator / Kelley, SHS	20
Dorothy Fontana	Family & Consumer Science Teacher and Department Head / SHS	40

Linda Gatling	Special Education Teacher / Plantsville	31
Lynn Germano	Paraeducator / Derynoski	9
Denise Gravel-Silva	Secretary / Thalberg	27
Suzanne Hodges	Science Dept. Head / SHS	31
Judith Holley	Secretary / SHS	32
Judith Housman	Paraeducator / SHS	8
Bethany Ingriselli	Guidance Counselor / SHS	33
Barbara Jarvis	Math Teacher / SHS	38
Maureen Kristopik	Paraeducator / SHS	32
Sandra Kujawski	Special Education Coordinator / District	6
Sharon Leland	Paraeducator / Derynoski	8
Linda Long	Paraeducator / DePaolo	16
Alicia Mlynick	Paraeducator / SHS	30
Anna Mongillo	Social Studies Teacher / DePaolo	38
Denise Pedrotty	Grade 4 Teacher / Hatton	39
Rose Mary Pelletier	Paraeducator / Hatton	12
Alisa Piech	Special Education Teacher / Hatton	36
Nancy Powers-Salamon	Math Teacher / Kennedy	24
Cheryl Sasek	Grade 4 Teacher / Strong	38
John Tattersall	Industrial Arts Teacher / Kennedy	37
Gary Thompson	Asst. Head Custodian / SHS	11
Andrea Triano-Lachapelle	Grade 2 Teacher / Thalberg	40
Carol Volpe	Secretary / SHS	31
Vickie Williamson	Paraeducator / Thalberg	11

The celebration concluded at 7:25 p.m. at which time Mr. Goralski called for a recess.

3. RECONVENE MEETING ~ REGULAR SESSION

The regular session was reconvened at 7:41 p.m. by Mr. Goralski, Chairperson.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The student representatives led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Goralski requested a moment of silence in memory of the following people who recently passed away:

- Elizabeth Fordini, School Nurse at Derynoski Elementary School for 3 years until June, 2016.
- Vivian Petz, Home Economics / Life Skills teacher at J. F. Kennedy Middle School for 27 years until her retirement.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES ~ October 6, 2016

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

“Move to approve the Special Board of Education minutes of October 6, 2016, as submitted.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Communications from Audience

There was no communication from the audience.

b. Communication from Board Members

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

“Move to move Agenda Item 9.g ‘Out of State Field Trip Approvals’ to Agenda Item 6.e.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Board members discussed the following:

- Derynoski School PTO members are formalizing plans to put a pavilion in the playground area and have been in touch with Mr. Romano, Director of Operations.
- Wall of Honor Ceremony is Monday, October 24, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at Southington High School. There are more military members who were killed in the Vietnam War who will be honored in future years.
- Board of Education meetings will start at 7:00 p.m., the same time as other Southington Town Boards. A press release will be sent out Friday, October 21, 2016.

c. Communication from Administration

Administration reported on the following:

1. United Way Campaign: Mr. Connellan announced that the school that has the highest percentage of participation will be the recipients of a pancake breakfast prepared by Mr. Madancy and Mr. Connellan.
2. STEPS Survey Results: Mr. Connellan reported that on Tuesday, October 18th he attended a STEPS meeting where the survey results were presented and discussed. Mrs. Queen distributed a handout (*Attachment #1*) of the STEPS Survey results reflecting years one through seven.
3. Derynoski School Grant from American Legion Auxiliary: Derynoski School received a \$1,000 grant from the American Legion Auxiliary for literacy.
4. Veteran’s Committee: Mr. Connellan attended a meeting on October 10, 2016 and upcoming events were discussed. Mr. Greg Ferry, Athletic Director, has implemented a policy where Veterans can attend the Southington Public School athletic events for free. This was shared at the conference level and other school districts plan to adopt that policy as well. Mrs. Queen is selling \$5.00 tickets for the November 10th event where the Southington High School Band will perform a concert in the auditorium with the proceeds going to Veterans Landing, which is a low income assisted living facility for veterans.

d. Communications from Student Representatives:

Miss Samantha Steeves reported on the following:

- Financial Aid Night was held on Tuesday, October 18 with over 500 students and parents attending which was orchestrated by Mrs. Robertson.
- The Drug Free Rally was held last week with young children attending who are the impressionable ages that they are trying to reach.
- The “Pink” games for Breast Cancer Awareness are currently taking place.
- Soup Night was held on Wednesday, October 19, 2016, which was the biggest turnout that Bread for Life, who benefits from this event, has ever seen.
- The Multiracial Student Union’s goal is to bring all the clubs together to be more sensitive and respectful to different groups of people. They are holding an “Open Microphone Night” event on October 20, 2016, which is open to the community, to celebrate diversity.

Mr. Martin reported on the following:

- The PSATs were held on October 19, 2016 for sophomores and juniors.
- The Cheerleaders will be hosting a fundraiser at Appleby’s in Plainville on Sunday, October 23, 2016.
- The Marching Band “Music of the Knight” competition is Saturday, October 22, 2016 at Southington High School starting at 2:00 p.m.
- On Thursday, October 27, the Halloween Party will be held at Southington High School.
- On Thursday, October 27, the high school symphonic band is holding a concert with the high school orchestra.

e. Out of State Field Trip Approvals (*formerly Agenda Item 9.g*)

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

“Move that the Board of Education approves the field trip requests for the Southington High School Wrestling Team to Massachusetts and New Hampshire, as presented by the administration.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Curriculum and Instruction Committee Meeting ~ October 4, 2016

Mrs. Carmody reported that the committee reviewed Policy #6140, Curriculum, and discussed revisions. They also discussed World Language Expansion K-12 and various phasing-in and delivery models that will be brought to the full Board in the future. The committee discussed the Mastery-based Learning Pilot that has recently expanded into year two. The results of the Mastery-based Learning Pilot parent and student surveys were shared with the committee. Mrs. Lombardi pointed out that CREC has a Mastery-based Learning Pilot at a middle school that fully integrates technology. Mr. Goralski asked Mrs. Lombardi to contact Mr. Madancy with the name of that school so he can look into it.

b. Policy and Personnel Committee Meeting ~ October 12, 2016

Mrs. Queen reported that the committee reviewed four job descriptions that will come before the Board tonight for adoption. The committee discussed the draft Policy #4112.5, Security Check/Fingerprinting and due to the recently passed Public Act 16-17 regarding background checks for new employees, the committee will continue to review and discuss this policy.

8. OLD BUSINESS

a. Town Government Communications

Mr. Goralski reported that he spoke to Mr. Leary regarding the budget process and on either November 2 or November 3 the Board of Education will meet with the Board of Finance, depending on the date that works out best for everyone to attend.

b. Construction Update

There was no discussion on this agenda item.

c. Formation of a Committee to address the Title IX Review by the State Department of Education

Mr. Connellan explained that the State Department of Education completed a review of Southington High School in the spring of 2016 and there were a number of areas that were in need of resolution from a Title IX, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) perspective. The scope of some of the issues imply that there will be a significant financial investment and it would be necessary to work with town elected Boards and officials to arrive at solutions that will be effective for Southington. Mr. Connellan explained that the state rejected the idea of forming this committee and that he has contacted the Board's attorney to determine whether the state exceeded its authority. However, Mr. Connellan's recommendation was to move forward forming a core committee involving representatives from multiple Boards, administration, other agency personnel and members of the general public. Mr. Goralski agreed and recommended that they should have a core of five people on this committee. He stated that he would contact Mr. John Leary, Chair of the Board of Finance and Mr. Michael Riccio, Chair of the Town Council to serve as part of the core committee. He also thought that Mr. Romano should serve as the point person for this committee with Mr. Connellan serving as ex-officio. It was noted that Title IX is a federal law and that the state is administering it for the federal government. The Board spoke at length on this agenda item and supported formation of a committee. Mr. Connellan will contact Mr. Garry Brumback, Town Manager, and Attorney Mark Sciota regarding serving on this committee. This will be on the agenda for the next Board meeting at which time Mr. Goralski will formally name a committee and set a timeline.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Smarter Balanced Assessment

Ms. Dale Riedinger, Math Coordinator and Mrs. Stephanie Lawlor, Language Arts Coordinator, gave a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the 2015-2016 district-wide results of

the Smarter Balance Assessments, which is only a snapshot in time. They discussed the following:

- Background information on the Summative Assessment in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math.
- The areas of knowledge and skills measured on the ELA test are reading, writing, listening and research/inquiry.
- The areas of knowledge and skills measured in math are concepts and procedures, problem-solving, communicating reasoning, modeling and data analysis.
- The purpose and background of the State Summative Assessment in ELA and Math.
- How Southington compared with the state in English Language Arts in Grades 3-8.
- Scale Scores and Achievement Levels.
- How Southington compares in our DRG with percentage at Level 3 and above.
- The “Rough Cohort” results, which is unmatched and not comparing apples to apples.
- Smarter Balanced District Results.
- 2015-2016 District High Needs Subgroup Performance
- The other forms of assessment are used to monitor student learning in real time to adjust instruction, address student needs and provide supports as needed.
- They discussed the Next Steps.

Mr. Goralski thought that the state making the special education population take this test was irresponsible and disrespectful and that standardized testing should not apply to all students.

Board members had a number of questions following the PowerPoint presentation.

b. School Safety and Security Plan Update

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

“Move to approve the updated School Safety and Security Plan.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

c. Job Description Approval ~ World Language Coordinator

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

“Move that the Board of Education approve the newly developed job description for K-12 World Language Coordinator as recommended by the Policy and Personnel Committee.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

d. Job Description Approval ~ Family Resource Center of Southington Director

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

“Move that the Board of Education approve the new job description for Family Resource Center of Southington Director as recommended by the Policy and Personnel Committee.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- e. Job Description Approval ~ Family Resource Center of Southington Parent Educator**

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

“Move that the Board of Education approve the new job description for Family Resource Center of Southington Parent Educator as recommended by the Policy and Personnel Committee.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- f. Job Description Approval ~ Secretary to Special Education / Transportation (Class II)**

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

“Move that the Board of Education approve the revised job description for Secretary to Special Education Transportation (Class II) as recommended by the Policy and Personnel Committee.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- g. Approval of Out of State Field Trips (*Moved to Agenda Item 6.e*)**

- h. Draft Policy #6140, Curriculum ~ First Reading**

Mr. Goralski asked the Board members to contact Mrs. Carmody or Mrs. Queen if they have any recommendations or changes to the policy before it comes back to the next Board meeting as a second reading.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

“Move to adjourn.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Blanchard
Recording Secretary

Developmental Asset	YEAR 1	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 7	Total Change from YEAR 1 to YEAR 7
Family Support	72	76	79	80	+8
Positive Family Communications	34	38	37	40	+6
Other Adult Relationships	55	57	60	59	+4
Caring Neighborhood	45	45	46	48	+3
Caring School Climate	28	38	35	40	+12
Parent Involvement	27	38	35	37	+10
Community Values Youth	22	26	27	29	+7
Youth as Resources	28	35	33	37	+9
Service to Others	53	56	51	48	-5
Safety	54	54	53	54	0
Family Boundaries	47	49	54	56	+9
School Boundaries	56	59	61	64	+8
Neighborhood Boundaries	49	52	52	53	+4
Adult Role Models	28	35	34	41	+13
Positive Peer Influence	66	73	79	79	+13
High Expectations	50	56	54	60	+10
Creative Activities	25	21	17	18	-7
Youth Programs	67	69	68	72	+5
Religious Community	54	54	49	50	-4
Time at Home	68	58	67	70	+2

Developmental Asset	YEAR 1	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 7	Total Change from YEAR 1 to YEAR 7
Achievement Motivation	73	79	81	82	+9
School Engagement	57	67	70	70	+13
Homework	53	57	61	60	+7
Bonding to School	53	59	63	68	+15
Reading for Pleasure	21	19	16	11	-10
Caring	49	54	56	63	+14
Equality and Social Justice	52	57	59	64	+12
Integrity	69	69	71	75	+6
Honesty	65	67	67	72	+7
Responsibility	65	66	67	72	+7
Restraint	47	52	53	54	+7
Planning and Decision Making	34	40	38	40	+6
Interpersonal Competence	53	53	56	57	+4
Cultural Competence	35	37	41	46	+11
Resistance Skills	47	53	56	56	+9
Peaceful Conflict Resolution	46	51	51	50	+4
Personal Power	47	51	46	49	+2
Self Esteem	54	58	53	57	+3
Sense of Purpose	67	71	66	69	+2
Positive View of Personal Future	78	79	76	79	+1

STEPS Survey Results

FOUR CORE MEASURE DATA - ALCOHOL	YEAR 1	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 7	Total Change from YEAR 1 to YEAR 7
Past 30 Day Use	25	19	16	19	-6
Parental Disapproval	89	91	96	96	+7
Peer Disapproval	N/A	N/A	81	80	-1
Perception of Risk	68	65	83	82	+14

FOUR CORE MEASURE DATA - TOBACCO	YEAR 1	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 7	Total Change from YEAR 1 to YEAR 7
Past 30 Day Use	8	8	6	4	-4
Parental Disapproval	95	95	96	98	+3
Peer Disapproval	N/A	N/A	86	87	+1
Perception of Risk	94	92	90	92	-2

FOUR CORE MEASURE DATA - MARIJUANA	YEAR 1	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 7	Total Change from YEAR 1 to YEAR 7
Past 30 Day Use	15	13	11	14	-1
Parental Disapproval	95	93	94	93	-2
Peer Disapproval	N/A	N/A	75	69	-6
Perception of Risk	83	81	70	66	-17

FOUR CORE MEASURE DATA - RX	YEAR 1	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 7	Total Change from YEAR 5 to YEAR 7
Past 30 Day Use	N/A	N/A	3	4	+1
Parental Disapproval	N/A	N/A	98	98	0
Peer Disapproval	N/A	N/A	91	89	-2
Perception of Risk	N/A	N/A	90	89	-1

THRIVING INDICATORS	YEAR 1	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 7	Total Change from YEAR 1 to YEAR 7
Succeeds in School	27	35	29	29	+2
Helps Others	81	81	77	77	-4
Values Diversity	50	54	51	61	+11
Maintains Good Health	68	70	68	67	-1
Exhibits Leadership	71	71	72	72	+1
Resists Danger	22	27	26	23	+1
Delays Gratification	51	53	52	53	+2
Overcomes Adversity	71	70	73	72	+1

RISK TAKING BEHAVIORS	YEAR 1	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 7	Total Change from YEAR 1 to YEAR 7
Other Drug Use	6	5	2	2	-4
Rode with a Drinking Driver	32	29	25	26	-6
Sexual Intercourse	25	18	16	16	-9
Threatened Physical Harm	30	21	21	19	-11
Eating Disorder	14	15	14	17	+3
Depression	14	12	16	14	0
Attempted Suicide	9	9	13	11	+2
School Truancy	16	15	13	12	-4