

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 on the video recording of the Board meeting, please contact the Superintendent of Schools. These minutes are considered a draft until approved at the following regular Board of Education meeting.

SOUTHINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT

REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 13, 2020

The regular meeting of the Southington Board of Education (Committee of the Whole – Operations) was held on Thursday, August 13, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in the John Weichsel Municipal Center Public Assembly Room, 200 Main Street, Southington with an Executive Session held prior at 6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Terri Carmody, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Board members present were Mr. Joseph Baczewski, Mr. Robert Brown, Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mr. James Chrzanowski, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mr. David Derynoski, Mr. David Falvo, and Mr. Zaya Oshana. Absent was Mrs. Missy Cipriano.

Administrators present were Mr. Timothy Connellan, Superintendent of Schools and Mrs. Sherri DiNello, Director of Business & Finance.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION ~ CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS – AFSCME (NURSES) AND NIPSEU (SECRETARIES & FOOD SERVICE) UNIONS

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

"Move to go into Executive Session, excluding the public and the press, for the purpose of discussing AFSCME (Nurses) and NIPSEU (Secretaries & Food Service) Contract Negotiations, and upon conclusion reconvene to public session."

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Mrs. Carmody ended Executive Session at 6:58 p.m.

3. RECONVENE MEETING ~ REGULAR SESSION

Mrs. Carmody reconvened the Board of Education Regular Session at 7:14 p.m.

Board members present were Mr. Joseph Baczewski, Mr. Robert Brown, Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mr. James Chrzanowski, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mr. David Derynoski, Mr. David Falvo, and Mr. Zaya Oshana (*left the meeting at 9:33 p.m.*). Absent was Mrs. Missy Cipriano.

Administrators present were Mr. Timothy Connellan, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Steven Madancy, Assistant Superintendent (*via Google Meets*); and Mrs. Sherri DiNello, Director of Business and Finance.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mr. David Falvo led in reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Carmody called for a moment of silence in memory of Mary Joan Bauder, age 92, who worked for over 25 years for the school district in central office as a secretary and passed away on July 25, 2020.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 25, 2020

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

“Move to approve the regular Board of Education minutes of June 25, 2020, as submitted.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

6. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

a. Communications from Public

There was no communication from the public.

b. Communications from Board Members

The Board members reported the following:

- Mr. Brown thanked everyone involved in planning for the Class of 2020 graduation ceremonies on Saturday, August 8, 2020 that occurred four times throughout the day to provide for social distancing. There were no glitches. He praised Mr. Frank Pepe, SHS Principal, Mr. Connellan, Mr. Rich Aroian, SHS Assistant Principal, Mrs. Diane Angelillo, SHS Secretary, Mrs. Sherri LaRose, SHS Secretary, Mr. Peter Romano, Director of Operations, the Maintenance Department employees and SHS Security Guards, for all their hard work to make the four live graduation ceremonies successful.
- Mr. Brown addressed his concerns about fall sports and thought they should be considered by sport for physical distancing and postponing contact sports such as football and soccer until later in the year for the safety of the athletes and staff.
- Mr. Brown addressed in-person classes and that the state of Connecticut should consider what was happening in other states that opened too fast resulting in the spread of COVID-19. He thought that the best scenario was to start virtually, get the numbers under control, have faster virus testing available, and slowly return to a planned step-by-

step process. He thought that they would open the schools and end up closing school in 3-4 weeks due to the spread of COVID-19. Mr. Brown was concerned about students who exhibit no symptoms but carry the virus home and infect family members. He noted that many teachers and staff had contacted Board members expressing their concerns about reporting to school to do virtual lessons if the schools close; especially, for those with school-age children. He requested that administration create a waiver for those special cases that have serious daycare issues with their children based on a case-by-case basis. He thought that education, safety, and the economy were three separate issues and that the students and staff should not be viewed as economic pawns.

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

“Move to move Agenda Item 10.a ‘School Reopening Plans’ to Agenda item 7.a.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- Mr. Baczewski explained that his brother-in-law, who serves on the Board of Education in Exeter, New Hampshire, shared with him an essay from 1948 by C.S. Lewis regarding “Living in the Atomic Age,” which pertains to the world’s current situation with the COVID-19 virus (*Attachment #1*).
- Mrs. Clark stated that she heard only positive comments about the graduation day ceremonies.
- Mr. Falvo added that graduation was a hot day and that the speeches were excellent. He thanked everyone involved in putting together a wonderful graduation day for the students who had a tough senior year, which they would never get back. He was happy that they were able to have a live graduation instead of a virtual one.

c. Communication from Administration

Administration reported on the following:

1. **SHS Graduation:** Mr. Connellan thanked everyone involved with the graduation ceremonies including the students and family members for adhering to physical distancing and following the established protocols.
2. **Summer Work:** Mr. Connellan thanked the custodial and maintenance employees for working hard from March to the present on thoroughly cleaning schools, moving furniture, etc., and doing a tremendous job on the summer work needed to open the schools.
3. **Reopening Planning:** Mr. Connellan thanked the sub-committees totaling 115 staff members from all areas of employment in the district who worked hard on planning for the reopening of schools under the circumstances of not receiving a plan from the state.
4. **SPS Coalition for Social Justice Community Conversations:** Mr. Madancy reported that the committee held the second of three conversations on Tuesday, August 12, from 4:00-5:00 p.m. with guest speakers and 60 people attending. The goal was to elevate people’s level of racial consciousness. He thanked Mrs. Christina Simms, Youth Services Director, and the Community Outreach Sub-Committee for their work on this conversation. He announced that the next Social Justice Community Conversation is scheduled for Wednesday, August 19, 2020, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. School Reopening Plans (*formerly Agenda Item 10.a*)

Mrs. Carmody expressed the Board's gratitude for the many hours of work that all the central office administrators, school administrators and staff have dedicated to put together a plan for the reopening of schools with the state constantly making changes.

Mr. Connellan and Mr. Madancy gave an overview of the draft Southington Public Schools Learning Plan 2.0 for Students and Families for the reopening of schools for the 2020-2021 school year during the COVID-19 virus pandemic (*Attachment #2*). The District's Learning Plan is a fluid document because information and guidance from the state continually changes and adjustments then need to be made to the plan. The State Department of Public Health (DPH) provided guidance on when to change from in-person learning to hybrid and/or online learning as well as providing guidance and criteria on students' potential exposure or a confirmed case of the virus. There were 608 staff members who logged into four different Zoom meetings on August 13 to hear details on this plan. The district was trying very hard to ensure that the reopening of schools was safe for everyone involved.

Mr. Madancy walked through the 2020-2021 Learning Plan Iteration 2.0 and noted that by the time school starts there could be numerous changes to the plan depending on the information from the state that they constantly continue to receive. Administration would continue to communicate updated plans to families as they occur and highlight changes within the plan, so they would not have to search for them. Mr. Madancy spoke in detail regarding the following:

- **Daily Operations:** Arrival and dismissal procedures, hallway travel, and lunchroom procedures, mockup classroom layouts (depending on the amount of students who show up in-person and size of cohort) that are unique to each school building and would be shared with families two weeks prior to the first day of school. The following daily operations will apply across all schools: Stay home if feeling ill, morning health check by parents will be required, face coverings/masks required (legal counsel advises that students who do not wear a mask can be removed and placed in a remote learning environment), social distancing and frequent hand washing/sanitizing expected. Cohorting would not prevent a possible transmission but would allow administration to accurately trace possible exposure of students within the cohort. There will also be mask breaks. Mr. Madancy addressed cleaning, sanitizing, ventilation, and staff protective equipment with the information taken directly from Governor Lamont's AAA Plan (Adapt, Achieve & Advance), which are the best practices for maintaining a safe learning environment for students.
- **Transportation:** Mr. Madancy explained that the district would be starting the school year transportation in "low status" based on current health data and guidance from the state. The three (3) transportation statuses are: 1) Safe Status, 2) Low Status, and 3) Moderate Status. Families would be notified if there is a shift in status based on local health data. Passengers would be required to wear masks/face covering.
- **Monitoring Health:** Mr. Madancy explained that this was not the complete or final iteration regarding monitoring health. The guidance/grid received with the State Department of Education and State Department of Public Health addresses issues when a student or staff person has symptoms/develops/contact with person who has COVID-19 and the immediate actions/steps to follow.

- Instructional Models: Mr. Madancy stated that this was extremely difficult with the Governor giving families the choice to “Opt Out” attending school in-person, which creates a fluid situation with staffing, scheduling and cohorting. On Friday, August 14, 2020, a commitment survey would be sent to families, with a response date by the middle of the next week, to ask families to commit to their child(ren)’s learning options to start the school year either in-person or online/remote including transportation questions to provide data that administration could use to form the final iteration of the opt-out model. Mr. Madancy wanted families to know that it is not simple if they later decide to “opt back in” because administration has to follow health and safety protocol procedures that requires lead time to coordinate the transition back into a learning environment. Mr. Madancy spoke at length about the temporary nature of the remote learning programming, statewide assessments, sample voluntary distance learning schedules across grade levels, synchronous and asynchronous instruction and a Learning Model Matrix provided by the state using county/local health data. There are three Learning Models: 1) Low, which favors more In-Person Learning, 2) Moderate, which favors moving to Hybrid Learning, and 3) High, which favors moving to Remote Learning. These models would be based on state and local health officials determining which model to implement at any given time. He spoke at length regarding each Learning Model. Mr. Madancy noted that the Hybrid Model would be the most difficult for teachers because it would be two classes within one class (Live In-Person and Remote Learners). He addressed software and hardware devices for teachers/students to access, the challenges using the Hybrid Learning Model including cohorting. The Southington High School return and recovery of academic programming was not possible for an In-Person return because of too many students and not enough space to appropriately distance. The Hybrid Model would be used at the high school and broken into two (2) cohorts (A & B).
- Learner Expectations for Students during Remote Learning: Mr. Madancy explained that in the spring of 2020, the district learned what worked and what needed improving upon when the district closed schools and all students engaged in remote learning. The district provided staff with professional development in the spring (166 remote training sessions), throughout the summer and again in August for staff readiness with software and aptitude to deliver remote instruction. The new normal is learning from a computer at home and the district plans to offer training sessions to parents as well as to childcare and daycare providers.
- Athletics, Clubs and Extracurricular Activities: Mr. Madancy stated that athletics was a fluid situation, which continues to change and evolve. A goal is to offer students virtual clubs and extracurricular activities if they cannot meet in person.
- Before and Aftercare Programming: Mr. Madancy stated that the district was working closely with community agencies such as the YMCA and the Early Childhood Collaborative to assess what programming would be available to provide families. One of the negative outcomes of the sudden spring school closure, and parents home with children, was that some childcare facilities closed.

Mr. Madancy explained that the primary concern right now is device access and deployment. The district placed an order this past spring for 1:1 Chromebooks; however, so did every district in the nation. He was not certain when those devices would be delivered because they are on back order; however, the district was working on contingency plans. In the survey to families, a question would be how many devices the family had and how many they would need. A big challenge would be developing cohorts of balanced sizes across all classrooms and

sections in the entire district and to keep siblings attending school on the same days, when possible. The district just received guidance from the state on special education and preschool students, which is currently being worked into the plan. Another challenge would be staffing and their childcare needs and finalizing the teacher assignments for the “Opt Out” students.

The Board members questioned the high school model of every other day, transportation, monitors on elementary buses using existing staff for the first two weeks of school and opening more parking for high school students who drive.

Mr. Derynoski thought the plan was top notch but was concerned with the costs of the plan. Mr. Connellan explained that they needed to bring in additional custodial and nursing/CNA staff while a big piece of the costs for transportation were eliminated, and that the district would need additional software. Mr. Madancy explained in detail the “Parents Square” software that uses different modalities such as pushing out notifications to families in up to 100 different languages, eSignatures, polling and surveying, which takes the place of several software products that the district is already using and offsets the costs of those products. Mr. Madancy addressed different software tools such as Go Guardian (web filtering tool), ClassLink, which has one sign-on/password that gives families all the different software tools without having to navigate the different sign-ins, and Google Enterprise, which is a Zoom meeting tool for teachers. Mr. Connellan explained that they would stop using software products such as School Messenger and that grant funds would be available to offset costs. There would be a state appropriation, which is part of the Coronavirus Funds Relief Act, separate from the CARES Act funds. In mid-July, the state asked for an estimate of the district’s expenses and \$2.6 million was submitted to the state to be applied against some of these additional costs.

Mr. Derynoski stated that school would be opening in 3-4 weeks and he would like to know what the costs would be or if the Board would be in the red by millions of dollars. Mrs. Carmody noted that the costs would be discussed in more detail under the Finance Committee Meeting Report because nothing was definitive at this point and there were a lot of unknowns. Mr. Derynoski questioned if the Board of Education would have another meeting before the opening of school. No Board meeting was scheduled before the start of school, but one could be added.

Mr. Falvo presented a question from Mrs. Cipriano. She wanted to know if there would be follow-up with families who do not respond to the survey. Mr. Connellan explained that once the survey was completed, the individual schools would contact the families who did not return it. Mr. Falvo questioned the plan for mask breaks when the weather did not permit students to go outside. Mr. Madancy explained that it would depend on the age of the students and the classroom environment because the high school and middle schools have air conditioning, but the elementary schools do not, and they would need a longer break. Common spaces would be looked into for appropriate physical distancing for mask removal contingent on the weather, location and age of students. Mr. Falvo was concerned about no air conditioning in the elementary schools on hot days and students and staff suffering from heat exhaustion. Mr. Connellan stated that early dismissal or cancellation would be taken into consideration with custodians taking room temperatures several times a day. The district was now better equipped to go to a Remote Learning Day if it was needed under those circumstances.

Mr. Oshana questioned the County Matrix Model for decision-making regarding health data. Mr. Connellan explained that local conditions play an important role in the regional health district and that he was in contact every Tuesday with Mr. Shane Lockwood, Regional Health Director for Southington, Plainville, and Middlefield. However, the data that would be published is the Hartford County data. Mr. Oshana also questioned contact tracing. Mr. Connellan replied that it would be run through the Human Resources Department with Mrs. Michelle Passamano, HR Manager, as the point of contact and the local Health Director for guidance.

Mr. Oshana questioned where the teacher's responsibility starts and ends versus the custodial responsibility for setting up the classroom with physical distancing. Mr. Connellan stated that the custodians had been moving furniture, continuously cleaning, and helping with the room arrangements. Mr. Madancy noted that the teachers left in March without closing out last year's classroom. Mrs. Clark questioned who would be responsible for the cleaning of the classrooms at the high school and middle schools when changing classes and the use of Green cleaners versus Lysol/commercial brands. Mr. Connellan explained that administration was working with the Southington Education Association (SEA) on that. One of the cohorting pieces was that students would be in the same classrooms and not changing classes. The high contact areas would be cleaned and disinfected on a continuous basis with a thorough cleaning at the end of the day. The addition of custodial services would allow the ability to do that during the day. Mr. Connellan addressed the Green cleaners that are on the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) approved list, which comes from the State Department of Education and Department of Public Health that the district had to adhere by. Administration was continuing to work on the use of Green cleaners vs. commercial cleaners.

Mr. Baczewski questioned the use of face shields for the younger elementary students versus masks. Mr. Connellan noted that face shields were not as protective as masks, but administration was open to it depending on the set of circumstances. Mr. Baczewski questioned if the IT Department could send the downloads/links in one email for parents to set-up their child(ren)'s devices that they own? Mr. Madancy thought that ClassLink would help them achieve that and that the teacher professional development training was to help them create all the browser links somewhere on the home page of the student's virtual classroom. All students use different software so it would be hard for IT to do it; but it was something that the district planned to do. Mr. Baczewski was concerned if the district had to go to full Remote Online Learning and the teachers who had childcare issues. Mr. Connellan responded that nothing was set in stone and that administration was still working with the SEA on teacher childcare issues. The bottom line is that the buildings would still be open, but the students would not be in the building. Staff would be in their classrooms to use the strong bandwidth network and have access to their classroom material. The administration was working on creating and having a childcare service available for teachers, if they needed it, with the YMCA. Mr. Connellan stated that administration was willing to discuss individual, situational circumstances regarding teachers bringing their children to work with them. The partnership with the YMCA was a way to help staff who needed childcare. They are in discussion with the SEA on this as well. Mr. Baczewski questioned the recent CIAC position to move forward with fall sports and the DPH Commissioner recommending moving fall sports to the spring. Mr. Connellan recommended to let that scenario play out between the CIAC and DPH and that by Monday it would be more definitive. Mr. Oshana asked if the local Board of Education could decline participation if the CIAC planned to move forward with fall sports. Mr. Connellan replied that they could.

Mrs. Carmody questioned if there would be a large number of students in the cafeteria at the high school at any given time. Mr. Connellan stated that there would be students in the cafeteria, but they would be spaced six feet apart. Mrs. DiNello stated that she spoke to administrators at every level regarding the food service spacing set-up in the cafeterias.

Mr. Chrzanowski liked the idea of face shields for elementary students. He questioned technology support issues with students working remotely and if the down time would count as an absence while the issue was being fixed. Mr. Connellan replied that the down time would not count as an absence. Mr. Madancy stated that there were older devices that could be used for troubleshooting and swapping out when the student/parent makes an appointment to bring the school-owned device to central office. If the device does not belong to the school system, they cannot access the private device but could provide technical support. Mr. Chrzanowski questioned if the school would provide textbooks/consumables for students participating in Hybrid or Opting Out. Mr. Madancy stated it would be similar to what was done in the spring where workbooks and printed materials were sent home. Mr. Chrzanowski questioned the attending matrix and how it would apply locally. Mr. Connellan replied that they would work in concert with the local health department and the Department of Public Health on a local, not county, situation. It would be based on the community transmission rate.

a. Finance Committee Meeting – August 10, 2020

Mr. Oshana reported that the committee discussed the Self Insurance claims through June 2020 that were running \$2.5 million less than what was budgeted due to the COVID-19 pandemic and people not having elected surgeries. The committee anticipates those expenses to be higher the next school year.

1. Financial Update 2019-20 / Non-Lapsing Account FY'20

Mrs. DiNello reported the committee anticipated the closeout of the 2019-2020 fiscal year with a balance of \$2.1 million. The Board of Finance had approved the two percent (2%) statutory carry forward line item for the Non-lapsing Account of \$1,963,779 that would be taken from the current surplus of the 2019-2020 budget and put into that account. That money would be used for the safe reopening of schools and compensatory services needed for special education students, which would leave a balance of \$200,000 that would go back to the Town General Fund. The Chromebooks are on backorder resulting in a \$400,000 outstanding purchase order. This would be a separate carry forward line item in addition to the 2% statutory line item. Mrs. DiNello spoke in detail of how administration planned to fund the unknown expenses for the reopening of schools. In June, the Cares Act (ESSER) funding was used to pay for the other half of the 1:1 Chromebooks purchases. She is working quarterly submitting expenses with the Town to FEMA for reimbursements under COVID-19 Relief and there will be additional funds coming to the district through the CARES Corona Relief Fund. Administration is anticipating the actual breakdown of the dollar amount that would be received by the district from the state on Friday, August 14. A grant application would be opened at a later date to inform the state how the funds would be used. Mrs. DiNello explained that the district had been participating throughout the summer in surveys with the CSDE to share potential reopening costs. The items on the COVID-19 Return Recovery are: 1) Staffing of teachers, custodians, nurses, food service staff, bus monitors, additional time

for paraeducators, 2) Purchased Services for technology, transportation, professional development and, 3) supplies and furniture, which Mrs. DiNello discussed in detail. The total of the Return & Recovery Items submitted for the district was \$4,443,506 with the largest amount in teacher staffing of \$2,650,000. Once the family and staff surveys are completed, the district would have a better idea of the need for additional staff members; however, it was not anticipated that 50 teachers would be hired to help teach remote learners. The district would be working with existing staff. The other large ticket item on the list was the transportation model. If the Board took the estimated \$4,443,506 and reduced out the FTE for teachers and the \$550,806 in transportation, it would result in approximately \$1.2 million. Therefore, \$1.9 million would be in the bank along with the carry forward funds from last year. Based on the current conversations and types of expenses right now, the district has the funding available. Currently, the administration is looking for the flexibility to use the Non-lapsing Fund to pay for these unanticipated costs to safely reopen schools. Mrs. DiNello shared that she had been negotiating with both the School Nurses and Custodial Unions on their current Recognition Clause regarding interim hires. The Finance Committee understood the unknowns and the flexibility needed to use the 2% non-lapsing funds and potential grant funding to start the 2020-2021 school year based on the Learning Plan. The savings, which was in the 2019-2020 budget because of the school shutdown, was why they have the additional funds and why they are fortunate to fund the \$1.9 million account.

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

“Move to authorize administration to allocate up to \$1,963,779 to be spent on items identified for the safe reopening of schools.”

Mr. Brown requested to have another Board of Education meeting in August because in two weeks the Learning Plan would be different.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

2. Award of RFP 2020-109 Replacement of High School Auditorium Lighting System

Mr. Oshana reported that the auditorium lighting system was the original and was 34 years old. A vote was taken at a previous Board of Education meeting to move this item forward and it was sent to the Town Board of Finance that approved it to be funded from the Unexpended Fund Account for FY’2019. The project was sent out to bid after the vote was taken to move it forward. The Finance Committee discussed whether to move the project forward or to put it on hold due to the costs of reopening of school.

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

“Move to award RFP 2020-109 for Replacement of High School Auditorium Lighting System to Supertech, Inc., as presented.”

Mr. Baczewski was concerned about moving forward with the \$241,777 project at this time with the current plan to open schools because there was no way there would be productions

in the next school year. He wanted to hold off on awarding the RFP because of uncertainties. Mrs. DiNello explained that this project was from the Non-lapsing Account FY'2019 and could be carried forward year to year. Mr. Oshana suggested that this item be tabled if they were going to have another BOE meeting before the start of school and at that time they should have a better handle on reopening costs. He thought that if they did not award this now when they have the funds set aside, then it would never be done. It was for safety purposes and the auditorium was used for co-curricular credited courses.

Mrs. Carmody noted that the next regularly scheduled BOE meeting was on September 10, 2020 and two weeks from now would be August 27, 2020. The Board discussed at length the approval of the project, funding, tabling of the motion, and the next BOE meeting.

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

“Move to withdraw original motion.”

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

“Move to table awarding RFP 2020-109.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Mrs. Carmody acknowledged that awarding the RFP would be on the agenda for the added August 27, 2020 Regular Board of Education meeting.

Mr. Oshana stated that the BOE Finance Committee agreed to delay the implementation of the Organic Waste Recycling Program due to social distancing requirements at this time.

8. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

a. Personnel Report

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

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

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

9. OLD BUSINESS

a. Town Government Communications

There was no Town Government Communication.

Mr. Oshana left the meeting at 9:33 p.m.

b. SHS Citizenship Curriculum – Second Reading

MOTION: by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Baczewski:

“Move to approve the SHS Citizenship Curriculum, as recommended by the Curriculum and Instruction Committee.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- c. Science Curriculum Units for Grades 4, 7, 8 and High School Forensics I – Second Reading**

MOTION: by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Baczewski:

“Move to approve the Science Curriculum Units for Grades 4, 7, 8, and Forensics as recommended by the Curriculum & Instruction Committee.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- d. Policy 3323 – Soliciting Prices (Bids and Quotes) – Second Reading**

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

“Move to approve Policy 3323, Soliciting Prices (Bids & Quotations), as recommended by the Personnel & Policy Committee.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- e. Policy 5131.2 – Use of Private Technology Devices by Students – Second Reading**

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

“Move to approve Policy 5131.2 - Use of Private Technology Devices by Students as recommended by the Policy & Personnel Committee.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- f. Illustrative Math Units for Grades 6, 7, 8 – Second Reading**

MOTION: by Mr. Baczewski, seconded by Mr. Brown:

“Move to approve the Illustrative Math Units for Grades 6, 7, 8, as recommended by the Curriculum & Instruction Committee.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- g. Revised School Calendar 2020-2021**

MOTION: by Mr. Baczewski, seconded by Mr. Falvo:

“Move to adopt the revised 2020-2021 calendar with the change of October 12 back to Columbus Day as a national and school holiday as it appeared on the 2020-2021 that the Board of Education previously approved.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Mr. Brown noted that the state required 900 hours and questioned if there was discussion on changing that number. Mr. Connellan replied that the State Board of Education already did it.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. School Reopening Plans** (*Moved to Agenda Item 7.a.*)

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

“Move to adjourn.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Blanchard
Recording Secretary

Attachment #1

C. S. Lewis on Living in the Atomic Age...

In one way we think a great deal too much of the atomic bomb. “How are we to live in an atomic age?” I am tempted to reply: “Why, as you would have lived in the sixteenth century when the plague visited London almost every year, or as you would have lived in a Viking age when raiders from Scandinavia might land and cut your throat any night; or indeed, as you are already living in an age of cancer, an age of syphilis, an age of paralysis, an age of air raids, an age of railway accidents, an age of motor accidents.”

In other words, do not let us begin by exaggerating the novelty of our situation. Believe me, dear sir or madam, you and all whom you love were already sentenced to death before the atomic bomb was invented: and quite a high percentage of us were going to die in unpleasant ways. We had, indeed, one very great advantage over our ancestors—anesthetics; but we have that still. It is perfectly ridiculous to go about whimpering and drawing long faces because the scientists have added one more chance of painful and premature death to a world which already bristled with such chances and in which death itself was not a chance at all, but a certainty.

This is the first point to be made: and the first action to be taken is to pull ourselves together. If we are all going to be destroyed by an atomic bomb, let that bomb when it comes find us doing sensible and human things—praying, working, teaching, reading, listening to music, bathing the children, playing tennis, chatting to our friends over a pint and a game of darts—not huddled together like frightened sheep and thinking about bombs. They may break our bodies (a microbe can do that) but they need not dominate our minds.

-C.S. Lewis: “On Living in an Atomic Age” from Present Concerns: Journalistic Essays (1948).