

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**

MAY 12, 2022

The regular meeting of the Southington Board of Education (Committee of the Whole - Operations) was held on Thursday, May 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. as a public meeting in the John Weichsel Municipal Center Public Assembly Room, 200 North Main Street, Southington, Connecticut.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Colleen Clark, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

Board members present were Mrs. Dawn Anastasio, Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mr. James Chrzanowski, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mr. David Derynoski, Mr. Zaya Oshana (*via phone*) and Mr. Jasper Williams. Absent were Mr. Joseph Baczewski and Mr. Sean Carson.

Cabinet administrators present were Mr. Steven Madancy, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Frank Pepe, Assistant Superintendent; and Mrs. Jennifer Mellitt, Director of Business & Finance.

Student Representatives present were Ethan Solury and Angelina Micacci.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The student representatives led in reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 28, 2022

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

“Move to approve the Regular Board of Education Minutes of April 28, 2022, as submitted.”

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mrs. Anastasio, Mrs. Carmody, Mr. Chrzanowski, Mr. Derynoski, Mr. Oshana, Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Clark.

Motion passed with all in favor.

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

“Move to move Agenda Item 8.c ‘Out of State/Overnight Field Trip Approval’ to Agenda Item 3.a.”

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mrs. Anastasio, Mrs. Carmody, Mr. Chrzanowski, Mr. Derynoski, Mr. Oshana, Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Clark.

Motion passed with all in favor.

a. Out of State/Overnight Field Trip Approval *(formerly Agenda Item 8.c)*

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

“Move to approve the Out of State/Overnight Foreign Field Trip request, as presented by administration.”

Mrs. Carmody and Mr. Derynoski appreciated the detailed information provided for the request for a foreign field trip to England and France in April 2023 for high school students. The teachers Karen Cavanaugh, Heather Allenback, and Patricia Pettit, who are coordinating the trip, have over the years taken high school students on field trips to other countries. The last trip was in 2019 that included 43 students to Eastern Europe.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mrs. Anastasio, Mrs. Carmody, Mr. Chrzanowski, Mr. Derynoski, Mr. Oshana, Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Clark.

Motion passed with all in favor.

4. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

a. Communications from Student Board Representatives

Ethan Solury reported on the following:

- He noted that Jhalissa Vincent was absent because it was her 18th birthday.
- The SHS Cheerleading Team recently held their annual end of the year banquet at Manor Inn and the SHS Marching Band held their banquet at the Aqua Turf Club.
- Senior Prom is May 21 at Aqua Turf.
- Senior Scholarship Night is May 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the SHS Auditorium.
- Students shared presentations/projects with the NEASC team last week for accreditation.
- The Coffee House Showcase held by the SHS Music Club is Tuesday, May 17.
- SHS Activity Fair is May 24 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. for incoming students.
- SHS World History classes attended a Holocaust seminar that impacted students.
- SHS Art Show was held on Monday showcasing talented students. The Art Department announced that junior McKenzie Mohans drawing was selected as the winning artwork in the 2022 Congressional Art Competition for Connecticut District 1. Her winning submission will be displayed in the Cannon Tunnel of the U. S. Capitol Building for one year alongside artwork from other congressional districts across the nation.
- All math eighth grade classes at DePaolo Middle School took part in the Smarter Balance Assessment last week to refresh their math skills.
- Southington Police Officer Laporte visited DePaolo Middle School on Tuesday to give a presentation on Social Media Safety to all students.
- The Derynoski (DES) Elementary School PTO sponsored their first annual carnival and DES held their Kindergarten Orientation this week.

Angelina Micacci reported on the following:

- On Monday, May 16, the SHS Varsity Baseball Team, in conjunction with the Hartford Yard Goats Club, will play Windsor High School at Dunkin Donuts Park in Hartford at 6:30 p.m. The Blue Knights Diamond Club is selling advance tickets at the 3:45 p.m. Friday game vs. Simsbury.
- The SHS Unified Sports student athletes will host a rescheduled CIAC Track & Field meet on Wednesday, June 1 at 3:00 p.m. This event was postponed due to inclement weather last week.
- All nine SHS spring sports teams are on target to qualify for CIAC post season state championship competitions. Ms. Micacci reported on the athletic sports season results to date for the current SHS Girls Softball noting that the SHS Girls Softball program has won 19 State Championships overall and tied with two other high schools in the nation for the most State Championships for high school girls' softball in the United States.
- She reported on the Kennedy Middle School American Essay Contest.
- A sixth-grade science teacher from Kennedy was awarded a grant to fund a Study Tour to Brussels and Luxemburg this summer on climate change issues.

b. Communications from Board Members

Mr. Derynoski asked if the SHS Senior Class Caravan would take place again this year. Mr. Pepe noted that Southington High School Principal Mr. Michael Crocco would be leading the Senior Car Caravan this year.

Mrs. Clark reported that she and Mrs. Carmody attended the Wall of Honor in the high school auditorium that Mr. Bob Brown coordinates to honor notable SHS graduates. Three years of honorees were recognized due to postponement because of the pandemic. Mrs. Carmody noted that the Wall of Honor plaques needed to be better maintained. Mr. Pepe announced that there are plans to change the location of Wall of Honor because it is expanding, and they want to make the Wall of Honor at eye level so the plaques can be read. He noted that Mr. Brown and the committee were working on it.

Mrs. Clark stated that she and other Board members attended the Southington Education Foundation (SEF) auction at the Back Nine Pavilion with the proceeds of bids going back to the Southington Public Schools teachers via grants. Mr. Madancy noted that Mr. Pepe won the 50/50 raffle and donated it back to the SEF.

c. Communications from Administration

Mr. Madancy explained that due to the length of the Technology Department Presentation tonight, he was reserving his comments for a comprehensive report at the next Board meeting.

d. Communication from Public

Mrs. Clark requested that if any member of the public wanted to speak at the meeting they had to sign-in on the computer and had five minutes to speak. There was no public communication.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Elementary Facilities Committee Meeting – April 25, 2022

Mr. Madancy reported that this project and referendum was postponed due to the turmoil at the state level. The committee met with representatives from the Colliers Group and discussed revised timelines and actions needed for pre-referendum work for the November 2023 Referendum. The recently completed updated enrollment study will be presented to the Board at the May 26 Board of Education meeting. The committee discussed the transitions occurring at the state level and decided to hold off further discussion with the state until permanent leadership was in place in the State Office of School Construction. The next Elementary Facilities Committee meeting will be held on June 1, 2022, at 3:00 pm via Zoom. Mrs. Carmody was pleased to have the enrollment data updated due to volatility in enrollment since the pandemic.

6. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

a. Personnel Report

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

“Move to approve the Personnel Report, as submitted.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mrs. Anastasio, Mrs. Carmody, Mr. Chrzanowski, Mr. Derynoski, Mr. Oshana, Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Clark.

Motion passed with all in favor.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Town Government Communications

Mrs. Clark stated that there was nothing to report at this time.

b. Athletic Facilities Update

Mr. Madancy reported that he met with Planning & Zoning and the Board of Finance members to present the phasing of this major project and received confirmation from both Boards to move forward with the approval process. The next step is to receive approval from the Town Council at their next meeting with a presentation on the phasing of the project and public hearing. Mr. Madancy noted that Ms. Erica Pocock in the SPS Operations Department had done outstanding work on the Operations website regarding this project to make it user-friendly.

c. Policy 4118.4 – Staff Ethics – Revision – Second Reading

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

“Move to approve Policy 4118.4 – Staff Ethics – Revision, as recommended by the Policy & Personnel Committee.”

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mrs. Anastasio, Mrs. Carmody, Mr. Chrzanowski, Mr. Derynoski, Mr. Oshana, Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Clark.

Motion passed with all in favor.

d. Policy 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression – Revision – Second Reading

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

“Move to approve Policy 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression – Revision, as recommended by the Policy & Personnel Committee.”

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mrs. Anastasio, Mrs. Carmody, Mr. Chrzanowski, Mr. Derynoski, Mr. Oshana, Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Clark.

Motion passed with all in favor.

e. Policy 6162 – Care of Instructional Materials – Revision – Second Reading

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

“Move to approve Policy 6162 – Care of Instructional Materials – Revision, as recommended by the Policy & Personnel Committee.”

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mrs. Anastasio, Mrs. Carmody, Mr. Chrzanowski, Mr. Derynoski, Mr. Oshana, Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Clark.

Motion passed with all in favor.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Town Maintained School Access Sidewalks – First Reading

Mr. Peter Romano, Director of Operations, gave an update on a recently completed audit of the Town maintained school access sidewalks as requested by the Town of Southington Public Works Committee. Working within the parameters, the audit results concluded that the town-maintained school access walks are correct except for two locations: 1) A portion of sidewalks on Mulberry Street and, 2) the entire sidewalk on Parkview Drive.

Mr. Romano addressed in detail the findings. In the case of Mulberry Street, the students attend SHS, JFK and South End School. The SHS and South End School students are bused. JFK students at 263 Mulberry and lower are walkers. Therefore, the responsibility for the sidewalks on Mulberry Street between Old Turnpike Road and South End Road should be maintained by the residents.

Mr. Romano explained that the students who live on Parkview Drive, which is not an arterial road and is basically a dead-end road with traffic limited to those who live in the neighborhood, does not meet the criteria for town-maintained sidewalks. The students are walkers to South End School. He did not know why it was originally implemented. The residents should maintain the Parkview Drive sidewalks.

Mr. Romano noted that this was his recommendation to the Board of Education for action at their next Board meeting and then it would be turned over to the Town Council for their review. Mr. Derynoski questioned who would notify the residents. Mr. Romano stated that it is the town’s responsibility because the sidewalks are town maintained and that the town will notify

residents who will be affected by this change. Mrs. Clark questioned who maintains the pathway on Deckert Drive to South End School. Mr. Romano stated that the pathway is maintained by the school district; however, the sidewalks in that area are maintained by the residents. He noted that for the Parkview walkers to South End School there is a crossing guard on South End Road and the sidewalks on Maxwell Noble Drive right up to South End School will continue to be town maintained. Mr. Romano explained that there is a Town Ordinance that a resident must remove snow on sidewalks 12-hours after a snowstorm ends.

b. Unaffiliated Compensation (*Attachment #1*)

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

“Move to approve the compensation for Unaffiliated Staff for the 2022-2023 school year as proposed by the administration.”

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mrs. Anastasio, Mrs. Carmody, Mr. Chrzanowski, Mr. Derynoski, Mr. Oshana, Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Clark.

Motion passed with all in favor.

c. Out of State/Overnight Field Trip Approval (*Moved to Agenda Item 3.a*)

d. Technology Department Presentation

Mr. Madancy explained that in the two-years since the pandemic technology infrastructure in the district changed drastically with the network, number of devices, and how technology is utilized in the classroom. This presentation would give the Board members an overview of the operational side and instructional side of technology used in the district bridged by the network. The technology portion of the budget has increased over the last couple of years.

The Tri-Tech Leadership Team of Jessica Poon, Information Systems Manager, Tyler Savage, Network Manager, and Rebecca Savelkoul, Digital Learning Coordinator, updated the Board of Education with a lengthy and detailed PowerPoint presentation on the status of hardware, software, and department personnel responsibilities within the Technology Department (*Attachment #2*). Mr. Savage recognized the Technology staff in attendance. Mrs. Savelkoul pointed out that the presentation was interactive with the Board members provided Chromebooks to participate.

Mrs. Poon spoke at length on the three major categories of Information Systems: 1) students, 2) staff, and 3) Inventory/Help Desk. She highlighted the many different software programs (PowerSchool, CT State Reporting, ParentSquare, SNAP, Naviance, ClassLink, etc.) needed for information regarding the 6,400 currently enrolled Southington Public School students, which includes demographics, enrollment, attendance, grades, discipline, scheduling, report cards, etc. She explained the state mandated reports (enrollment dates, ELL status, race/ethnicity, facility/school, special education 504 status, free/reduced lunch, homeless status, special programs, seal of biliteracy, in-school suspensions, out-of-school suspensions, bus suspensions, expulsions, serious offenses, incidents involving alcohol, drugs or weapons, bully incidents, Civil Rights Data Collection with 140 data points, etc.) including Family and Student Engagement programs along with student systems efficiencies. Mr. Madancy interjected that the accuracy of this information is crucial because it is tied into the state funding sources for revenue. Mrs. Poon spoke at length on the Staff Software Systems such as Alio, Employee

Service Portal, Frontline for absence management, recruiting and hiring, time & attendance, etc. She addressed efficiency improvements for staff including going paperless. Mrs. Poon noted that there are 17,000 assets (devices, monitors, Smartboards, adapters, printers, servers, projectors, etc.) that need to be monitored in the district for 2021-2022, which is an increase from 6,000 in 2019-2020. She spoke in detail about the Help Desk and asset management.

Mr. Savage spoke at length and in detail on the Technology Network and Infrastructure including progress, goals, and the Five-Year Plan regarding network stability and security issues, improvements made to date, and future steps. He spoke on WiFi Access Points, changing the main switch, Two-Factor Authentication, cyber security, Secure Print, Firewall, Antivirus, Ransomware Protection, asset replacement improvements, aging equipment, critical servers moved to the Cloud, grants received, backups to servers and the cloud for disaster recovery, the Municipal Center video quality upgrade this summer, configurations, and Technology Department staffing. Mr. Savage explained the Five-Year Plan for hardware life use and funding sources.

Mrs. Savelkoul spoke at length and in detail on Instructional Technology including professional development, purchasing of 6,000 new student devices guaranteeing a device for each student in grades K-12, goals of the Instructional Technology, Instructional Technology Committee to achieve the goals, programs offered, and online tools such as Padlet. Discussed were programs and online tools for English Language Arts (STAR, RAZ Kids, Learning A-Z Intervention Program, Lexia, Read Naturally, CommonLit, Intervention Programs, etc.). Math Programs and online Tools (iReady Pathway, iReady Intervention, etc.). Science and Social Studies Programs and online tools (Generation Genius, Gizmos, Mystery Science, Newsela, Infobase Learning, Proquest Databases, etc.). Programs and online tools for other subject areas such as Adobe Creative Cloud, Cameyo, etc.) were discussed. Mrs. Savelkoul spoke in detail about Instructional Management Tools such as ClassLink, GoGuardian, Gagggle, ParentSquare, Lyman Systems Data Warehouse, EduPlanet21 Curriculum Warehouse, SMART Online Suite, PearDeck, Padlet, Kami, Canvas, etc. and many instructional tools for non-curricular specific programs such as Project Lead the Way, EdPuzzle, PebbleGo, BrainPop, etc. Also noted were annual costs of the various programs/online tools and that the Dashboards in ClassLink are appropriate for the grade level.

Mrs. Carmody thanked the Technology Department for the informative presentation and the wonderful work that they have done and continue to do. However, she was bothered by the expense and hoped that grant funds are awarded. Mr. Derynoski questioned the cost of the software packages and if they all were currently being used. Mrs. Savelkoul stated that the current Instructional Technology budget is \$413,000. Mr. Derynoski thought that it was money well spent. Mr. Chrzanowski questioned if there were multi-year agreements for the programs. Mrs. Savelkoul and Mr. Savage replied that the department takes advantage of cost savings for multi-year agreements where it is offered. Mr. Williams noted that he had two children in elementary school that use some of these applications and they love it. He stated that at the budget workshop he mentioned the budget increase and thought that it was important that they continue to advance in digital technology for the 21st century skills needed. He asked the Tri-Tech Leadership Team to continue to look for those efficiencies and funding sources to continue to be able to fund technology. Mr. Oshana appreciated the comprehensive presentation and the Tri-Tech Leadership Team explaining it in more detail. Mr. Derynoski questioned Mr. Rit Campbell from the Technology Department about the audio in the auditorium at the high school. Mr. Campbell acknowledged that the high school auditorium project was complete with a whole new lighting system and a new sound system.

e. 2022-2023 Operating Budget Reallocation/Adoption

Mr. Madancy explained that the Reallocation Plan was uploaded to the BoardBook portal on Tuesday after the Town Council approved the Board of Education 2022-2023 Operating Budget on Monday. The reduction to the BOE budget request was \$500,000. The Reallocation Plan provided by administration included budget reductions and adjustments that would have minimal impact on student outcomes. Mr. Derynoski requested to table a vote on the Reallocation Plan until the Board members had time to peruse the plan and questioned if postponing the vote to the May 26 BOE meeting would be a problem for administration.

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

“Move to Table action on the 2022-2023 Operating Budget Reallocation/Adoption until the next Board of Education meeting.”

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mrs. Anastasio, Mrs. Carmody, Mr. Chrzanowski, Mr. Derynoski, Mr. Oshana, Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Clark.

Motion passed with all in favor.

9. ADJOURNMENT

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

“Move to adjourn.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Blanchard

Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENT #1 – UNAFFILIATED COMPENSATION 2022-2023

Unaffiliated Approved Salary and Wages

POSITIONS	2022--23	%
	Proposed	Inc
Superintendent		-100.00%
Assistant Superintendent	189,170	2.25%
Director of Pupil Services	165,242	2.25%
Director of Business & Finance	142,127	2.25%
Director of Operations	151,101	2.25%
Accounting Manager	81,800	2.25%
Human Resource Manager	120,000	8.82%
Network Manager	112,475	2.25%
Information Systems Manager	92,025	2.25%
Technology Analysts	72038-76903	2.25%
Technology Assistant	23	15%
Payroll Supervisor	35.19	3.02%
Maintenance Foreman	91,534	2.25%
Exec. Assistant Superintendent	41.55	2.24%
Exec. Asst. Asst. Superintendent	33.79	2.24%
Exec. Asst. Director of Business	32.64	2.26%
Board Recording Secretary	350 per mtg	
Summer School Director	7,000	1.16%
Jump Start Director	5141	1.98%
Part Time Custodian	15.98-17.24	2.00%
Part Time Clerks	16.95-18.30	2.00%
ESY/Jumpstart Paras (non union)	13.26-15.27	2.00%
Substitute Teachers - per day	105-135	
Matrons	18.53	1.98%
Crossing Guards - per shift	18.92	1.56%
ESY/ Jumpstart Aides	14	Wage
Substitute Paras***	16.80	0.00%
Substitute Custodians	15.59	0.00%
Substitute Nurses	22	0.18%
Substitute Secretaries	20.00-24.13	
Tutors Math & Literacy	21.77	1.97%
Non Union LPN 's	24.63	1.99%
Lead Occupational Therapist **	99,051	2.25%
BCBA (CZ) **	97,507	2.25%
BCBA (KG) **	86173	2.25%
Outreach Coordinator STEPS	20	0.00%
Food Service Director	81,864	2.25%
Secr/Bookkeeper Food Service	28.95	2.22%
Food Service Clerk	17.16	2.26%
Family Resource Ctr- Director	46,169	2.25%
Family Resource Parent Educator	20.97	2.24%

ATTACHMENT #2 – TECHNOLOGY PRESENTATION



Technology Presentation to School Board May 12 2022 (1).pdf (Command Line)