

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 10, 2018

The regular meeting of the Southington Board of Education was held on Thursday, May 10, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the John Weichsel Municipal Center Public Assembly Room, 200 North Main Street, Southington, Connecticut and an Executive Session scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Brian Goralski, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

Board members present: Mrs. Terri Carmody, Ms. Lisa Cammuso, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mr. David Derynoski, Mr. Brian Goralski, Mr. Zaya Oshana and Mrs. Patricia Queen. Absent were Mr. Joseph Baczewski and Mr. Robert Brown.

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

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION ~ CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS ~ CUSTODIANS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS

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 Contract Negotiations (Custodians) and Personnel Matters, and upon conclusion reconvene to public session."

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Mr. Goralski declared Executive Session ended at 7:07 p.m.

3. RECONVENE MEETING ~ REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Goralski reconvened the Board of Education Regular Session at 7:10 p.m.

Board members present: Mrs. Terri Carmody, Ms. Lisa Cammuso, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mr. David Derynoski, Mr. Brian Goralski, Mr. Zaya Oshana and Mrs. Patricia Queen. Absent were Mr. Joseph Baczewski and Mr. Robert Brown.

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

Student Representatives present were Joseph Martin and Sean Young.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The student representatives led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Goralski called for a moment of silence in memory of Gilbert LaPoint who recently passed away. He was a custodian at DePaolo Middle School and retired as Head Custodian at Southington High School after 23 years of service.

5. CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

In Celebration of Excellence, Mr. Connellan invited Mr. John Duffy, Science Coordinator to the podium who introduced the 2018 Connecticut Invention Convention elementary school award winners and briefed the Board on their invention:

- Victoria Cascio, Grade 4 at South End School, The Eye-Band
- Evan Lebo, Grade 4 at South End School, The Garden Grip
- Isabella Rees, Grade 4 at Kelley School, Helping Hands Pot Pourer

Mr. Duffy recognized the following Kennedy Middle School students who were awarded First Place, sixth grade, statewide, for their 2018 e-Cybermission project "The Garbage Pushing Platform." The students, who won a \$1,000 US Savings Bond each, are Bella Sena, Avery McQuatters, Margaret Wernicki and Chelsey Arduini. Due to a delayed announcement, a team from DePaolo Middle School, who also won for their project, will be recognized at a future Board of Education meeting. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Goralski presented all the students with a Certificate of Excellence.

Mr. Goralski called for a recess at 7:26 p.m.

Mr. Goralski reconvened regular session at 7:43 p.m.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES ~ APRIL 26, 2018

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

"Move to approve the regular Board of Education minutes of April 26, 2018, as submitted."

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Communications from Audience

Mr. Leon Peschel, 2011-2012 Board of Education Student Representative, was in attendance and was invited to the podium to update the Board on his continued education. He

graduated from UConn and just finished his second year of law school at Harvard and told the Board that he was visiting home for a couple of days before moving to NYC to apprentice in a law firm for the summer. He explained to the Board how the Southington Public Schools prepared him for college and law school.

b. Communication from Board Members

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

“Move Agenda Item 10.c ‘Approval of Overnight Field Trip’ to Agenda Item 7.e.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Mrs. Carmody stated that this week was Teacher / Staff Appreciation Week and on behalf of the Board publicly thanked Teachers and staff for all that they do for the Southington School system to make it great and that the Board was very proud of all their accomplishments. Mr. Goralski will send an email to all the teachers and staff in Southington to thank them.

Mr. Goralski received a letter from the state that the Board will be starting negotiations with the Southington Education Association (SEA) teachers union. This will be an agenda item at the next Board of Education meeting where he will announce the Board members who will serve on the Negotiating Committee. The teacher negotiation meetings will be held in the evenings after 5:00 p.m. primarily in September and October of 2018.

Mr. Goralski announced that the 50th Anniversary Celebration of J. A. DePaolo Middle School was held today after school and thanked Mr. Christopher Palmieri, who was in the audience, for a wonderful event.

Mr. Goralski stated that a bi-partisan budget was passed last night by the state with good news for Southington regarding ECS funding of \$20,348,425, which is over \$2 million from what was planned for in the town budget. The legislators also approved that the Governor cannot reduce municipal aid during a fiscal year without legislative support and approval. Mr. Goralski reported that last night the Southington Board of Finance approved all of the Board of Education transfers and appropriation requests. He hoped that Mr. Palmieri, Town Council Chair, and his colleagues would consider some restoration to the Board of Education budget with this good news.

c. Communication from Administration

Administration reported on the following:

1. Tennis Courts - SHS: Mr. Connellan explained that Mr. Romano, Director of Operations, has been working with maintenance staff for a solution for a short-term repair of the high school tennis courts that will cost approximately \$7,000 for materials. To do a complete repair of those courts would cost in excess of \$500,000, which is a capital item budget.
2. Student Awards Night: Mr. Connellan explained that this was held on Wednesday, May 9, 2018. He congratulated Mr. Joseph Martin, Student Representative, for receiving the Outstanding Marching Band Award.
3. Top Ten Students Luncheon: Mr. Connellan reported there was a conflict with the date due to a field trip that was cancelled because of inclement weather in February. Students who would be participating in the Top Ten Luncheon will be on the rescheduled field trip. The new tentative date for the Top Ten Students Luncheon will be June 13, 2018.

4. Principal Search – Thalberg Elementary School: Mr. Connellan announced that the posting for this position will be May 11, 2018 with the closing date of June 1, 2018. The first and second level of interviews will be the week of June 4, 2018 and the Board level interview will be on June 12. The Board of Education will appoint the new principal at their meeting on June 14, 2018.

5. School Safety Committee - Collaboration: Mr. Connellan reported that the school systems collaboration with the Southington Police Department started in the fall of 2017. Last month, they had an update from Sgt. Brian Leppard regarding the work that he and his colleagues have been doing in our schools. The School Safety Committee is comprised of Mr. Madancy, Mr. Romano, Mr. Connellan representing the school district; Deputy Chief Palmieri, Lt. Egan, Sgt. Leppard and Sgt. Elliott from the police department; Shane Lockwood, Emergency Management Service Director, and there will soon be participation from the Southington Fire Department. This committee will meet on a regular basis. They will be looking at ways to improve safety and security in schools and bringing their assessment and proposals to the Committee of the Chairs. The hope is to have some short-term and long-term plans adopted. This is a continuance of the school administrations collaboration with the police department.

d. Communications from Student Representatives:

Mr. Young reported on the following:

- He has been up late studying for all his AP Exams.
- The National Honor Society Induction was held Wednesday, May 2 with 60 juniors inducted.
- Junior Prom was held on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at La Bella Vista. The breathalyzer test was used for the sixth consecutive year with zero occurrences of substance abuse at the proms.
- On Sunday, May 6, a ceremony was held to honor the Connecticut Scholar-Athlete Awardees and Evan Bender and Julie McPherson were the high school recipients.
- There was a surprise lockdown drill at the high school on May 8 with the Southington Police Department who were pleased with the security of the school.
- The Next Generation Science Standard tests for the juniors have been completed, which was postponed from grade 10 to grade 11.
- Opening night for the Art Show is May 14, 2018.
- He thanked the Board for approving the Ireland Study Abroad international field trip that he participated in and in appreciation, he gave the Board some Irish chocolates from Ms. Cavanaugh and other leaders of the trip.

Mr. Martin reported on the following:

- He received the John Philips Sousa Award at the Academic Awards Ceremony Wednesday night.
- Scholarship Night is May 17, 2018.
- May 18 is the Skills 21 Project Lead-the-Way field trip to the Oakdale Theatre.
- May 22 is Senior Night at the Oakdale Theatre.
- Senior Prom is May 19 at the Aqua Turf.
- The Military Luncheon will be held on May 22 to honor the 12 seniors who will be entering the armed forces and 4 seniors entering into ROTC programs.
- May 23 and 24, Sean Young, Bianca Spataro and Joseph Martin will be hosting Board of Education Student Representative Interviews to select the next two student Board of Education representatives.

- The Robotics Team was in Detroit over the past couple of weeks competing for the World Championship. They placed fourth overall but were third in the world for individual teams, which was voted by the First Robotics Advisors.

Mr. Goralski stated that it was a four-way tie for first place in the world with Southington placing third. He announced that the Robotics team would be at the next Board of Education meeting for recognition on May 24 with their robot. The seniors will be celebrating four straight years of being the Regional and National competitors.

- Freshmen Activities Orientation will be held on May 23 at 6:00 p.m. in the Southington High School cafeteria.
- SHS entered the FOX61 Student News with a video clip on the life at SHS. The students were invited to an awards ceremony at Goodwin College on May 2 to see where they placed.
- The ALTA Banquet will be held at Bread for Life on May 24.
- Class Night is May 31 at Southington High School
- Class Day is June 1 in Granby.
- Relay for Life starts June 1 at the high school track complex.
- Youth Honor Day Luncheon is June 6 at the high school
- The UNICO Top 25 Dinner is June 6 with Mr. Martin and Mr. Young attending.
- The AP Expo is June 12 in the high school cafeteria.
- Final Exams start June 15 with graduation on June 21.
- He thanked Mr. Connellan and Mr. Stranieri for making the students attending the Top 10 Student Luncheon feasible due to the rescheduled field trip.
- Mr. Martin will soon be an Eagle Scout and will have more information at the next Board meeting.

e. Approval of Overnight Field Trip (formerly Agenda Item 10.c)

Ms. Karen Cavanaugh gave a brief description that is rich in history of the international field trip planned for April 2019 to Berlin, Prague, Krakow and Budapest.

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

“Move that the Board of Education approve the International Field Trip request for Southington High School students to travel to Berlin, Prague, Krakow and Budapest, as presented by the administration.”

The tour company that Ms. Cavanaugh uses combines two schools to comprise the field trip group. For the Ireland trip, students from Southington High School and a high school from Washington State comprised a group.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

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

Mr. Goralski stated that on Monday, May 13, 2018, the Town Council would adopt the 2018-2019 budget. He was appreciative that the state legislators did their work on time this year so the town can set their budget on a timely basis. He encouraged the Board of Education members to reach out to Town councilors on behalf of the Board of Education for additional funds. The Board of Finance will set the mill rate for the town on Wednesday, May 16, 2018.

Mr. Goralski reported that the Committee of the Chairs meets regularly. He was appreciative to Mr. Chris Palmieri, Town Council Chairman, for continuing the committee that Mr. Pocock had started when he was Chairman of the Town Council. He noted that Mr. Connellan and Mr. Sciota work very well together.

b. Budget 2017-2018

Mrs. DiNello distributed a handout “Actions to Mitigate Year 2018 State Grant Reductions - Revised” (*Attachment #1*) and gave an update on the Mitigation Plan. The main purpose of this update is to inform the Board of Education that administration reviewed with the Committee of the Chairs where they were with the plan. At that meeting, Mr. Sciota and Mr. Palmieri had explained the appropriation request that they planned to bring before the Board of Finance on May 9, which the Board of Finance approved. With this approved appropriation, the total ending deficit for the Board of Education is (\$74,510.) In June, administration will be in a better place to see where the numbers end to request another appropriation. Mr. Derynoski questioned if there were any Special Education surprises. Mr. Goralski noted that 2017-2018 was a difficult year and appreciated all of Mrs. DiNello’s work.

c. YMCA Afterschool Care Program Location Change

Mrs. DiNello explained that at the last meeting the Board approved the rates for the YMCA Afterschool Care programs at the schools; however, after that meeting, Mr. Mark Pooler from the YMCA requested a school program change from South End Elementary School to Plantsville Elementary School based on a survey that they took. Plantsville is the only school where the YMCA does not run a program. The South End students would go back to the YMCA for afterschool care because there is three times the number of students at Plantsville than South End looking for aftercare. There is a five-year lease agreement in place with South End that would be suspended and a new lease agreement would be entered into for the Plantsville site. Mrs. DiNello requested Board approval for the rate that they set for South End Elementary School to be approved for the rate at Plantsville Elementary School. She worked with the principal who stated that he would have the custodial coverage that is needed.

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

“Move that the Board of Education approves the YMCA location change from South End Elementary School to Plantsville Elementary School and enter into a new agreement with the Southington YMCA for the 2018-2021 school years with the reimbursement rate of \$1,260 per month.”

Motion carried by voice vote with Mrs. Clark abstaining.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Policy and Regulation #3541 – Transportation ~ First Reading

Mrs. Queen reported that this comes before the Board as a first reading and that she reported on it at the last Board of Education meeting. Mr. Goralski was impressed with Mrs. Teresa Colegrove, Executive Assistant to Mr. Madancy, for the documentation that she provided the Board on the Policies and Regulations.

b. Policy #3324 – Preferential Bidding Procedures ~ First Reading

Mrs. Queen reported that this comes before the Board as a first reading and that she reported on it at the last Board of Education meeting.

c. Approval of Overnight International Field Trip (*Moved to Agenda Item 7.e*)

d. Approval of Job Description ~ Instructional Technology Coordinator

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

“Move that the Board of Education approve the revised job description for Instructional Technology Coordinator as recommended by the Policy and Personnel Committee.”

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 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Blanchard
Recording Secretary

ACTIONS TO MITIGATE FISCAL YEAR 2018 STATE GRANT REDUCTIONS (REV)

PART 1: DISTRIBUTE \$3 M. CONTINGENCY

	TOWN	BOARD OF EDUCATION	TOTAL
REVENUE SHORTFALL DUE TO STATE BUDGET	(761,360)	(4,318,681)	(5,080,041)
DISTRIBUTE CONTINGENCY OF \$3,000,000 15%/85%	450,000	2,550,000	3,000,000
TOWN & BOE EXPOSURE	(311,360)	(1,768,681)	(2,080,041)

PART 2: DEFICIT MITIGATION PLAN

DEFICIT MITIGATION PLAN - TOWN (25%)	525,000		525,000
TRANSFER FROM TOWN TO BOE (5/16/18 BOF MTG)	(213,640)	213,640	-
TOWN & BOE EXPOSURE	-	(1,555,041)	(1,555,041)
DEFICIT MITIGATION PLAN - BOE (75%):			
ORIGINAL BOE SAVINGS ESTIMATE		678,806	678,806
ADDITIONAL BOE SAVINGS/(DEFICIT) ESTIMATE		(22,475)	(22,475)
SELF INSURANCE FUND CONTRIBUTION REDUCTION (NET)		637,200	637,200
TOWN & BOE EXPOSURE	-	(261,510)	(261,510)

PART 3: COMPLETING MITIGATION - TOWN

DISTRIBUTE FROM \$450,000 CONTINGENCY (5/16/18 BOF MTG)	187,000	187,000
TOWN & BOE EXPOSURE	-	(74,510)

PART 4: TOWN MITIGATION OF STATE ROAD PROJECTS

APPROPRIATE BALANCE OF \$450,000 CONTINGENCY	263,000
TRANSFER FROM SELF INSURANCE CONTRIBUTION (NET)	207,300
TO CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND-ROAD PROJECTS (5/16/18 BOF MTG)	470,300

Southington Public Schools
Financial update for the Committee of the Chairs 5-2-18 meeting

Mitigation Plan: 75% of \$2,100,000 = \$1,575,000	Structural	Structural	BOE no control	Total	Update
Items:					
Salary savings-all unaffiliated staff pay freeze until 12/1/17		*		-	
Salary savings-vacancies security, secretary position and PE Health	38,000			38,000	\$ (38,000)
Supplies- freeze		490,000		490,000	\$ (490,000)
Learning Academy-Reduce staff & # of days, eliminate 2018-19	7,650			7,650	\$ (7,650)
Major Projects & Equipment		108,848		108,848	\$ (108,848)
Maintenance Special Projects		13,552		13,552	\$ (13,552)
School Based Equipment		9,756		9,756	\$ (9,756)
Music Equipment		11,000		11,000	\$ (11,000)
Furlough day			302,000	302,000	\$ -
Transportation Furlough day			19,338	19,338	\$ -
Health Insurance Reduce contribution (75.5% of \$1.m)			755,000	755,000	\$ (755,000)
Cost of Premium holiday			(117,800)	(117,800)	\$ 117,800
	45,650	633,156	1,076,338	1,637,344	\$ (1,316,006)

Original Grant funding Budget Adoption	\$ 8,360,766
Net Excess Cost	\$ (1,461,796)
	\$ 6,898,970
Appropriations -add'l excess cost grant	\$ (2,580,289)
Appropriations-Installments 1 of 3	\$ (850,000)
Appropriations-Installments 2 of 3	\$ (850,000)
	\$ 2,618,681
Appropriations-Installments 3 of 3 due in May	\$ (850,000)
Balance- Shortfall	\$ 1,768,681
Mitigation Plan Savings	\$ (1,316,006)
Deficit Subtotal	\$ 452,675
Planned Appropriation Transfer from the town mitigation plan 15-25%	\$ (213,640)
Deficit Subtotal	\$ 239,035
Projected Changes since January	
Additional Supply savings from freeze	\$ (150,000)
Additional Professional Development savings from freeze	\$ (17,000)
Defer purchase of Math Workbooks to 2018-19	\$ (67,000)
Gas Account-Projection change	\$ (58,000)
Electricity Account-Projection change (*issue with JAD meter waiting for credits)	\$ 65,000
Increase Tuition costs-Special Ed-Projection change	\$ 269,475
ABA Program-Special Ed-Projection changes	\$ (20,000)
Shortfall Projection 5-2-18	\$ 261,510
Town Mgr proposing transfer from the town's \$450,000 of contingency	\$ (187,000)
Shortfall Projection	\$ 74,510

Revised 5-3-18 SD

- June

✓ Appr. B57 5/9/18

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