

*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](http://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**  
**November 8, 2018**

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The regular meeting of the Southington Board of Education (Committee of the Whole – Operations) was held on Thursday, November 8, 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 was held at 6:30 p.m.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Brian Goralski, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

Administration present: Mr. Timothy Connellan, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Steven Madancy, Assistant Superintendent (arrived at 6:35 p.m.), Mrs. Sherri DiNello, Director of Business and Finance.

**2. EXECUTIVE SESSION ~ SEA NEGOTIATIONS AND STUDENT MATTERS**

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

**“Move to go into Executive Session, excluding the public and the press, for the purpose of discussions related to contracts and student matters, and upon conclusion reconvene to public session to complete the agenda.”**

**Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

*Mr. Goralski declared Executive Session ended at 7:12 p.m.*

**3. RECONVENE MEETING ~ REGULAR SESSION**

*Mr. Goralski reconvened the Board of Education Regular Session at 7:19 p.m.*

Board members present: Mr. Joseph Baczewski, Mr. Robert Brown, Ms. Lisa Cammuso, Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mr. David Derynoski, Mr. Brian Goralski, 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 Special Services.

Student Representatives present were Bianca Spataro, Trevor Messina, Nicholas Mangene

**4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All Student Representatives led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES ~ October 25, 2018**

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

**“Move to approve the regular Board of Education minutes meeting of October 25, 2018, as submitted.”**

**Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

**6. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

**a. Communications from Public**

There was no public communication.

**b. Communications from Board of Education**

There was no communications from the Board of Education.

**c. Communications from Administration**

1. School Safety Update Mr. Connellan introduced Mr. Madancy to report - All front office personnel staff attended safety training on two dates in October and November, 2018 which were professional development days. These sessions were held at the Southington Police Department by Sargent Leppard and Officer Butler. They were able to have a dispatcher present and explained to staff how an actual emergency call is handled and which information on the initial contact is needed which offered great insight for office staff. A huge thank you was extended to the SPD for this informational training session. Mr.

Connellan reported that the next meeting of interagency safety committee is scheduled for November 28<sup>th</sup> in Superintendent's Conference Room.

2. Professional Development Day Activities - Mr. Madancy outlined the Professional Development schedule attended by our staff at all levels on November 6, 2018. Topics included "Vision of a Graduate" with instructional learning teams, Curriculum Planning, Emotional Intelligence, Clinical Supervision, NEASC planning.

Mr. Oshana requested a more detailed explanation of Emotional Intelligence which Mr. Madancy provided.

### **Communications from Student Board Representatives**

Bianca Spataro:

- Apologized for not making last meeting, as she was on a field trip to NYC and the Egyptian embassy
- World Language Society students watched Coco in Spanish. Students are able to listen to native speakers.
- Held a Halloween party for elementary schools on October 31st.
- First marking period has ended.
- Annual homecoming dance on Friday, November 16th.

Nicholas Mangene:

- Apologized for not making meeting, but was also on the NYC field trip to the UN
- Going to University of Hartford to debate issues on November 30 and December 1st.
- Very excited about new advisory structure. Students pick top few choices – some choose their advisory group by either advisor or topic, and they stay in the same group for the year.

Mr. Brown commended the students for their work at the UN

A discussion regarding Advisory and the new structure began. There was excitement about the way it will be handled going forward and students will be voting on a new name instead of "Advisory". and is happy to see that now students get a choice of topics. Mr. Brown – When advisory started it was not working at all. It sounds very positive now. Mrs. Queen asked students to report back in six months. Mr. Goralski asked that whoever in the administration is responsible for the changes in this program be commended.

- Powder Puff game will be played against Rocky Hill at SHS
- November 19<sup>th</sup> – MS students coming into the HS to see what HS is like.
- Alta annual Thanksgiving feast, November 20<sup>th</sup>

Trevor Messina:

- Veteran's Day Concert on November 14th
- Night on the stage on November 29<sup>th</sup>
- The Band will attend Nationals this week at MetLife Stadium

Mr. Goralski thanked students and asked for any follow-up on upcoming events.

Mr. Goralski: Moving forward meetings will be operational meetings. In January, there will be two operations meeting. March will be the next time there is an instruction meeting. There may be instruction topics but during a regular meeting.

## 7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Policy & Personnel Committee Meeting – Mrs. Queen – The Policy and Personnel Committee met as a Committee on October 15, 2018 with Mr. Connellan and Mr. Madancy to discuss a plan to engage Shipman & Goodwin’s policy services. This plan would focus first on legally required policies and later determine what will be kept from current policies. The cost is \$3,500 in year one, and then \$1,000 for subsequent years. After discussion, the committee agreed to endorse this plan. Funds were in the budget and the decision was made to go ahead and start with their services. Mrs. Queen also reported on the work of the committee that was done subsequent to the Policy meeting.
  
- b. Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting – Mrs. Carmody reported that the Curriculum & Instruction Committee met on October 16, 2018 and the Proposed Personal Finance Course was discussed. Teacher will be assigned to create and moderate course. Students will be able to access course thru Canvas – new learning management system. Goal is to bring the developed curriculum to the Board in April. Amy Zappone, District Math Coordinator brought Math Olympiad to the committee. This has been grant funded by Petit Foundation, but funding will no longer be available. Mr. Madancy will seek alternative funding and the full board will review. There was a review of the District Science Curriculum: Mrs. Carmody explained students experience something, demonstrate what they saw thru modeling, class discusses each model (group or individual) look to each other and compare and discuss. The class then generates questions. Moving away from learning from someone telling them and experiencing it instead.

When asked for an explanation of Canvas, Mr. Madancy explained that it is an interactive learning management system. Further information regarding this system will be shared at a future Board meeting.

## 8. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

### a. Personnel Report

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

**“Move to approve the Personnel Report”**

**Mrs. DiNello advised that there was a change to the coaches salaries: Cheerleading is only running through the winter, so amount needs to be changed to 50% of that salary to \$1,840.00.**

**“Move to approve the Personnel Report as amended.”**

**Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

**9. OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Town Government Communications**

Mr. Goralski

- Ordinance Committee has been quiet at this time.
- Farm Heritage Committee met on the 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Gronsby Farm Stand is being constructed at the high school – should be ready by spring
- The Hatton path will remain through the winter and in spring will become a 3-season gravel path. This will not be the designated path for students. Historical information will be provided at the next Town Council meeting.
- Board of Finance is moving their next meeting to November 28<sup>th</sup> and will follow this meeting with a budget workshop to address budget planning.

Mrs. Carmody:

- Town Council formed tax relief committee including Town and Board of Education members. Options of tax relief for residents in Southington will be reviewed.

**b. Superintendent’s Proposed Goals for 2018-19 – Second Reading**

Mr. Goralski reported there is a minor revision. Mr. Brown wants to be sure there is an effective future plan, and we need to be cognizant with young people interacting with other people. Mr. Connellan stated that students are future employees and collaboration is one of the components of this plan. Mr. Baczewski agreed that this was a positive plan to bring students to another level to adapt to future needs.

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

**“Move to adopt the Superintendent’s 2018-19 goals as presented”.**

Mr. Derynoski stated that goals are very well defined. Discussion of each point is premature at this time. Mrs. Queen thanked Mr. Connellan for information on student B which is very informative and progressive. There was a discussion of the support surrounding Emotional Intelligence and its implementation within the district.

**All in favor – None Opposed.**

Mr. Goralski - Robotics has not filed a field trip approval form yet – this will be brought before us soon.

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Approval of Out of State/Overnight Field Trip - SHS DECA ~ Overnight trip to Orlando, Florida April 26, 2019 – May 1, 2019 and Overnight trip to Indianapolis, Indiana October 29, 2019 –November 3, 2019**

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

**“Move that the Board of Education approve the field trip request for the SHS DECA group to travel to Orlando, Florida and the SHS Agriculture Science group to travel to Indianapolis, Indiana as presented by the administration.”**

**Motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.**

Mrs. Queen – Suggested in the future, we should only ask for representation for approval of field trips if there are questions. It was suggested that they come back after the trip to share with the Board of Education.

**b. Capital Improvement Plan 2019-20 to 2023-2024 ~ First Reading**

Mrs. DiNello introduced Mrs. Jennifer Mellitt, Purchasing Agent: Started with last year’s plan and crossed out anything that can be deleted. Any questions or comments, reach out to administrators, and then come back as second reading in December. Mr. Connellan thanked the residents of Southington for supporting the needs of our district through referendum.

Mr. Goralski thanked Mrs. Mellitt for the colored copies, chart, etc. Layout was very helpful and work is very detailed.

**c. Science Curriculum ~ First Reading – Mrs. Carmody’s explanation in the C&I Report was helpful.**

**11. Adjournment**

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

**“Move to adjourn”**

**Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Submitted by,

*Teresa Colegrove*

Recording Secretary