

WILLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 6:58 p.m. by chairman Mark Makuch at the Town Office Building.

PRESENT: Mark Makuch, Christine Psathas, Herb Arico, Laurie Semprebon, Leo Mercado, Superintendent David Harding, Christina Mailhos (arrived at 7:20pm)

ABSENT: Teri Gareau

COMMUNICATIONS:

Superintendent Harding shared a letter from the Superintendent of Hartford Public Schools warning about State provided funding not meeting obligations regarding magnet schools and a request for support.

Mark Makuch commented that he received communications that would be discussed during executive session. He also stated he received word from Jim Poole that he is interested in the upcoming vacancy on the Board.

PRESENT TO SPEAK:

Mark Jones wanted to state his interest in the Board of Education vacancy coming up.

Barry Wallett expressed his interest in the same Board of Education vacancy.

Peter Watts a parent of Center School children stated his concerns over the structure of the Wealth Program offered at Center, discussing his points of view and his conversations with David Harding, Colin McNamara and Holly McCarthy asking the Board to consider changing the structure of the program from two day requirement to a one day so that his children could participate.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Harding discussed the request for transfer of funds from the Health Insurance to cover the cost of an emergency elevator repair at Hall School in the amount of \$5000.00 He reported that two weeks ago a district data team was formed with all administrators, teachers from both CES and HMS and a trainer. The training was well received and trainer came back today to assist with using data more efficiently and making it standardized among the teams. He reported H1N1 continues to rise with clinics available. He reviewed amount of absentee students in both schools from Friday to Tuesday showing increase from 16 to 20 at CES and from 21 to 55 at HMS. Stating as previously discussed will continue to keep schools open as long as there is enough staff to teach classes.

Received preliminary design report for CES Water project and forwarded to town engineer to review. He will discuss with engineer for feedback before talking to Anchor.

Request received from CES Staff member to consider change of venue and or time of December Board Meeting due to CES concert on same night. Board decided to expect a small delay in start time of December meeting but to remain at the same location.

He handed out and discussed the SSP annual report which is available on the State Dept of Education website with a link from our website.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee met and reviewed the bills.

Herb Arico, Liaison for EastConn Executive Committee, met on October 27, 2009 approved

grants for Head Start and Inter-district with annual meeting scheduled in May of 2009 with anniversary reception prior to meeting from 4-6pm and including speaker Futurist Gary Marx. Transportation Committee met and looked at bus contract deciding to go out to bid. RFP almost ready to go out with goal to have numbers before budget in January.

Policy Committee is continuing with 9000 packet ready for first reading and hopeful for second reading and action in December.

Facilities Committee has not met but Mark Makuch looking at configuration of CES maps supplied from the zoning office and will meet with town engineer to review possibilities.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Mark Makuch, seconded by Laurie Semprebon to take the agenda first item A Executive Session of 6 New Business and move it after item 9 Board Comments.

VOTE: Unanimous in Favor

MOTION: by Christine Psathas, seconded by Leo Mercado, to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2009 Board Meeting.

VOTE: Unanimous in Favor

Board discussed emergency elevator repair at HMS for a new motherboard depleting the maintenance account which needs to be replenished from Health Insurance surplus funds.

MOTION: by Herb Arico, seconded by Christina Mailhos, to approve transfer of \$5,000.00 to Maintenance from Health Insurance.

VOTE: Unanimous in Favor

Board decided to table sub committee assignments until new members are seated.

MOTION: by Mark Makuch, seconded by Laurie Semprebon, to approve the 2010 Board of Education Meeting Calendar with change of June Meeting date to Wednesday, June 9, 2010.

VOTE: Unanimous in Favor

Board decided to table scheduling of Board retreat until new members are seated.
Board discussed turning over the Region #19 transportation contract to Region #19.

MOTION: by Laurie Semprebon, seconded by Leo Mercado, to recommend that we turn over the Region #19 transportation contract to Region #19 pending legal review.

VOTE: Yes: Christina Mailhos, Mark Makuch, Leo Mercado, Laurie Semprebon, Christine Psathas
Abstain: Herb Arico

Motion Passes

Board discussed first reading of recommended new policies in series 9000 Bylaws.
Board discussed the lunch process at CES with Superintendent Harding stating he is working on

an improvement to speed up the system using laminated cards.

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Christine Psathas, seconded by Mark Makuch, to Be it Resolved; That upon the recommendation of the Policy Review Committee and the Superintendent of Schools, the Willington Board of Education adopts the **Board of Education Policy Manual, Section 4000, Personnel**, as presented.

VOTE: Unanimous in Favor

PRESENT TO SPEAK:

None

BOARD COMMENTS:

Board thanked Christina Mailhos for her time serving on the Board and wished her continued success in her future position.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Laurie Semprebon, seconded by Herb Arico, to enter executive session at 8:22 p.m. to discuss litigation and invite Superintendent Harding to join.

VOTE: Unanimous in Favor

Board exited executive session at 8:58 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Nichole Page
Recording Secretary