

WILLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by chairman Mark Makuch at the Town Office Building.

PRESENT: Mark Makuch, Christina Mailhos, Christine Psathas, Herb Arico, Teri Gareau
Laurie Semprebon, Leo Mercado, Superintendent David Harding

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mark Makuch gave brief clarification on the water project for CES being about the amount of water not the quality of water.

Superintendent Harding shared the original letter written to First Student regarding first day bus breakdown issues and maintenance reporting and the response letter received from First Student last Friday stating age of busses causing non-compliance and that replacement busses will be in place by October 16, 2009.

PRESENT TO SPEAK:

None

PRESENTATION:

CES principal Colin McNamara passed out a packet regarding indoor recess. He discussed the recess games day and ideas about opportunities for more activity options during indoor recess. He discussed ideas from Center PE teacher, Sean Conlin, stating Sean met with Hall PE teachers during staff development today to share those ideas.

HMS principal, Deborah Sullivan answered questions regarding indoor recess activities.

Superintendent Harding shared information about the upcoming HMS clubs transfer request regarding the reinstatement of grades 4 and 5 clubs for this year and to add a one day afterschool club for grades 6-8. Board discussed club details with questions answered by Principal Sullivan.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Harding reported the SFSF portion of the ECS grant has been set at about 14%. He explained how the state budget was not set prior to July 1, the mechanism for transferring the money to the town was passed in legislation in June and a monthly transfer to the town from the BOE will need to take place and will not exceed the amount of the SFSF money. The BOE will be on the Board of Finance agenda for this week.

Superintendent Harding will make recommendations to transfer money to clean up accounts due to job retirements and teacher reassignments that occurred after the budget was passed.

He stated that both Center and Hall students are using Blue Ribbon Testing with a data team going for training on October 20 and 21.

He reported on H1N1 survey sent home to parents with about 88-100 responses that were then reported to the Eastern Highlands Health District who will have a voluntary clinic around second week in November but actual date has not yet been set.

CES Water project is a little behind due to engineering firm needing to check with town about rules of public water supply that gives ability for homes to connect to it and finding that it is not a public water utility system but town owned. Engineer believes they will make up the time once get started.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Facility Committee met tonight with Head Custodian, Ron Strong, who came to advise on list of upcoming projects. Discussed reporting to board of Finance and if members have any ideas on methods please let committee know.

Policy Committee is continuing with two more sections remaining to be reviewed. Project that within the next six months the policy manual should be completed. Discussed the 2-4 week time lag from CABE to receive back edited documents.

Finance Committee met and reviewed bills.

Herb Arico, member of Region #19 Board, met on October 6, 2009 reporting retreat scheduled on November 7, 2009, discussed SAT and CAPT scores

Herb Arico, Liaison for EastConn Executive Committee, met on September 22, 2009 with speaker, Attorney Peter Smith, hired as a lobbyist for RESC and EastConn, reported budget is about \$39 million for 09-10 with half from grants and half generated from towns.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Herb Arico, seconded by Leo Mercado, to approve the minutes of the September 08, 2009 Board Meeting with edits.

VOTE: Unanimous in Favor

Board discussed the HMS after school clubs for grades 4 and 5 to be reinstated and to add a day for grades 6-8 clubs as well with approximate costs totaling \$15,000 to come from the health insurance surplus.

MOTION: by Mark Makuch, seconded by Christine Psathas, to approve clubs for 4-8 grades comprising of two transfers of \$15,000.00.

VOTE: Unanimous in Favor

Superintendent Harding went over each line item in the handout showing breakdown of salary transfers to be made to clean up accounts so it is reflectively accurate due to teacher reassignments, retirements, and new hires for this year.

MOTION: by Mark Makuch, seconded by Herb Arico, to approve transfers of \$142,196.00.

VOTE: Unanimous in Favor

Board briefly discussed the ECS transfer process.

Board discussed CIP Proposal draft and the need to submit it early to get items on the list stating to let Superintendent Harding know thoughts about the items.

Board discussed CABE recognition award paperwork done last year needed to resubmit with signatures from all members this year.

Board discussed first reading of Series 4000 Policies, Personnel stating to send comments on changes to policy committee. Superintendent Harding handed out copies of regulations for Board member's policy books.

Board reviewed revisions of Policies 1212-School Volunteers, 1250- Visits to the School, and 9323-Construction of the Agenda.

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 revisions of **Board of**

Education Policies; 1212 -School Volunteers, 1250-Visits to the School, and 9323-Construction of the Agenda.

VOTE: Unanimous in Favor

OLD BUSINESS:

Superintendent Harding explained the handout on the Superintendent's Goals for 09-10 stating the accomplished items, the developing items that are continuing, and the new items. Members are to send any comments to Laurie Semprebon.

PRESENT TO SPEAK:

None

BOARD COMMENTS:

Board attended recess game day at Center School and the staff breakfasts at each of the schools. Board thanked Christine Psathas and gave her a plaque for all her hard work and accomplishments while serving on the Board for the past five years stating how much she will be missed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Nichole Page
Recording Secretary