

**SYSTEM-WIDE PARENT TEACHERS ADVISORY COUNCIL
BOARD OF EDUCATION – CONFERENCE ROOM
43 HALL AVENUE, WALLINGFORD
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2015**

MINUTES

Attendance: Tammy Raccio (H/SH), Kate O'Donnell, Linda Winters, Peter Angelastro (H/Y), Bekka Carr (H), Shawn Parkhurst, Sal Menzo, Mike Votto, Ken Welch, Jen Short, Beth Raccio (SH), Karen Hlavac, Jen Humowitz (LH), Jonathan Chappell (Dag), Chauntel Papallo(RH), Nick Passariello (H), Scott Mowerson (M), Melissa Bader (MYB), Bryan Rivard (CH)

1. Call to Order – 6:03 p.m.
2. Approval of Minutes of June 16, 2015 (handout)- Peter Angelastro made a motion to approve
3. Nominations and Election of SW PTAC Chair and Vice Chair for 15-16- Tammy Raccio will Chair Jonathan Chappell serves as vice chair (if elected to BOE will have to be replaced after inauguration), motion carries
4. Introductions
5. Looking back on SWPTAC 14-15 (PowerPoint)- reviewed goals and data
6. Bus Safety presentation & next steps (PowerPoint)
 - Bid specifications have been put together, proposal was opened by RedFlex, 3 year contract, can extend contract for 2 more years, town will receive 28%, town is reviewing contract language, have installed 15 temporary cameras to analyze routes and determine high risk areas, will install 5 cameras on vehicles and will communicate with Wallingford Police Department, hoping to roll program out first or second week in October, press release will be created, information will be posted on the website
 - Question was asked if RedFlex can terminate the contract. Linda Winters will explore.
 - Where does the 28% go? It goes to the town budget, not the BOE budget.
 - Information was already presented to the bus drivers, who were in favor of the program.
7. Update from Science Standards Meeting in Mystic (Peter Angelastro,-)
 - Reviewed the NGSS, current standards are 10 years old, goal is to better prepare students for STEM careers, less memorization of facts and more application of knowledge and skills, more relevant to students and more practice-based, will take a great deal of teacher training

8. Summer Reading – Comparison amongst DRG & Discussion (handout)
 - High school used Nutmeg list exclusively
 - Summer reading committee will meet throughout the school year
 - Question- what is the objective for summer reading? Pick a book and read for some, some AP courses require summer reading, used to lose points for not participating, now extra credit is given for summer reading
 - Discussion of other districts and how they handle summer reading

9. Food Service Opportunities –
 - District Wellness Strategic Planning Committee- goals, changes in menu, tomorrow
 - Parent and Student participation – next meeting 9/16
 - i. Introduction of new Members
 - ii. Discussion of student voice through advisory committees
 - Update on July meeting- discussed food quality protocols, customer complaint form (handout), managers weren't using the form, cafeteria managers have started using the form again this year, sample menu items were shared at the last meeting, Wallingford lunchables will be shared at a future PTAC meeting, high school photography class will take pictures for website and shared with elementary student
 - New Menu items, Website Revisions, etc.
 - Update on outside vendors and possibility of a full bid process for outsourcing, neither vendor will bid on the project

10. Discussion Regarding PTAC involvement in Candidate Forum
 - Co-sponsoring a forum (for BOE only, not Town Council) with the Coalition of Wallingford
 - i. Shared Red Ribbon week information
 - ii. Coalition is an evidence-based activity group
 - iii. Board of Ed has decided to give a second round of the survey
 - iv. Bring Back the Neighborhood program- Coalition and YSS will hold a neighborhood discussion about risky behavior, have held 3 meetings
 - v. Coalition was invited again to the Moran Open House night
 - Sponsoring a forum by SWPTAC only – no interest in competing with existing forum
 - Input to existing Wallingford Community Women Forum- Oct 7 for TC, Oct 8 for BOE can be sent to Eric Vo - evo@record-journal.com
 - Discussed three options above- not all PTAC members in favor of a second forum, or one only for BOE members, vote is that PTAC does not want to co-sponsor an additional forum
 - Links to BOE forums from 2013:
 - i. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jR07U7iE4aE>
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GeukgFm_K3k

11. Welcoming Walkthroughs – next steps (handout)

- Kate will attend on November 4, at 9 am

12. Various SW PTAC Updates

- Update on LHHS Track- on schedule to be complete by Thanksgiving week
- Save the date – PPS Fair 10/27- PTAC table
- Virtual Backpacks at Schools – status update
- Parent Checklists – status update
- Balanced Score Card Criteria – next steps- goes beyond Strategic School profile to look at other measures, first round of data collected by October 21, will be shared with PTAC in November, just a pilot, data not going public yet, each school will have a link to both the state SSP and the balanced score card

13. Sub Committee Updates

- Underage Drinking (upcoming presentation 10/28 at Town Hall)- meeting this Thursday, September 17 to revise the presentation, planning session September 23, Beth Raccio invites any PTAC members to attend.
- Dress Code Committee- a petition has been started

14. School Based PTAC Roundtable- Lyman Hall- eager to work with parents Sheehan- parents interested in robotics club

15. Meeting Dates 2015-2016 (handout)

16. Adjournment- 8:41 pm