

**WALLINGFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday – May 16, 2016
Board of Education Conference Room
100 South Turnpike Road**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairperson Doerr called the meeting to order at 8:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

K. Castelli, A. Doerr, K. Hlavac, S. Glidden, R. McKay, P. Reynolds, M. Votto

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

C. Lavalette, R. Mancusi, B. McCully, S. Menzo, S. Parkhurst

III. DISCUSSION

A. Discussion and Possible Action – Update on *Wallingford Promise*

Dr. Salvatore Menzo, Superintendent, stated *Wallingford Promise* is a proposed initiative which involves parents, students, teachers, administrators and community partners working together in a community effort committed to providing the best avenue for success for all Wallingford students. The Wallingford Promise would solidify what teachers, parents, and even some students know – they each matter in each other's pursuit of success in their individual roles. The goal is to further engage everyone in a community effort to support student success and provide the best experience and outcomes for all students. The Wallingford Promise would be a multi-level document connecting student, parent, teacher, district administration, Board of Education members, and community organizations in a compact to invest in each other's mutual success on the journey toward the Wallingford 100.

Wallingford is a finalist for a grant which will provide funding to facilitate this proposed program. The grant will be awarded in January 2017. All stakeholders have to be comfortable with this program for it to be successful. Dr. Menzo provided a proposed timeline to all Board members which included six steps. Step 1 addresses requesting volunteers from the following groups: parents, students, teachers, administrators and community partners. There will be a presentation to the Wallingford Forum on May 19, 2016 – where SCOW, WE CARE, Youth and Social Services, Wallingford Public Library and the YMCA will all have representatives at this forum.

Step 2 is to organize and conduct a summer workshop day during which the draft of the Wallingford Promise will be developed. A district administrator will facilitate each of the core areas of the Wallingford Promise. Core areas include students, parents, teachers, administrators, Board of Education members and community members. The initial draft should include *I Promise* statements as well as implementation and monitoring steps. Step 3 will occur in September and October of 2016 when a draft of *Wallingford Promise* will be vetted by parents, students, teachers, administrators, and community partners. Step 4 is to have the summer group meet in October to draft an implementation and monitoring plan. Step 5 will be to share the draft plan with the Board of Education members and Step 6 will be to have a draft of the implementation and monitoring plan vetted by parents, students, teachers, administrators and community partners. In December, this draft will be shared with the Board of Education members.

Ms. Doerr suggested reaching out to community members who are young parents and do not yet have children in the school system, as well as community members who are not parents, but would be interested in becoming involved in this partnership. Mrs. McKay stated this is truly the next progression of the Wallingford 100 – like Wallingford 100 2.0! Tammy Raccio, District-Wide PTAC president, added the committee should also think about what areas are “broken” so they can be addressed at future meetings.

Dr. Menzo concluded by stating in order for the Wallingford Promise to foster connections and increase student success throughout their years in our district and upon graduation, we need authentic voices from all constituent groups. Volunteers will be asked to participate in a one-day session on Monday, June 27, 2016 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., where the focus will be on identifying key elements of the Wallingford Promise through the eyes of each partner.

The work of the steering committee will be shared with all constituents this fall and presented for approval by the Board of Education prior to January 1, 2017. Next spring, the Wallingford Promise would be communicated to students, parents, staff, and community members and would be officially implemented in the fall of 2017 as part of our district rollout of mastery-based learning.

There being no further business, Vice Chairperson Doerr adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betsy McCully
Assistant Superintendent's Secretary