

**WALLINGFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
INSTRUCTIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING  
Monday – June 2, 2014  
Board of Education Conference Room  
Hall-Elton Building**

**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Cei called the meeting to order at 7:23 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

M. Brooder, J. Cei, J. Marrone, R. McKay, C. Miller, C. Shortell, M. Votto

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

C. Cavallaro, J. Churma, C. Lavalette, R. Mancusi, B. McCully, C. McNamara, S. Menzo, K. Moore, L. Moreno, S. Parkhurst

**II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Instructional Committee Meeting minutes of May 5, 2014 were accepted as presented.

**III. DISCUSSION**

**A. Approval of Wallingford-Del Carmen, Argentina Exchange Program Agreement**

Dr. Menzo stated Wallingford's World Language Curriculum Resource Teacher Kim Moore came to Wallingford two years ago and was involved in exchange programs in her previous district. Mrs. Moore has an established relationship with the Del Carmen school district in Argentina and has been there several times with students. The first part of the Global Outreach – Argentina proposal allows students from Argentina to have "home stays" with our Wallingford students and families. These students would come here with their teachers and potentially would then invite our Wallingford students to stay with them in Argentina. Wallingford Public Schools is embarking on several international partnership opportunities for students and staff. This year we are participating in the first China-US Junior Achievement Program. This program teams 20 students from our district with 20 students from Shanghai for the development of an international business. The first part of the program took place at Yale University this past summer with 40 students coming together for classes on economics, business, entrepreneurship and international business planning. During the course of the school year, the students have launched their business. While our students are in Shanghai this summer, the business will be dissolved.

Mrs. Moore introduced two World Language teachers, Jennifer Churma and Christina Cavallaro, who are both Spanish teachers in the district. Spanish 3 students are the students who will hopefully participate in this exchange in 2015 – 20 students (10 students from each high school). This past year Ms. Churma and Ms. Cavallaro, along with the other Spanish 3 teachers, have utilized the video conferencing system to have topic-specific conversations with students in Argentina. In the spring of 2015 we hope to have 20 students from Del Carmen come to Wallingford to experience "a day in the life" of a typical student. These students would also go on two excursions while they are here – perhaps a day in Boston and a day in New York City. The cost for our host families are truly meals and housing. Then in the summer of 2015 our students would travel to Argentina for two weeks and stay with the families of the students they hosted here in the spring.

Mrs. Moore stated the trip will cost each student \$2,200. The cost covers the flights, the bus to and from the airport and the two excursions to Boston and New York City for the Argentinian students. This exchange is not funded from Board of Education funds. Students will hold fund raising events to help defer the cost. The criteria for each student to participate in this trip is as follows: the student must have successfully completed Spanish 3, have no disciplinary issues, must secure a teacher character reference from the world language teacher, receive an additional teacher reference and submit a two paragraph essay stating what their goal is for being part of this partnership. Mrs. Moore added that built into the \$2,200 per student cost, \$367 is used to cover the cost of a chaperone.

The unanimous consensus of the Board was to send the approval of the Wallingford-Del Carmen, Argentina Exchange Program Agreement to the Board of Education for action at its next meeting.

**B. Approval of Lyman Hall H.S. French Club Trip to Quebec City, Canada – April 22<sup>nd</sup> to April 25, 2015**

Dr. Menzo stated this item must be tabled for a future meeting since it came to his office before the Field Trips Regulation – 6153a has been approved at the Board of Education meeting.

**IV. PRESENTATION**

**A. Strategic Plan Narrative Updates**

Mr. Parkhurst stated in each Board packet there are Strategic Plan Narrative updates from Curriculum & Instruction, Community Partnerships, Communication and District Climate. In the Curriculum & Instruction Strategic Plan he stated the Algebra 1 and Geometry areas have been almost completed; however due to revised pacing there will need to be unit and assessment revisions happening this fall. Pre-Calculus, Statistics & Advanced Topics in Math will be reviewed in the fall. Spanish 4 and French 4 are in progress to be completed in 2014-2015 and Grades 1 & 2 Introductory Spanish will be completed this summer. Italian 3 and German 1, 2 & 3 will be completed in 2014-2015 and Latin 1, 2 & 3 will be completed this summer. In Social Studies and Science at the middle school level and at the high school level, three of the units are completed and ready to be implemented. There will be continued work on additional units during the 2014-2015 school year.

Dr. Menzo stated the Strategic Plan is not about phasing – it is about the end goal. The area to be worked on next is providing data which supports how progress has been made in each area. Currently this is more of a qualitative review; now the district needs to look at all the data in order to continually reallocate services and resources.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairperson Cei adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betsy McCully  
Assistant Superintendent's Secretary