

**WALLINGFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
DRAMA LECTURE ROOM
SHEEHAN HIGH SCHOOL
HOPE HILL ROAD, WALLINGFORD
MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2012**

Mission: *To inspire, educate and support all students as they discover and pursue their personal best.*

Vision: *Wallingford Public Schools, with families and community, will distinguish itself with innovative teaching and learning experiences in a safe and supportive environment. Our goal is to ignite passion for learning and excellence in every student so that each becomes a life-long contributor to the local and global communities.*

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Roxane McKay at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

The Clerk of the Board, Elizabeth Napolitano, called the roll.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

**BROODER, CASTELLI, MANSFIELD, MARRONE, MCKAY, REYNOLDS,
VOTTO**

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

MENZO, COHN, GUARINO, BACKUS, DEPTULA, WINTERS, NAPOLITANO

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

PRESENTATION OF CUBE COMMUNICATION AWARD – PATRICE MCCARTHY

Patrice McCarthy, Executive Director of CUBE, came before the Board to present them with the *2011 Award of Excellence for Educational Communications* for the promotional video on DVD and video. She explained that CUBE has a number of awards they give away for magazines, budget books, calendars and others. She stated that Dr. Menzo and the Think Tank committee created the video which is also on the Wallingford Public Schools website.

Mrs. McKay said that it is always nice to be recognized and CUBE is a great support of us. She went on to say that it is inspiring to watch and gave kudos to the Think Tank for their hard work.

RECOGNITION OF 2011 FIRE PREVENTION POSTER CONTEST WINNERS – MACEY SUNDWALL AND MICHELLE MORALES

Dr. Menzo stated that Michelle Morales and Macey Sundwall were recognized this past month as the 2011 Fire Prevention Poster Contest Winners. He presented Michelle with a certificate and a pin and said Macey's certificate would be sent to her since she was not available. He explained that they would now represent Wallingford at the State level.

RECOGNITION OF BOARD MEMBER APPRECIATION MONTH

Dr. Menzo explained that March is Board of Education Appreciation Month. As we have done in the past two years and in order to recognize each of the Board members a book was donated to elementary school libraries. A bookplate is in each book saying that the book is donated from the Board members for their hard work and dedication to the children of the Wallingford Schools. Dr. Menzo thanked them from the administrators and staff.

STUDENT-BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

Alex Lynde, Student Board representative from Lyman Hall High School, came to the podium to give a report.

- Spring Blood Drive is this Friday, March 23 in the Vo-Ag Community Room.
- The Soldier Drive, which will run in both high schools, will begin on April 2nd and will end on April 13th. Dave Gessert, from the American Legion, has provided us with a list of the items that soldiers serving overseas generally need or want. We will be sending the packages to a former Lyman Hall student, Jared Awner, who is currently serving in Afghanistan.
- Lyman Hall will be finishing up CAPT testing over the next two days.
- Congratulations to the Boy Basketball Team! They made it to the semi-finals in the SCC Tournament and qualified for the State Tournament.
- Project Graduation Faculty Basketball game is at 7:00 p.m. tomorrow night at Sheehan.
- The Annual band trip to Virginia is from March 29th to April 1st.
- ADL *Names Can Really Hurt Us* program is being held on April 3rd for the sophomores.

Mackenzie Mendygral, came before the Board to give the Sheehan report since Katie Peel was not available.

- On Friday Sheehan held the annual talent show, followed by the Winter Carnival. The talent show was filled with amazing talent representing each grade level. At the carnival, there was a basketball tournament. Over 40 groups of students signed up to be a team. Each game lasted four minutes and they were fun to watch. There was also a blow-up jousting station set up in senior court that was also lots of fun
- This week is also the end of the CAPT testing which the sophomores are preparing diligently for.
- On March 28th student council is holding the first cancer awareness month this year. Bracelets will be sold during lunch waves for students to support cancer research. This month is national colon cancer awareness month. We hope to have a good turnout for this.
- We will also be helping Sheehan with the Soldier Drive. Katie looks forward to working together with Lyman Hall's student council for such a good cause.
- The Town of Wallingford Health Department will be coming to Sheehan on April 3rd for an assembly for the junior and senior classes to discuss the dangers of tanning and skin cancer since many of the girls go tanning in preparation for the prom.

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

There were no questions brought before the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: MARRONE, SECOND BY REYNOLDS

VOTE: Unanimous approval to accept items 7.1-7.7 as listed below.

- Approval to Accept Special BOE **Minutes** dated February 27, 2012
- Approval to Accept Cafeteria **Financial Report** – February 2012
- Approval to Accept Board of Education **Financial Report** – February 2012
- Approval of Modification of K-2 Elementary Start/End Time for September 2012
- Approval of Domain Name Change
- Approval to Accept Proposed Adoption of High School Course Curriculum: Three Dimensional Art
- Approval of Budget Expenditures for \$230,823 from 2011-2012 Encumbered Fund Balance

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

No items were removed from the Consent Agenda

CORRESPONDENCE

NATIONAL ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS WEEK PROCLAMATION (April 15 through April 20, 2012) Mrs. McKay read into the minutes as listed below.

**PROCLAMATION
National Assistant Principals Week
April 16, 2012 through April 20, 2012**

WHEREAS, the assistant principal is a member of the school administrative team who interacts with virtually every sector of the school community, including support staff, instructional staff, students, and parents; and

WHEREAS, assistant principals play a pivotal role in the instructional leadership of the school by conducting instructional supervision, mentoring teachers, recognizing the achievements of staff, encouraging collaboration, ensuring the implementation of best practices, monitoring student achievement goals and progress, facilitating and modeling data driven decision-making to inform instruction, and guiding reflection geared toward targeted intervention and continual school improvement; and

WHEREAS, assistant principals are entrusted with maintaining a warm and inviting, safe, and orderly school environment that supports the growth and achievement of each and every student; and

WHEREAS, the day-to-day logistical operations of school require assistant principals to monitor and address facility needs, attendance, transportation issues, and scheduling, as well as supervise extra and co-curricular events; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Elementary School Principals supports and recognizes assistant principals through professional learning experiences and recognizes the investment in their development to the future of school leadership; and

WHEREAS, the week of April 16, 2012 through April 20, 2012, would be appropriate to designate as **National Assistant Principals Week**.

Signed this nineteenth day of March, 2012 by Roxane McKay, Chairman of the Board

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A.C.E.S. Representative

Mrs. Castelli reported that she attended a meeting where the executive director of ACES and the Commissioner of Education has charged that the RESC Alliance to prepare a proposal to identify and address the 25 districts to identify four critical areas - Common Core Standards, Turn Around Support, Early Childhood Education and Teacher Evaluations. She said this is from a legislative perspective and there will be more information in the future. She went on to say that there were three components of the ACES budget that were approved. They were the Technology Services Budget, Early Childhood Services Budget and Professional Development Budget.

Wintergreen Magnet School Steering Committee

Mr. Votto reported that the next meeting is next Wednesday.

Building Committee Representative for Vo-Ag Building Project

Dr. Menzo reported that Mr. Vitale is keeping him up to date and it is moving along.

School to Career Representative

Dr. Menzo stated that last week he and Gail McCormack went out to visit businesses to reach out to them as community partnerships.

Diversity in Action Committee Representative

Mrs. McKay was not able to attend the last meeting.

Mr. O'Neill, Principal of Parker Farms School, reported that agreed to become a part of the District Climate Committee and reached out to businesses to join them.

Report from Roof Project Committee Representative

Mr. Marrone reported that they haven't met since the last Board meeting. He stated that the bid documents have been approved by the State.

Dr. Menzo went on to say that today the bus tour was finalized by Linda Winters and Mary Anne Croce to take the bidders on a tour of the roofs.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was brought before the Board.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMITTEE

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF SANDRA CONE, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Sandra Cone**, effective June 30, 2012.

Sandra Cone has been with the Wallingford Public School since August, 1996. From September, 1996 to the present, she has been a school counselor at Lyman Hall High School for a total of **sixteen years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF KAREN PYSKATY, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Karin Pyskaty**, effective June 30, 2012.

Karin Pyskaty has been with the Wallingford Public Schools since October, 1993. From October, 1993 to the present, she has been a family consumer science/health teacher at Lyman Hall High School for a total of **nineteen years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

Dave Bryant, Principal of Lyman Hall High School, came before the Board to say a few kind words about Sandy Cohn and Karin Pyskaty.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF SHEILA WERTHEIM, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Sheila Wertheim**, effective June 30, 2012.

Sheila Wertheim has been with the Wallingford Public Schools since 1968. From September, 1968 to June, 1973, she was an English teacher at Dag Hammarskjold Middle School and from October, 1986 to the present, she has been an English teacher at Mark T. Sheehan High School for a total of **thirty-one years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

Rosemary Duthie, Principal of Sheehan High School, came before the Board to say a few nice words about Sheila Wertheim.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF WILLIAM CARTER, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **William Carter**, effective June 30, 2012.

William Carter has been with the Wallingford Public Schools since 1993. From August, 1993 to the present, he has been a school counselor at the elementary and middle school levels for a total of **nineteen years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF ARLENE FAIMAN, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Arlene Faiman**, effective June 30, 2012.

Arlene Faiman has been with the Wallingford Public Schools since 1991. From September, 1991 to the present, she has been a special education and classroom teacher at Dag Hammarskjold Middle School for a total of **twenty-one years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF IRENE MITZOFF, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Irene Milzoff**, effective June 30, 2012.

Irene Milzoff has been with the Wallingford Public Schools since 1995. From August, 1995 to the present, she has been an interventionist teacher at Dag Hammarskjold Middle School for a total of **seventeen years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF KATHERINE REDMANN, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Katherine Redmann**, effective June 30, 2012.

Katherine Redmann has been with the Wallingford Public Schools since August, 1986. From September, 1986 to the present, she has been a school counselor at Dag Hammarskjold and Moran Middle Schools for a total of **twenty-six years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

Ann Cocchiola, Principal of Dag Hammarskjold, came before the Board to say a few kind words about William Carter, Arlene Faiman, Irene Mitzoff, and Katherine Redmann.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF MARION GRACEY, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Marion Gracey**, effective June 30, 2012.

Marion Gracey has been with the Wallingford Public Schools since August, 1988. From September, 1988 to June, 1992, she was a classroom teacher at Cook Hill School and Moran Middle School and from August, 1992, to the present, she has been a school counselor at Moran Middle School for a total of **twenty-four years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

Joy Wright, Principal at Moran Middle School, came to the podium to say a few nice words about Marion Gracey.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF ELLEN LAZZARA, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Ellen Lazzara**, effective June 30, 2012.

Ellen Lazzara has been with the Wallingford Public Schools since September, 1971. From September, 1971 to the present, she has been an elementary classroom teacher at E.C. Stevens, Pond Hill, Rock Hill and Moses Y. Beach Schools for a total of **forty-one years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF LESLIE LOEHMANN, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Leslie Loehmann**, effective June 30, 2012.

Leslie Loehmann has been with the Wallingford Public Schools since August, 1999. From August, 1999 to the present, she has been a special education teacher at Moses Y. Beach and Holy Trinity Schools for a total of **thirteen years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

Rob Arciero, Principal at Moses Y. Beach, came to the podium to speak about Leslie Loehmann.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF ANN BOYLAN, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Ann Boylan**, effective June 30, 2012.

Ann Boylan has been with the Wallingford Public Schools since September, 1977. From August, 1977 to the present, she has been a special education teacher in the Learning Disabilities Program, Yalesville School and Parker Farms School for a total of **thirty-five years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

Mike O'Neill, Principal at Parker Farms School, came before the Board to say a few nice words about Ann Boylan.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF DEBORAH FERNANDES, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Deborah Fernandes**, effective June 30, 2012.

Deborah Fernandes has been with the Wallingford Public Schools since September, 1976. From September, 1976 to the present, she has been a special education teacher at Moran Middle School and an elementary classroom teacher at E.C. Stevens School and Pond Hill Schools for a total of **thirty-six years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF KATHLEEN HANISKO, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Kathleen Hanisko**, effective June 30, 2012.

Kathleen Hanisko has been with the Wallingford Public Schools since September, 1985. From September, 1985 to the present, she has been an elementary classroom teacher at E.C. Stevens and Pond Hill Schools for a total of **twenty-seven years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF JESSIE HOYT, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Jessie Hoyt**, effective June 30, 2012.

Jessie Hoyt has been with the Wallingford Public Schools since 1999. From September, 1999 to the present, she has been an interventionist teacher at Pond Hill School for a total of **thirteen years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF MARGARET O'DEA, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2012

MOTION: MANSFIELD, SECOND BY MARRONE

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Margaret O'Dea**, effective June 30, 2012.

Margaret O'Dea has been with the Wallingford Public Schools since August, 1996. From August, 1996 to the present, she has been a school social worker at Pond Hill School for a total of **sixteen years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

Rick Pizzonia, Principal at Pond Hill School, came before the Board to say a few kind words about Deborah Fernandes, Kathleen Hanisko, Jessie Hoyt, and Margaret O'Dea.

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED ADOPTION OF NEW POLICY – DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING FOR DRIVERS OF SCHOOL BUSES AND STUDENT TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES – 4212.42

Ellen Cohn explained that we are undergoing a complete policy review through CAFE. She said this is a more explicit policy on drug and alcohol testing for drivers who transport students. She said that any contract we have will state that this is a requirement for drivers per State law. She went on to say that since we do have certified staff who transport students to various instructional activities, they also will have to comply with the State law to be tested. She stated that a private vendor will be hired to perform the testing for drugs and alcohol.

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED ADOPTION OF NEW POLICY – BUS CONTRACTOR – 3541.23

Mrs. Cohn reported that this policy states that the districts will go out to bid and any company we do business with has requirements to meet State regulations and includes the drug and alcohol testing.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Report on Operations Committee Meeting

Mr. Brooder reported that the Operations Committee meeting was on March 12. He said they reviewed the Cafeteria Financial report and in past years it carried a surplus but the current year is in deficit. He reported that the Committee also reviewed the Board Financial report which shows a surplus of just under \$500,000. Nxegen is moving forward with the second phase of that project within the upcoming year. He said the Committee agreed to modify the bell time for the K-2 elementary start time for the 2012-2013 school year. He also announced that the domain name for our website will be updated to make it easier for people to use the website. He thanked the Board, Dr. Menzo and staff who worked so hard on the budget.

ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Dr. Menzo gave his administrative report as listed below.

- He thanked the Board and central office staff for all the hard work that went into the Budget.
- He stated that he will be attending the PPS PTO meeting tomorrow night for a budget presentation.
- He explained that there are grants that the district is pursuing. He said one of them is the State Farm grant for Cause and Effect. He is also meeting with other administrators to find other grants.
- He updated everyone on events:
 - * The Distinguished Alumni dinner is on Friday, March 23rd
 - * *Grease* performance by Sheehan students – Senior citizens from the senior center and Ashlar Village will be previewing the dress rehearsal at 3:30 on Thursday.
 - * The Invention Convention is taking place next week
 - * There is a play at Moran called "13".
 - * A garden is going to be planted at Highland School
 - * The Adult Spelling Bee is being held on April 13th.
- He pointed out that there is a copy of the State report regarding the Vo-Ag center which the Director of that department responded to. It was concerning the clerical staff and the five-year plan to increase racial and ethnic diversity, both which have been addressed.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION FOR THE DETERMINATION OF GRADUATION DATE – JUNE 2012

Dr. Menzo recommended that June 15, 2012 be this year's graduation date. He reported that this would give senior 182 days.

MOTION: MARRONE, SECOND BY REYNOLDS

VOTE: Unanimous approval to move the graduation to June 15, 2012

