

**WALLINGFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
LYMAN HALL HIGH SCHOOL – VO AG DEPARTMENT  
COMMUNITY ROOM  
70 POND HILL ROAD, WALLINGFORD  
MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2013**

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

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**

Chairperson, Roxane McKay, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **ROLL CALL**

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

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

**BROODER, CASTELLI, CEI, MANSFIELD, MARRONE, MCKAY, MILLER, VOTTO**

### **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

**REYNOLDS**

### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

**MENZO, COHN, GUARINO, BACKUS, WINTERS, DEPTULA, WONG, MANCUSI, NAPOLITANO**

### **STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES**

**Mackenzie Mendygral**, Student Board representative from Sheehan, came before the Board to give a report as listed below.

- She reported that many students have been involved in the SAT testing as well as keeping up their grades for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.
- Many students have been studying continuously for the final exams.
- Last week the Class of 2015 had a basketball tournament for their class and it was a great hit.
- Michaela Mendygral, shot putter for Sheehan, came in 15<sup>th</sup> in nationals yesterday in North Carolina.
- Student Council just had the elections for next year and are planning next year for community. I look forward to seeing you all next year.
- School is coming to a fast end with senior exams this week and the rest following.

**Jeff Zakrzewski**, Student Board President from Lyman Hall, was not available to give a report.

## **PRESENTATION OF AWARDS**

### **Recognition of Student Finalists in the State Invention Convention**

Dr. Menzo called Karen Ripa, STEP teacher, to the podium to tell a little about the Invention Convention and invite the students up to receive a certificate. She first had the students show their invention and explain a little about each one. She reported that the students were in grades three through five from the four elementary schools. She explained that some students who were not in her class made an invention as an independent project. She stated that there were 120 students involved in the Invention Convention. The event took place at the Gample Pavilion in Hartford. She called each student listed below to the podium to receive a certificate and pin: Lily Vining, Alexis Eaton, Caitlin Trutneau, Sierra Gato, Jamie Malone, Adrianna Fernicola, Grace Chappell, Manav Parikh, Jake Lion, Natalie DiDomenico, Marley Esch, Karena Kulakowski, Brennan Lagasse, Simon Koepfer, Julia Limosani, Sarina Kapoor, Jaidin Kapoor, Kinsley Wallace, Kayla Carrano and Jenna Kennedy who also received the Superintendent's Award.

### **Recognition of State President for Future Farmers of America**

Dr. Menzo called Dave Bryant, Principal of Lyman Hall to the podium to say a few words. He called Carla Roselli to the podium to explain how Rachel Footit received the honor of being elected as President for the State Chapter of Future Farmers of America. She also explained that Rachel will go to Washington to represent the State and will meet with the legislators and President Obama also. Dr. Menzo and Board Chairperson, Roxane McKay presented Rachel with a certificate and a pin.

Dr. Menzo presented a video showing numbers of things that happened or were counted in the school system.

## **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

Ken Welch, 21 Pleasant Street, came before the Board to say that the Coalition for a Better Wallingford is standing behind the survey that the school system made.

Iris Papale, 46 S. Cherry Street, came before the Board to express concerns about the Food Service program eliminating the snacks for students.

Mrs. McKay explained that this will be reviewed again in November. She said the Board will get recommendations from the principals to be reviewed.

Dr. Menzo stated that if parents would like to share concerns with their PTAC representative they would be discussed at a System Wide PTAC meeting.

Heather Carrano, 47 Lynn Drive, suggested that the school district should get the parents more involved.

Dulcey Worth, teacher at Moran Middle School, wrote and read a parting speech to Jan Guarino.

Dr. Menzo and the Board presented a book to be donated to each high school for Jan Guarino and Ellen Cohn. Mrs. Guarino and Mrs. Cohn also received marble bookends from the Board.

Mrs. McKay came to the podium to say a few words about each Assistant Superintendent and some of the Board members made some kind remarks also.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION: CASTELLI, SECOND BY MILLER**

**VOTE: Unanimous approval to accept the Consent Agenda items 7.1-7.16 as listed below.**

Approval to Accept BOE **Minutes** dated May 20, 2013  
Approval to Accept Special BOE **Minutes** dated May 29, 2013  
Approval to Accept Special BOE **Minutes** dated June 3, 2013  
Approval to Accept Special BOE **Minutes** dated June 5, 2013  
Approval to Accept Special BOE **Minutes** dated June 10, 2013  
Approval to Accept Board of Education **Financial Report** for May 2013  
Approval to Accept Board of Education **Cafeteria Financial Report** for May 2013  
Approval to Accept **GIFT** from White Way Cleaners, Tom and George Grasser to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Innovation Project \$2,500  
Approval to Accept **GIFT** from MidState Medical Center, Cindy Russo, Meriden to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Innovation Project \$5,000  
Approval of Proposed New: Attendance, Absences, Tardiness/Dismissals and Truancy Policy – 5113  
Approval of Proposed New: Attendance, Absences, Tardiness/Dismissals and Truancy Regulation – 5113a  
Approval for Conducting the Connecticut School Health Youth Behavior Survey at both High Schools in the Fall of 2013  
Approval for a Passive Parental Consent Form for students at both High Schools to take the Connecticut School Health Youth Behavior Survey in the Fall of 2013  
Approval of Transfer Authority to the Superintendent  
Approval to Not Participate in Healthy Food Certification Program  
Approval to Change the Times of the Five Early Release Days for Next Year

## **ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

There were no items removed from the Consent Agenda.

*A recess was called at 8:15 p.m.*

*The regular meeting reconvened at 8:30 p.m.*

## **MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF CANDIDATE FOR TEACHING POSITION AT 8:31 P.M.**

**MOTION: VOTTO, SECOND BY MILLER**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF CANDIDATE FOR TEACHING POSITION AT 8:31 P.M.**

## **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**BROODER, CASTELLI, CEI, MARRONE, MCKAY, MILLER, REYNOLDS, VOTTO**

## **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT IN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MENZO, COHN, GUARINO**

## **MOTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:35 P.M.**

**MOTION: CASTELLI, SECOND BY MILLER**

**VOTE: Unanimous approval to come out of Executive Session at 8:35 p.m.**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Votto reported that gifts were received and accepted by the Board from White Way Cleaners for the 21s Century Innovation Project in the amount of \$2500. MidState Medical Center also donated a gift of \$5,000 to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Innovation Project. He also reported that a thank you note was received from Jay Cei and family.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A.C.E.S Representative**

Mrs. Castelli reported that she attended the final meeting for this year at ACES. She stated that they approved the administrator evaluations. She said they also reviewed the accomplishments of the five year strategic plan and the new goals that had been added to it. She said there are three main objectives which identify the plan. She also reported the transportation fund has been fully restored and 6 of 8 inter-district grants will be funded, however only at 53%. She announced that the Governing Board will be elected in September.

### **Wintergreen Magnet School Steering Committee**

Mr. Votto reported that there was no meeting.

### **Building Committee Representative for Vo-Ag Building Project**

No meeting.

### **School to Career Representative**

Mr. Miller reported that there have been no meetings.

### **Report from Roof Project Committee Representative**

Mr. Marrone reported that there was a meeting scheduled for June 20, 2013.

### **PTAC Update**

Dr. Menzo reported that there is a meeting on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> in the Board Conference room at Sheehan High School.

### **Lyman Hall Athletic Complex Improvement Committee**

Dr. Menzo said there will be a Special Board meeting prior to Monday night's meeting to approve funding from the \$300,000 to pay for the initial architectural specification information.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business brought before the Board.

## **PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL TEACHER EVALUATION REPORT**

Mrs. Guarino explained that this report updates the Board on the progress of evaluations each year which tells how many tenured and non-tenured teachers have been evaluated and how many administrators have been evaluated. It also highlights professional development opportunities that were offered during the course of the year. It also talks about the mentor teachers.

## **INSTRUCTIONAL COMMITTEE**

### **APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF CANDIDATE TO TEACHING POSITION**

**MOTION: CEI, SECOND BY MILLER**

**VOTE:** Unanimous approval of the appointment of the following candidate to a teaching position for the 2013-2014 school year, contingent upon proper Connecticut certification, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

**Elementary Level**                      Amy Corvi                      -                      Special Education

### **APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION, WITH REGRET, OF ELLEN COHN, EFFECTIVE JULY 12, 2013**

**MOTION: CEI, SECOND BY MILLER**

**VOTE:** Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of **Ellen Cohn**, effective July 12, 2013.

**Ellen Cohn** has been the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction since August, 2010, for a total of **three years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

## **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

### **Report on Operations Committee Meeting**

Mr. Brooder reported that the Operations Committee meeting took place on June 10<sup>th</sup>. He said the Board reviewed the Cafeteria Report, the Board Financial Report, finalized the 2013 Budget, and approved the Transfer Authority for the Superintendent.

### **APPROVAL TO ACCEPT THE 2013-2014 BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$91,255,111**

**MOTION: BROODER, SECOND BY MILLER**

**A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS MADE BY THE CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**Affirmative: Brooder, Castelli, Cei, Mansfield, Marrone, McKay, Miller, Votto**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL TO ACCEPT THE 2013-2014 BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$91,255,111**

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **Administrative Report**

Dr. Menzo gave his administrative report as listed below.

- He reported that artwork was received from Doreen Duren in the amount of \$475 and a donation was made in the name of Chuck Bourasso to the Library at Stevens Elementary School in the amount of \$150
- Teachers have been using a website called Donors Choose.org. Donations have been received and a math class project has been funded by it.
- Lyman Hall came in second in the State Blood Drive and have been awarded five \$1000 scholarships
- Dr. Menzo asked for two Board members to volunteer on the Kindergarten Investigation Committee to begin to identify the needs of either a full time or half time K. The committee will meet in the fall. Mr. Votto and Mr. Miller volunteered.
- He thanked the Board of Education members and the Central Office team for all that they do. He said we have been through a lot this year but we also have a lot to be proud of.
- We have received some donations from companies this year and we will have another 21<sup>st</sup> Century Innovation team of which will be part time teachers and part time members from the high schools. This way they can apply the knowledge that they learn into the classrooms.

Mr. Votto suggested that when a teacher or someone passes away we should do something special to honor them such as put a bench outside the school or do something else.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. McKay announced that Central Office has moved to 43 Hall Avenue.

## **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Monday, 7/15/13**

**Board of Education Meeting**

**7:00 p.m.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. McKay adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

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**Michael Votto** Secretary