

**WALLINGFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ROOM 315
45 SOUTH MAIN STREET, WALLINGFORD
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2013**

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

Chairperson Roxane McKay called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

CASTELLI, CEI, MANSFIELD, MARRONE, MCKAY, MILLER, REYNOLDS, VOTTO

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

MENZO, PARKHURST, MCNAMARA, WINTERS, MANCUSI, WONG, DEPTULA, NAPOLITANO

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

Kaitlyn Marunda, Student Board Representative from Lyman Hall High School came before the Board to give her report as listed below.

- On November 5th the Lyman Hall Marching Band competed in a national championship at Giant Stadium and they won the Spirit of Band Award. They also came in 15th place in the country in their division.
- Girls Volleyball made it to the second round in the State Tournaments
- Boys Soccer made it to the semi-finals
- A Junk Couture Fashion Show was held this Thursday where students, designers and models showcased clothing made of recycled and repurposed materials. We had award winners that night. They were: Emily Blanchard, Marisol Aguirre, Nicky Immaniraso, and Damien Sawicki.
- This Friday was Homecoming

- Spirit Week has been taking place and will continue this week
- This Wednesday is Pep Rally and the Powder Puff game
- Thursday is the rivalry football game against Sheehan
- During the first week in December the National Honor Society will host the Holiday for Giving Food Drive
- December 3rd is Financial Aid Night
- Fall Sports Night is on the 12th

Mackenzie Mendygral, Student Board Representative from Sheehan High School was not available to give a report.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Recognition of Craig Turner, Maria Harlow and Roberta Clouet

Dr. Menzo called Craig Turner, Maria Harlow and Roberta Clouet before the Board to be recognized. He said they are members of our community who help make our district a better place for students and staff. He said they are being recognized as advocates and a part of the support system. Roberta Clouet from WE CARE has been very integral in helping to continuing efforts of pre-school education through her work with the Graustein Foundation funding and through her variety of activities with volunteers in the community. Maria Harlow is being honored for doing an amazing job making certain the school district keeps in mind the Spanish Community in Wallingford. Craig Turner is moving forward with a lot of great initiatives with funding, buses, donations from Youth Services and a number of other things.

Recognition of Staff Members of the Month

First, we have three staff members who have been involved with Teacher Evaluation. Nominations for staff member of the month are made by staff to recognize them for their hard work and their contributions to our district and to help our district in our three major areas - change, capacity building and communication. He called Ken Daly, Kirstina Kiely and Dulcie Worth to the front. He also called Cindy Scalese before the Board and said she has done a remarkable job with the copy center work with the turn around time and the new machines. He said Bill Shortell is not here tonight but is a phenomenal support also.

Recognition of the Wellness Management Team

He called Patty Pursell and Paul Flinter to the front to explain what the Wellness Management Team does. Patty explained that they combined a couple of committees to form the Wellness Management Team. There are physical education teachers, Food service, Health teachers, Nurses, and community partners on the Wellness Management Team. Mr. Flinter said a significant piece is the community partners such as Craig Turner, the Dry Dock, YMCA and Gaylord. Patty said one of the big projects was a school health assessment. Another thing they oversaw was the Wallingford Health and Fitness Fair at Sheehan.

Dr. Menzo presented the members with a token gift and a certificate. Members are: Paul Flinter, Patty Pursell, Cheryl Colwick, Doreen Dressel, Amy Labas, Kathy Neelon, Tracy Tyrrell, Julie Wollen and Kathy Palermo.

Recognition of the Early Intervention Management Team

The team provided a presentation on the elementary early intervention teams.

Dr. Menzo called each member before the Board and presented them with a certificate and a token of appreciation. Members of the Early Intervention Management Team are: Jan Murphy, Donna Curtis, Melissa Benevento, Nick Brophy, Audrey Burke, Noel Cain, Kristina Coppola, Christina D'Agostin, Deborah Dayo, Andrea Flanders, Julie Foss, Carolyn Hall, Christine Immiano, Gina Kosier, Carrie Latorre, Rich Napoli, Mary Reid, Becky Reilly, Duane Samuel, Sarah Reynolds, Robin Stegos, and Stephanie Rubin.

Recognition of Patty Pursell for Lifetime Achievement Award from CT Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance

Dr. Menzo called Patty Pursell before the Board to recognize her for receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award and presented her with flowers.

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Brett Heidenis, 19 Concord Lane, came before the Board with a concern about whether there would be an All Day Kindergarten.

MOTION TO GO INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF CANDIDATES FOR HEAD COACH POSITIONS AT 7:57 P.M.

MOTION: MARRONE, SECOND BY VOTTO

VOTE: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL TO GO INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF CANDIDATES FOR HEAD COACH POSITIONS AT 7:57 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

CASTELLI, CEI, MANSFIELD, MARRONE, MCKAY, MILLER, REYNOLDS, VOTTO

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MENZO, PARKHURST, MCNAMARA

MOTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:08 P.M.

MOTION: MARRONE, SECOND BY VOTTO

VOTE: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:08 P.M.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: MARRONE, SECOND BY VOTTO

VOTE: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS AS LISTED BELOW

Approval to Accept BOE **Minutes** dated October 28, 2013
Approval to Accept Special BOE **Minutes** dated November 13, 2013

Approval to Accept Special BOE **Minutes** dated November 18, 2013
Approval to Accept **Cafeteria Financial Report** for October 2013
Approval to Accept **Board of Education Financial Report** for October 2013
Approval to Accept **GIFT** from the Walton Family Foundation to the Innovation Project for \$3,000.
Approval to Offer Snacks for 5 days
Approval to Accept Personal Checks for the Athletic Participation Fee Payment
Approval of Information Technology Systems Audit – Hire EASTCONN to conduct IT Staff Audit
Approval to Accept Transfer from Account #611A- Instructional Supplies to Account #730A – New Instructional Equipment \$1,890
Proposed Approval of Revised Regulation: Field Trips – 6153a (IICA-R)
Proposed Adoption of New Policy: Staff Development - 4131

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

There were no items removed from the Consent Agenda

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Votto reported that a gift was received from the Walton Family Foundation (Choate Rosemary Hall) from Bentonville, Arkansas to the Wallingford Public Schools – 21st Century Innovation Project in the amount of \$3,000. He read the letter into the minutes. “Each year the Directors of the Walton Family Foundation ask Choate Rosemary Hall to advise the Foundation of outstanding charities in their local community to which we might provide assistance. It is my pleasure to inform you that The Walton Family Foundation, Inc. has approved a grant to the Wallingford Public Schools in the amount of \$3,000. This grant is subject to the terms attached.”

PRESENTATION BY EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A Power Point presentation was made by the Early Childhood Exploratory Committee and Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Shawn Parkhurst. They explained what the charge of the committee is, explained what research was done, and explained what the three options are for a full day kindergarten and pre-school. They also explained what the three options would be and the costs. They said it would be important for preschool age children so that it would increase their social and emotional skills before they went to kindergarten by adding play into the day instead of increasing academic skills.

MOTION MADE TO ACCEPT OPTION 2 FOR FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN AND INCREASE PRE-K AT A COST OF \$1,339,563

MOTION: VOTTO, SECOND BY CASTELLI

VOTE: ROLL CALL VOTE WAS MADE TO ACCEPT OPTION 2 FOR FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN AND INCREASE PRE-K AT A COST OF \$1,339,563

Affirmative: CASTELLI, CEI, MANSFIELD, MCKAY, MILLER, VOTTO

Negative: MARRONE, REYNOLDS

Motion passed

Mr. Votto left the meeting at 9:42 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A.C.E.S Representative

Mrs. Castelli reported that there was discussion about the common calendar. The sub-committee may try to propose a two year implementation with a mandatory participation in year three. Intent was to include a 184 – 186 day calendar. TEMS and WIMS have lower enrollments. CAFE has been selected to hire a new executive director. CAPT/CMTs will be administered to students whose districts they come from still administer them. ACES is using TechSteps which will help students to get ready with Smarter Balance testing. Craig Edmondson was greeted with a flash mob of 850 staff members at their ACES Commencement Ceremony.

Wintergreen Magnet School Steering Committee

Mr. Parkhurst attended the Steering Committee meeting on October 30th. He said there was an update on teacher evaluations. He said they are using TeachScape software and how to implement it. He said they also had a weekend modified intensive training so that people could practice some of the approaches. He said they are seeing decline in middle school. They also talked about the piloting of the Singapore Math Program.

School to Career Representative/Business Think Tank

Mr. Miller reported there has been no meeting since the last one. The next one is scheduled for December 12th.

Report from Roof Project Committee Representative

Mr. Marrone reported that the solar panels are now working.

PTAC Update

Dr. Menzo said the next meeting is on December 9th at 6:00 p.m.

Lyman Hall Athletic Complex Improvement Committee

Mr. Deptula said there is no meeting scheduled right now. Mrs. McKay said there will be another meeting scheduled within the next two weeks.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business brought before the Board.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMITTEE

APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF CANDIDATES TO HEAD COACH POSITIONS

MOTION: CEI, SECOND BY MANSFIELD

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following candidates to head coach positions for the 2013-2014 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

Lyman Hall High School

Adam Rosati - Lacrosse (Girls')
Steven Anderson - Lacrosse (Boys')
Donna Neary - Swimming (Boys')

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION

MOTION: CEI, SECOND BY MANSFIELD

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of **Jennifer Martin**, effective as of a mutually agreed upon date.

Jennifer Martin has been a special education teacher at Lyman Hall High School since August, 2013.

APPROVAL OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR ROBIN STEGOS FROM NOVEMBER 25 THROUGH DECEMBER 20, 2013 BE APPROVED WITHOUT PAY AND BENEFITS

MOTION: CEI, SECOND BY MANSFIELD

VOTE: Unanimous approval that a *leave of absence for **Robin Stegos** from November 25 through December 20, 2013, be approved, without pay and benefits, and in accordance with the provisions of the current teachers' contract.

*The leave is personal and confidential. (**Robin Stegos** was on a family medical leave until November 22, 2013, and has requested a leave of absence from November 25 through December 20, 2013.)

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF ELIZABETH BANKS, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2013

MOTION: CEI, SECOND BY MANSFIELD

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of **Elizabeth Banks**, effective December 31, 2013.

Elizabeth Banks has been an interventionist teacher at the elementary and middle school levels since August, 2005, for a totally of **eight and one-half years** of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

Mr. Brophy, Principal of Stevens Elementary School, came before the Board to say a few kind words.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Report on Operations Committee Meeting

Dr. Menzo reported there was a conversation about fiancés. There is an unencumbered balance of less than \$30,000 at this time. We are seeing increases in our non-certified salaries account due to the need to hire more paraprofessionals due to student needs. There was also discussion about the snacks. There was also a brief discussion about the Lyman Hall track.

ADMINISTRATION

Administrative Report

Dr. Menzo gave a report as listed below.

- Wallingford has been recognized as a member of the AP District Honor Roll. We are one of 174 districts in the country on this honor roll. He thanked all staff across the district.
- The district has received technology grants and security grant from the State Department of Education
- A budget meeting was held last week for parents and one for all staff members
- Looking forward to the Powder Puff game
- Looking forward to the Thanksgiving game between Lyman Hall and Sheehan
- Hubcap Project – demolition has been done, a donation for the flooring and the security system have been made.
- The Wallingford Healthy Cookie debuted at the CABE/CAPSS conference on November 15th. The head chef at the Octagon Restaurant approved of the cookie
- The Food Truck also debuted and it was a big hit. He thanked Mark Deptula for all the work that he oversaw on “the Healthy Drive” truck.
- There is a Town Council meeting on the first Thursday of the month. There will be continued discussion and consensus on the signage on the Lyman Hall athletic field.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, 12/02/13	Instructional Committee
Monday, 12/09/13	Operations Committee

Board Conference Room

7:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 12/16/13	Board of Education
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Vo-Ag Community Room

6:00 p.m.

MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNITED PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES UNION – WALLINGFORD BOE EDUCATIONAL SECRETARIES T 10:00 P.M.

MOTION: MARRONE, SECOND BY VOTTO

VOTE: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION DISCUSSION OF CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNITED PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES UNION – WALLINGFORD BOE EDUCATIONAL SECRETARIES AT 10:00 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

CASTELLI, CEI, MANSFIELD, MARRONE, MCKAY, REYNOLDS

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MENZO, PARKHURST, MCNAMARA

MOTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:29 P.M.

MOTION: CASTELLI, SECOND BY MARRONE

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION
AT 10:29 P.M.**

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. McKay adjourned the meeting at 10:29 p.m.

_____ Secretary
Mike Votto