

WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF EDUCATION WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
April 23, 2014

BOARD PRESENT: Chair Mrs. Lambert, Mr. Montalvo, Mrs. Osuba, Dr. Sewall, Mr. French, Dr. Gomez

BOARD ABSENT: Vice chair Mr. Desaulniers, Mr. Quamme

ADMINISTRATION

PRESENT: Deputy Superintendent Dr. Gasper; Directors Mrs. Banks and Mr. Johnson;
Communications officer Ms. Markey

STUDENT

REPRESENTATIVES: No One

OTHERS PRESENT: Analyst for District Support and Supervision Eldrin Deas; general public; staff;
administrators; news media

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mrs. Lambert called the April 23, 2014, Board of Education Workshop meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Windham High School Library Media Center.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board and the public recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was taken in memory of Board of Education member, Ms. Nancy Tinker, who passed away last weekend. Mrs. Lambert said that Ms. Tinker will be greatly missed. She was actively involved in the work done by the Board of Education, as well as at the Town level. Mrs. Lambert thanked everyone, including members of CABB, for the condolences received by the Board of Education on her unexpected passing.

ACTION ITEM

Windham High School Roof Replacement Drawings

Richard Kirby, from Kaestle Boos, announced that the required paperwork for the roof replacement was handed in to the Bureau of School Facilities today and the letter of approval to go out to bid should be received next week. He reviewed the schedule for the roofing project and said that the completed plans have been reviewed by Mr. Donaldson, Town officials and the fire marshal. He and Mr. Donaldson answered questions.

Motion by Mr. Montalvo, seconded by Dr. Sewall, that the Board approve the Windham High School Roof Replacement drawings as submitted.

Motion is unanimously approved.

Approval of Appointment

Motion by Dr. Sewall, seconded by Mr. French, that the Board approve the appointment of Elizabeth Bumgardner to the position of Principal at North Windham Elementary School effective July 1, 2014. Replacement.

Ms. Bumgardner said that she is looking forward to beginning as the North Windham Elementary School Principal on July 1st and thanked everyone for providing her with this incredible opportunity.

Motion is unanimously approved.

WORKSHOP TOPIC

FY 2013 Audit

Scott Bassett, from McGladrey LLP, auditors for the Town and the Board of Education, reported on the audit completed this year. He said that there has been significant improvement regarding the financial reporting process for the Board of Education since the audit began in 2012. With the progress that has been made, he believes that next year's report can be made in January rather than in April. A uniform system for school activity funds, which includes a uniform review system, is being recommended. A standardized policy with procedures will be developed by Mr. Johnson.

PUBLIC DIALOGUE

Mary Lou DeVivo, Willimantic, congratulated the Barrows STEM Academy on its recent Invention Convention. She was extremely impressed with Kindergarten students who participated.

On behalf of the Superintendent, Dr. Gasper thanked Ms. Nancy Tinker and the family of Ms. Tinker for her service to the Board of Education, as well as the many contributions she made to the community. He said that he hopes that Ms. Tinker's community service can stand as an example to the young people in our school system.

Dr. Gasper announced that this week is Administrative Professionals' week and he recognized the many skilled administrative assistants in the district and the work that they do.

Dorothy Potter, Windham High School Headmaster, publicly expressed her appreciation to the Town Council and their commitment to High School students. She thanked Lorraine McDevitt who was instrumental in a recent project that occurred. High school juniors and seniors were given the opportunity to spend time interviewing Town employees about their job responsibilities, educational backgrounds, and service to the Town. The students learned about careers that required some training but not necessarily a four-year college degree. They spoke with Town employees about internships, summer jobs, community service, and college applications. The students learned that life-long learning can lead to success. Ms. Potter said that this type of activity helps build a positive relationship between the community and the high school and also helps students feel valued in their community.

Motion by Mrs. Lambert, seconded by Dr. Sewall, that the Board enter into executive session for the discussion of exempt documents pertaining to bargaining unit negotiations and nonrenewal of non-tenured teachers' contracts at 7:46 P.M.

Motion is unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

BOARD PRESENT: Chair Mrs. Lambert, Mr. Montalvo, Mrs. Osuba, Dr. Sewall, Mr. French, Dr. Gomez

OTHERS PRESENT Deputy Superintendent Dr. Gasper, Directors Mrs. Banks, and Mr. Johnson

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED

Mrs. Lambert reconvened regular session at 8:10 P.M.

Motion by Dr. Sewall, seconded by Mr. French, that the Board add the ratification of the tentative agreement between the Windham Board of Education and the Windham Federation of Nurses; the tentative agreement between the Windham Board of Education and the Windham Federation of Maintenance Workers; and the nonrenewal of an employment contract to the agenda at this time.

Motion is unanimously approved.

Motion by Dr. Sewall, seconded by Mrs. Lambert, that the Board move the ratification of the tentative agreement between the Windham Board of Education and the Windham Federation of Nurses.

Motion is unanimously approved.

Motion by Dr. Sewall, seconded by Mr. French, that the Board move the ratification of the tentative agreement between the Windham Board of Education and the Windham Federation of Maintenance Workers.

Motion is unanimously approved.

Motion of Mrs. Lambert, seconded by Dr. Sewall, that the Board of Education approve the nonrenewal of the employment contract for the following non-tenured teacher upon contract expiration at the end of the current school year: Kara McDonald, Windham Center Elementary School.

Motion is unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Montalvo, seconded by Mr. French, that the Board adjourn its meeting at 8:17 P.M.

Motion is unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Juan Montalvo, Secretary