

WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT
August 24, 2011

(Special meeting held in place of August 17, 2011, Regular Board of Education meeting)

BOARD PRESENT: Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall, Mr. Adamo, Mr. Doyle, Dr. Switchenko, Mrs. Lambert,
Mrs. Haney

BOARD ABSENT: Chair Mr. Folan, Mrs. Collins, Dr. Sewall

ADMINISTRATION

PRESENT: Superintendent Ms. Ortiz, Assistant Superintendent Ms. Barker-Jones, Directors Mrs.
Banks and Mr. Nelson

STUDENT

REPRESENTATIVES: No one

OTHERS PRESENT: Special Master Dr. Adamowski, general public, staff, administrators, news media

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall called the August 24, 2011, Special Board of Education meeting, held in place of the August 17, 2011, Regular Board of Education meeting, to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Windham High School Library Media Center.

Mrs. Rayhall welcomed Dr. Adamowski.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Lambert led the Board and the public in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

June 29, 2011, Regular Board of Education meeting (Ref. 1)

(4)Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mr. Adamo, that the Board of Education approve the June 29, 2011, Special Board of Education minutes held in place of the regularly scheduled July 6, 2011, meeting, Reference 1.

On the motion: Aye, 6-0; unanimous

June 27, 2011, Special Board of Education meeting minutes (Ref. 1A)

(5)Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve the June 27, 2011, Special Board of Education minutes, Reference 1A.

On the motion: Aye: Mrs. Rayhall, Mr. Adamo, Mrs. Haney, Mrs. Lambert

Nay: No one

Abstained: Mr. Doyle, Dr. Switchenko

The motion passes: 4-0-2

July 6, 2011, Special Board of Education meeting minutes (Ref. 1B)

(6)Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mrs. Lambert, that the Board of Education approve the July 6, 2011, Special Board of Education minutes, Reference 1B.

On the motion: Aye, 6-0; unanimous

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Adamo reported that Board of Education members will receive invitations to the ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of the EASTCONN Conference Center on Tuesday, September 27, from 3:00 to 4:00 PM.

Mrs. Rayhall reported that Board of Education members will also receive invitations to the groundbreaking ceremony on September 17, at 10:30 AM, for the magnet school being built on Tuckie Road.

STUDENT COUNCIL

There was no report.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

Mary Gallucci, Willimantic, said that she was a little surprised that there was a meeting with the Special Master and the community and parents weren't informed about it. She said that she was disappointed that Mr. Merlino left the district. She said that she is tired of incompetent businessmen buying property in town and then complaining about taxes increasing.

Mary Lou DeVivo, Willimantic, spoke about a positive summer program done in conjunction with the public library. Suzanne Clinton and Michele Kirsten collaborated with the public library and students' work is showcased all along the staircase from the first to second floors.

Kevin Hoxie, Willimantic, said that administrators received a raise with no budget and \$10,000 was given for Middle School sports when \$20,000 had been promised. He said that he attended field day at the Middle School and three fights broke out while he was there. He said that every year the Board of Education says more money is needed but no results are seen and the money is not getting put into the classrooms.

Henry Crane, Willimantic, said that he hopes that the Special Master can address the fact that students need to be more vigorous about attending school and not skipping classes. Students get hired for jobs but can't keep them because of their poor attendance. He said that he advocated adding three million dollars to the budget to invest in students' education.

Peter Quercia, Willimantic, thanked the Board for holding its meetings at the high school which is next door to his house. He welcomed Dr. Adamowski to Windham. He said that the High School staff has been dumping waste in the back of the school. He said that he has taken pictures and has called the DEP. He has notified several people but no one seemed to care and he is trying to find out if the matter has been resolved since it is his understanding that DEP came and cleaned up the area.

Jeff Viens, Columbia resident and Windham taxpayer, said that he talked to many children over the summer who attended the summer program and they all had a wonderful time. He asked if there could be a guarantee that the quality of education would improve if more money were spent on education.

SUMMARY ACTION

Personnel Action (Ref. 2)

(7) Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mr. Adamo, that the Board of Education approve Reference 2 and the addendum distributed at tonight's meeting.

Resignations

- . Tracy Duenzl, Instructional Consultant/North Windham School effective September 16, 2011.
- . Jesse Pimental, Special Education Teacher/Windham High School effective July 20, 2011.
- . Colman Long, Guidance Counselor/Windham High School effective July 8, 2011.
- . Linda Lemkin, Science Teacher/Windham Middle School effective August 1, 2011 for the purpose of retirement.

David Gruber, Special Education Teacher/Windham Middle School effective August 26, 2011.
Julie Cryer, Spanish Teacher/Windham High School effective July 19, 2011.
Nathan Bean, ISS Tutor/Windham High School effective July 22, 2011.
Meghan McGrath, ELL Tutor/Natchaug School effective August 16, 2011.
Danielle Metcalf, P/T 1:1 Tutor/ECC Prospect Street effective July 13, 2011.
Ivelisse Antonetty, Family Advocate/ECC Prospect Street effective July 21, 2011.
Jacqueline Jarvis, General Cafeteria Worker/Sweeney School effective August 8, 2011.
Irene Ricard General Cafeteria Worker/Windham High School effective August 31, 2011 for the purpose of retirement.

Resignations (addendum)

Stephen Merlino, Assistant Principal/Windham Middle School effective August 17, 2011.
Jennifer Ohlund, English Teacher/Windham High School effective August 23, 2011.
Susan Miller, .60 Art Teacher/Windham Center & North Windham School effective August 19, 2011.
Alanzo Cherrington, ISS Tutor/Windham Middle School effective August 22, 2011.
Neicia Northrop, Early Head Start Teacher/ECC Boston Post effective July 25, 2011.

Appointments

Rebecca Cutkomp, English Teacher/Windham High School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is BA+30/3, \$41,245 to replace Jesse Pimental who resigned.
Jennifer Florian, Grade 2 Teacher/Windham Center School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is MA/3, \$41,245, to replace Paula Shea who retired.
Erica Nipper, Science Teacher/Windham Middle School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is MA/3, \$41,245 to replace Linda Lemkin who retired.
George Smalley, Guidance Counselor/Windham High School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is 6thYr/11, \$61,101, to replace Jennifer Lamberson who resigned.
Sandra Gaboury, Special Education Math Teacher/Windham High School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is MA/3, \$41,245, to replace Philip Cowit who resigned.
Jennifer Sierra, Grade 5 Teacher/Windham Middle School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is BA/3, \$38,783 pending certification, to replace Tara Cramer who transferred.
Hannah Sunderland, Grade 3 Teacher/Natchaug School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is MA/3, \$41,245, to replace Christina Conde who transferred.
Stephanie Ainsworth, Art Teacher/Windham High School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is BA+30/3, \$41,245, to replace Elaine Canedy who retired.
Lauren Townley, Grade 3 Teacher/Natchaug School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is BA/3, \$38,783, to replace Joanne Boulais who transferred.
Katherine McFadden, Math Teacher/Windham High School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is BA+30/12, \$60,639, to replace Shayne Stedman who resigned.
Aimee Schapp, School Psychologist/Windham High School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is MA+30/6th Year/3, \$43,955, to replace Agnes Riera who retired.
Elizabeth Gilmore, Reading Teacher/Windham Center School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is 6th Year/13, \$68,967, to replace Carol Tempest who transferred.
Clare Rowland, Cooperative Teacher/Early Head Start Program effective July 11, 2011. Hourly rate is \$15.98, replaces Amanda Limeres who resigned.
Katie Irizarry, .60 FTE Social Worker/Sweeney School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is MA/10, \$52,960 prorated, replaces Igor Espittia who resigned.
Jessica Garcia, Non-Certified Librarian effective September 1, 2011. Hourly rate is \$18.83, replaces Heather O'Brien who resigned.

Raymond Sinclair II, Music Teacher/Windham Middle School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is BA+30/3, \$41,245, replaces Martha Hayes who retired.

Appointments (addendum)

Yady King, Bilingual Guidance Counselor/Windham High School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is MA/4, \$42,708 to replace Colman Long who resigned.

Kyle Labbe, Science Teacher/Windham High School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is MA/3, \$41,245 to replace David Brown who transferred.

Lisa Marie Liberti, Special Education Teacher/Windham Middle School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is MA+15/3, \$42,570 to replace David Gruber who resigned.

Lisa Homar, Social Worker/Windham Middle School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is MA/8, \$48,564 to replace Sandra Anglin who retired.

Regina Ballentine, Math Teacher/Windham High School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is MA/3, \$41,245 to replace Juan Montalvo who retired.

Netmari Vazquez, Spanish Teacher/Windham High School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is BA+30/7, \$47,101 to replace Julie Cryer who resigned.

Fiona Fenteany, Grade 8 Science Teacher/Windham Middle School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is PHD/3, \$47,697 to replace Carl Stolle who resigned.

Neal Sherman Math Teacher/Windham High School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is BA/3, \$38,783 to replace Melissa Kissane who resigned.

Teresa Gonzalez, Special Education Teacher/Windham Middle School effective September 1, 2011. Salary is MA+30/ 3, \$43,955 pending certification to replace Janna Churchill-Bos who resigned.

Mariceli Franco, Family Advocate/ECC Prospect Street effective September 1, 2011. Hourly rate is \$15.00, to replace Ivelisse Antonetty who resigned.

Efren Figueroa, Behavioral Tutor/Natchaug School effective September 6, 2011. Hourly rate is \$17.02, to replace Nicholas Noheimer who resigned.

Rebecca Bourque, Tutor/Windham High School effective September 6, 2011. Hourly rate is \$15.00, New Position SIG Grant.

Mark McCreary, Tutor/Windham High School effective September 6, 2011. Hourly rate is \$15.00, New Position SIG Grant.

Leaves of absence

Michael Muzykoski, Custodian/Windham High School, medical leave of absence beginning August 4, 2011 through approximately August 22, 2011.

Jessica Priest, Special Education Teacher/Windham Middle School, childbearing/childrearing leave of absence beginning approximately September 15, 2011 through December 8, 2011.

Kara Cicchiello, Tutor/Windham High School, childbearing/childrearing leave of absence beginning approximately October 11, 2011 through approximately November 22, 2011.

Schedule A2 & A4 Extra Curricular Appointments (addendum)

See Attached List

There was no discussion.

On the motion: Aye, 6-0; unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

Homeless Children and Youths Grant Application (Ref. 3)

(8)Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of approve submission of the Education for Homeless Children and Youths grant application. Mr. Doyle asked if this was an ongoing grant, which it is.

On the motion: Aye, 6-0; unanimous

Natchaug Family Resource Center Grant Application (Ref. 4)

(9) Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Mrs. Lambert, that the Board of Education approve submission of the Natchaug Family Resource Center grant application. Mrs. Haney asked if the usage of both the Natchaug Family Resource Center and North Windham Family Resource Center can be tracked going forward. Mrs. Lambert asked that parents at Sweeney School and Windham Center School receive more communication about the two family resource centers since they are housed in other schools. Ms. Ortiz said that each building will have a parent liaison, effective this year, for additional support.

On the motion: Aye, 6-0; unanimous

North Windham Family Resource Center Grant Application (Ref. 5)

(10) Motion of Mrs. Lambert, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve submission of the North Windham Family Resource Center grant application. See discussion under the Natchaug Family Resource Center grant application which also pertains to the North Windham Family Resource Center.

On the motion: Aye, 6-0; unanimous

State Consolidated Grant Application (Ref. 6)

(11) Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve submission of the State Consolidated grant application. There was no discussion.

On the motion: Aye, 6-0; unanimous

Workshop Led by Special Master, Dr. Adamowski

Special Master, Dr. Adamowski, led a workshop reviewing the following two legislative acts: the statutory duties and obligations of the Special Master as established by *House Bill 6652, Administer the Education Operations for the Town of Windham to Raise Student Achievement* and the statutory duties and obligations of the State Board of Education as established under *Section 10-223e of the Connecticut General Statutes delegated to the Special Master of Windham*. Dr. Adamowski also reviewed the Board governance process. He spoke about the following two current issues that require immediate attention: voter approval of a 2011-2012 education budget and development of a revised 2011-2012 school calendar restoring ten days of instruction prior to the State assessment, as well as development of a sound instructional calendar for 2012-2013. Dr. Adamowski ended by saying that he looks forward to working with the Board of Education.

ADJOURNMENT

(12) Motion by Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Lambert, that the Board adjourn its meeting at 8:00 P.M.

On the motion: Aye, 6-0; unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

John Adamo, Secretary