

WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT
March 10, 2010

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

BOARD ABSENT: Dr. Sewall

ADMINISTRATION

PRESENT: Superintendent Ms. Fuller, Assistant Superintendent Ms. Ortiz, Directors Mrs. Banks, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Forman

REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENT: None present

OTHERS PRESENT: Board of Finance Mr. Pennewill & Mrs. Sebestyen, Board of Finance Members

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mr. Folan called the March 10, 2010, Board of Education meeting to order at 7:07 P.M., in conference room one (room 223), 2nd floor, Kramer School.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Collins led the Board and the public in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

February 24, 2010 Regular Board of Education meeting (Ref. 1)

(159) Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mrs. Lambert, that the Board of Education approve the February 24, 2010, Regular Board of Education meeting minutes, Reference 1.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous

March 1, 2010 Special meeting minutes (Ref. 2)

(160) Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the Board of Education approve the March 1, 2010, Special meeting minutes, Reference 2.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous

PRESENTATIONS - None

COMMUNICATIONS – Mr. Folan stated that there will be a talent show at WHS on Friday, March 12, 2010 to benefit the music program. “Mr. Windham” will be at WHS on Friday, March 26, 2010.

STUDENT COUNCIL – None Present

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS – Eastern Connecticut State University interns Lilly Rogers, Lauren Pelletier, Nicole Biolo, Romeisha Briscoe will be having their 6th Annual Career Day on April 9, 2010 at North Windham Elementary School for the 3rd & 4th grade students. The theme will be “The Future Is In Your Hands”.

SUMMARY ACTION

Personnel Action (Ref. 3)

(161)Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve Reference 3:

Appointments

- Robert Gamache, Social Studies Teacher/Windham High School effective March 1, 2010. Salary is BA+30/MA/2, \$39,001 prorated, pending certification, replaces Ashley Reichelt who resigned.
- Michelle Reyes, .8 FTE Speech Pathologist/Natchaug School effective March 22, 2010. Salary is MA/10, \$51,922 prorated, replaces Donna Pendill-Brown who resigned.
- Rosa Almonte, Early Head Start Teacher/Prospect Street effective January 8, 2010. Hourly rate is \$17.50, New Position.
- Randall Prose, Girls Outdoor Track Assistant Coach/Windham High School, stipend is \$3,840. Replaces Cassandra Rowett.

There were no comments.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous

Recommend the approval of Windham High School field trip (Ref. 4)

(162)Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the Board of Education approve the WHS Band field trip Reference 4.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous

Recommend the approval of gymnastic mats donated to Windham High School (Ref. 5)

(163)Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mrs. Lambert, that the Board of Education approve the donation of gymnastic mats to WHS Reference 5.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

Recommended approval of budget appropriation (Ref.6)

(164)Motion of Mrs. Lambert, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve the 2010-2011 budget appropriation Reference 6.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous

Recommended approval of policies (Ref.7)

(165)Motion of Mrs. Collins, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve policies 1230 Community Relations; 3524.1 Business/Non-Instructional Operations; 4217.4 Personnel/Non-Certified Dismissal/Suspension; 6114.1 Instruction Fire Emergency Drills Reference 7.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous

Recommended approval the submission of the District Title II, Part D Grant application (Ref.8)

(166)Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the Board of Education approve the application of the District Title II, Part D Grant Reference 8.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous

Recommended approval of budget transfers (Ref.8)

(167)Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve the budget transfers Reference 8.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent's Reports

Financial Statement (Ref. 10) - There were no comments.

Announcements/Information (Ref. 11)

Distributed the Windham Federation of Teachers' newsletters. There were comments about the article "Fines for Swearing". Also distributed was the WHS Honor Roll, Marking Period 2 and the Natchaug School Family Resource Center March Events.

Board of Education

First reading of proposed policy 2010-2011 school calendar (Ref.12).

This is the first reading. Ms. Fuller acknowledged that there were comments that the start date was too early along with other comments related to Election Day and whether or not the schools should be closed. Ms. Fuller and Mr. Folan suggested that it go back to the Student Services Committee. Mrs. Collins would like any comments or suggestions regarding the calendar to be directed to either Jeff Forman or herself.

First reading of policy 5131.81 Electronic Devices; 5141.21 Administration of Medication; 5141.25 Students with Special Health Care Needs; 6140 Curriculum (Ref. 13)

Subcommittee Reports:

Budget/Finance: Mr. Doyle reported that they voted on a 2.95% increase and the budget transfers for next school year. Future agenda items include the bus contract and the Boston Post Road lease.

District wide PTO: No verbal report.

Magnet School: Mrs. Collins reported that they have a special meeting next week with the architects to review new plans. Mr. Doyle inquired on the status of the easement/water/sewer. There was discussion about the easement and entrance way.

Student Services: No verbal report.

Facilities/Maintenance: Mrs. Rayhall reported that they did a comparison of the heating oil usage between last year and this year and found that it was down substantially this year. Air quality was checked in all buildings and was found to be within range. The fire marshall is conducting annual inspections of the schools. The WHS water heater is now working properly. Kramer gym roof is leaking and will be patched. Future agenda items include looking into the vandalism at each building and how the cost for the repairs should be handled.

Program Development/Evaluation: No verbal report.

Policy/Planning: No verbal report

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – None

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

Alana Tarksanis spoke on behalf of parents regarding the hiring of a safety officer at WMS for next school year. The concerns are the need to have more supports in place so that having the safety officer will be a success. Mr. Folan stated that the board is working with administration to make sure all students are in a safe environment. Mrs. Tarksanis suggested that the uniforms not have a logo on them to help families financially so that they can be purchased at less expensive stores. Mrs. Collins stated they are looking into having the shirts printed with the logo locally so that the cost will be less. Ms. Fuller stated that there will be a Parent Survey available for parents at the elementary school parent conferences.

(168)Motion by Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board enter into executive session at 7:30 P.M., for the purpose of discussing a personnel issue and contract negotiations.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

BOARD ABSENT: Dr. Sewall

ADMINISTRATION

PRESENT: Superintendent Ms. Fuller, Assistant Superintendent Ms. Ortiz, Directors Mrs. Banks, Mr. Nelson

Discussion of contract negotiations. No votes were taken.

7:43 P.M., Mrs. Banks, Ms. Ortiz, Mr. Nelson left. Discussion of personnel issues. No votes were taken.

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENES

Mr. Folan reconvened the regular session at 8:15 P.M.

(169)Motion by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the possible reorganization of Central Office be added to the agenda.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous.

(170)Motion by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the superintendent reorganize roles and responsibilities within Central Office with the resultant reorganization incurring no additional cost to the district. There was some discussion and a request that the board be informed of the changes in responsibilities at a future board meeting.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous.

(171)Motion by Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the board meeting adjourn, 8:17 P.M.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
John Adamo, Secretary