

WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT
March 24, 2010

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

BOARD ABSENT: None

ADMINISTRATION

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

OTHERS PRESENT: general public

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mr. Folan welcomed back Mrs. Lewis and called the March 24, 2010, Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in conference room one (room 223), 2nd floor, Kramer School.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

March 10, 2010 Regular Board of Education meeting (Ref. 1)

(175)Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mrs. Lambert, that the Board of Education approve the March 10, 2010, Regular Board of Education meeting minutes, Reference 1.

On the motion: Aye: Mr. Folan, Mrs. Rayhall, Mr. Adamo, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Doyle, Mrs. Haney, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Lambert

Nay: None

Abstained: Dr. Sewall

The motion passed: 8-0-1

March 16, 2010 Special meeting minutes (Ref. 1A)

(176)Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the Board of Education approve the March 16, 2010, Special meeting minutes, Reference 1A.

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

Nay: None

Abstained: Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Haney, Mr. Doyle, Dr. Switchenko, Dr. Sewall

The motion passed: 4-0-5

COMMUNICATIONS – Mr. Folan stated that the Mr. Windham Contest will be held this Friday, March 26, 2010, at Windham High School.

STUDENT COUNCIL – None

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS – Mrs. DeVivo stated that the “Read” banners are going very well within the community. Wayne Norman will be doing a “word of the day” on his radio program. Mrs. DeVivo asked the Board if they would prefer to have the words ahead of time so that the teachers will have them available.

SUMMARY ACTION

Personnel Action (Ref. 2)

(177)Motion of Mrs. Collins, seconded by Dr. Sewall, that the Board of Education approve Reference 2:

Resignations

- Daniel Landeck, Math Teacher/Windham High School effective April 11, 2010.
- Tamara Mitton, Special Education Teacher/Windham Center School effective June 30, 2010.
- Taylor Duckworth, Language Arts Teacher/Windham Middle School effective June 30, 2010.
- Ana D’Agostino, Spanish Teacher/Windham High School effective June 30, 2010.
- Saray Solet, Special Education Teacher/Windham Middle School effective June 30, 2010.
- Benis Richards, Special Education Teacher/ERA effective June 30, 2010.
- Kit Hastings-Kort, Bilingual Teacher/North Windham School effective June 30, 2010.
- Scott Perron, Math Teacher/Windham High School effective June 30, 2010.
- Jeffrey Fox, Special Education Teacher/Windham Middle School effective June 30, 2010.
- Haydee Ramos, Paraprofessional/Preschool Program effective March 1, 2010 for the purpose of retirement.
- Wayne Caliento, Language Arts Teacher/Windham Middle School effective June 30, 2010 for the purpose of retirement.
- Joyce Christianson, Reading Teacher/Windham Middle School effective June 30, 2010 for the purpose of retirement.
- Ann Chuk, Speech Pathologist/Windham Preschool Program effective June 30, 2010 for the purpose of retirement.
- Luis Diaz Cruz, Foreign Language Teacher/Windham High School effective June 30, 2010 for the purpose of retirement.
- Sharon Dobson, Grade 5 Teacher/Windham Middle School effective June 30, 2010 for the purpose of retirement.
- Victor Funderburk, Biology Teacher/Windham High School effective June 30, 2010 for the purpose of retirement.
- Mary Anne Germain, Biology Teacher/Windham High School effective June 30, 2010 for the purpose of retirement.
- Cheryl Incandella, Grade 4 Teacher/Natchaug School effective June 30, 2010 for the purpose of retirement.
- Barbara Popeleski, Grade 4 Teacher/Natchaug School effective June 30, 2010 for the purpose of retirement.

Leave of Absence

- Christine Antaya, Social Studies Teacher/Windham Middle School, medical leave of absence effective March 24, 2010 through April 16, 2010.

The Board publicly recognized the dedication and perseverance of these outstanding educators and thanked them for their many years of service to the students of Windham Public Schools. There was discussion as to how many resignations were coming from each school.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0; unanimous

Windham High School Belanger Family Scholarship (Ref.3)

(178)Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Dr. Sewall, that the Board of Education accept the Windham High School Belanger Family Scholarship. Mr. Folan thanked the Belanger Family for their generosity.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0; unanimous

Windham High School Donation (Ref. 4)

(179)Motion of Dr. Sewall, seconded by Mrs. Lambert, that the Board of Education approve the anonymous donation of \$5000.00 to the WHS girls' basketball program.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0; unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

Resolutions to the Section 125 Plan amendments (Ref.5)

(180)Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve resolutions related to the Section 125 Plan amendments.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0; unanimous

Second reading of the proposed 2010-2011 school calendar (Ref.6)

(181)Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mrs. Collins, that the Board of Education approve the proposed 2010-2011 school calendar with the following changes: move the first day of school to September 1, 2010; split the Parent Conferences held in November between the elementary and secondary schools; and change the January 18, 2011, professional development day to Election Day in November 2010.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0; unanimous

Second reading of Policy 5131.81 (Ref.7)

Board members agreed to table Policy 5131.81, Electronic Devices so that further discussions can be held regarding "sexting".

Second reading of Policy 5141.21, 5141.25, & 6140 (Ref. 7A, 7B & 7C)

(182)Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mrs. Lambert, that the Board of Education approve Policy 5141.21 Administration of Medications; Policy 5141.25 Students with Special Health Care Needs; and Policy 6140 Curriculum.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0; unanimous

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Announcements/Information (Ref.8)

Distributed the Windham Federation of Teachers' *The Spectrum* newsletter and Windham High School's *The Whippet*.

Board of Education

Subcommittee Reports:

Budget/Finance: Mr. Doyle mentioned future agenda items will include discussion of the 5 year Capital Improvement Plan, transportation, and the Boston Post Road building.

District wide PTO: Mrs. Haney reported that Movie Night will be held on March 26, 2010, at Windham Middle School. There will also be a fundraiser at Applebee's on April 10, 2010. The PTO would like to raise money to help support the Reading Program for the district. The PTO has established a checking account at the WHS Bank. A budget updated was presented.

Magnet School: Mrs. Haney reported that the contracts are close to being finalized. Parish Hill High School had representatives at the meeting. They are looking into building an environmental magnet school which will be located on their campus.

Student Services: No meeting was held.

Facilities/Maintenance: No report was given.

Program Development/Evaluation: Mr. Adamo stated that Principal Mr. Janisaitis from Natchaug Elementary School gave a presentation on the NEASC 10-year accreditation process and recommendations. A comprehensive report and presentation were given on the piloted math program. There was discussion regarding classroom books for every child.

EASTCONN: Mr. Adamo stated that they received a correspondence from Ms. Eldridge, Regional Program Manager Office of Head Start, thanking them for participating in the Compus Meeting focusing on the Early Head Start Program. Under the Directors' reports, they had 2 speakers, Ms. Carol Magliocco and Ms. Amy Norton, who led a PowerPoint presentation on Assistive Technology and other related services. EASTCONN has a team of assistive technology specialists who can assist districts. Their Gala will be held on May 25, 2010. The financial report was presented. The 2008-2009 Audit Report was distributed. The EASTCONN Hampton building expansion has been temporarily on hold due to delays and inclement weather. There has been a 1 year extension for the ground breaking.

Policy/Planning: No report was given.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – None

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

Mrs. DeVivo questioned why the Board didn't use the Charter TV channel 17 and broadcast all of the Board meetings and committee meetings. Mrs. DeVivo mentioned that another school district teaches students to use the cameras which gives them a skill and helps them receive credits.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

(183)Motion by Dr. Sewall, seconded by Mrs. Lambert, that the Board enter into executive session at 7:40 P.M., for the discussion of personnel matters, bargaining unit negotiations and nonrenewal of non-tenured teachers' contracts

On the motion: Aye, 9-0; unanimous.

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

ADMINISTRATION

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

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENES

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

(184)Motion by Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Board add to the agenda at this time the recommended ratification of the tentative agreement between the Windham Board of Education and the Windham Public Schools Crossing Guards, mid-term agreement with the Windham Federation of Teachers, the approval of the nonrenewal of employment contracts, and 3-year Superintendent Contract.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0; unanimous.

(185)Motion by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the Board of Education move to ratify the tentative agreement between the Windham Board of Education and the Windham Public Schools Crossing Guards.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0; unanimous.

(186)Motion by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the proposed mid-term agreement with the Windham Federation of Teachers be approved.

On the motion: Aye: Mrs. Rayhall, Mr. Adamo, Mr. Doyle, Mrs. Haney, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Lambert, Dr. Sewall

Nay: No one

Abstained: Mr. Folan, Dr. Switchenko

The motion passes: 7-0-2

(187)Motion by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the Board of Education approve the nonrenewal of the employment contracts for the following non-tenured certified staff upon contract expiration at the end of the current school year: Jaclynn Alpert, Windham Middle School; Michael Neckermann, Windham Middle School; and Carlee Breton, Natchaug Elementary School.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0; unanimous.

(188)Motion by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the Board of Education approve the 3-year extension of the Superintendent's Contract.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0; unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

(189)Motion by Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the Board meeting adjourn at 8:42 P.M.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0; unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
John Adamo, Secretary