

WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT
June 13, 2007

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

BOARD ABSENT: Mr. Adamo

ADMINISTRATION

PRESENT: Superintendent Mr. Perzanoski, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Summa, Director Mr. Nelson

REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENT: Student Council – No one
Columbia – No one

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrators, general public, news media

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mr. Folan called the June 13, 2007, Board of Education meeting to order at 7:35 P.M., in conference room one (room 223), 2nd floor, Kramer School.

Mr. Folan asked for a motion to add the Windham Wrestling Team Sports Event to the agenda for discussion.

Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mr. Clements that the Board of Education add the Windham Wrestling Team Sports Event to the agenda for discussion.

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

MINUTES

May 23, 2007, Regular Board of Education Meeting (Ref. 1)

Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mrs. Haney that the Board of Education approve the May 23, 2007, Regular Board of Education meeting minutes, Reference 1.

On the motion: Aye: Mrs. Haney, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Clements, Mrs. Collins, Mr. Diaz, Mrs. Rayhall, Mr. Doyle

Nay: No one

Abstained: Mr. Folan

The motion passes: 7-0-1

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Windham High School teacher, Mr. Iovine, introduced the Windham Players to the Board of Education. Certificates of appreciation were awarded to the following students: Meredith Crosbie, Katelin Collard, Justin Miller, Bryce L. Monahan, Graham DeAngelis, Owen "Michael" Freeman, Mary Johnson, Emilie LaFontaine, Nicole Griffith, Brigid Keenan, Dillon Kearns, Paul Valentin and Laura Krebs. The Board congratulated all the students and Mr. Folan thanked Mr. Iovine for his dedication to the program. Mr. Iovine acknowledged the contributions of Ms. Savoie who was unable to attend the meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Folan said that a letter from a Natchaug parent would be sent to all Board members and a thank you note from a student was distributed amongst the Board members.

STUDENT COUNCIL

There was no report.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

Lynn Coleman, parent of a Natchaug student addressed the Board regarding concerns she has with the leadership at Natchaug School. Her concerns involved movement of teachers from one grade to another, discipline issues, fund-raisers, the safety of the school playground, and PTO support.

Arthur Thibodeau, parent of a Windham High School student expressed his concerns to the Board regarding disciplinary forms that arrive in the mail notifying him that his child has a suspension after the suspension has already been served. He was also concerned with the communication system between the high school and parents.

SUMMARY ACTION

Personnel Action (Ref. 2)

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve Reference 2.

Resignations

- . Yaritza Gonzalez, Bus Monitor/Head Start Program effective June 30, 2007.
- . Michael Peterson, Autistic Tutor/Windham Middle School effective June 19, 2007.
- . Amber Sanetrik, Special Education Teacher/Windham Middle School effective June 30, 2007.
- . David Maestrini, Social Studies Teacher/Windham Academy effective June 30, 2007.
- . Priscilla St John, Reading Teacher/Windham Center School effective June 30, 2007.
- . Barry Fargo, Special Education Teacher/Windham Center School effective June 30, 2007.
- . Catherine Brunner, Special Education Paraprofessional/Windham Center School effective June 30, 2007.
- . Lauren Ursin, Special Education Paraprofessional/Windham Middle School effective May 30, 2007.
- . Heather Marques, Special Education Paraprofessional/ERA effective June 6, 2007.
- . Judith Murphy, Secretary III for preschool program, revised retirement date effective July 6, 2007.

Appointments

- . Danna Taylor, Grade 3 Teacher/North Windham School effective August 27, 2007 pending certification. Salary is MA/1, \$35,676, replaces Amy Lovejoy who transferred.
- . Jennifer Pescik, English Teacher/Windham High School effective August 27, 2007 pending certification. Salary is BA+30/1, \$35,676, replaces Tom Barry who retired.
- . Sheryl Garcia, Math Teacher/Windham High School effective August 27, 2007 pending certification. Salary is BA+30/5, \$40,078, replaces Bill Hassell.
- . Randall Prose, CWE Teacher/Windham High School effective August 27, 2007 pending certification. Salary is BA+30/13, \$66,687, replaces John Lowney who resigned.
- . Kristina Riccio, Grade 7/8 Reading/Language Arts/Windham Middle School effective August 27, 2007 pending certification. Salary is BA/1, \$33,865, replaces Heather Siegel who resigned.
- . Elissa Sherman, 12-Month Secretary III for preschool program effective July 2, 2007. Salary is \$14.92 per hour. To replace Judith Murphy who is retiring.
- . Karen Kelly, Reading Teacher/North Windham School effective August 27, 2007. Salary is MA/9, \$45,640. Replaces Karen Donaghy who resigned.
- . Brian Burns, Special Education Teacher/Windham Center School effective August 27, 2007. Salary is BA/2, \$34,641. Replaces Barry Fargo who resigned.
- . Chelsea Ferland, Social Studies Teacher/Windham High School effective August 27, 2007. Salary is B/1, \$33,865. Replaces Tim Burke who retired.

Leave of Absence

- . Giselle Lopez, Family Advocate/Head Start, childbearing/rearing leave of absence to begin July 28, 2007 through approximately September 10, 2007.

- . Sandra Sprouse, Home Visitor/Home Start, childbearing/rearing leave of absence to begin September 24, 2007 through approximately January 2, 2008.
 - . Erin Corso, Language Arts Teacher/Windham Middle School, extending current child bearing/rearing leave of absence through June 19, 2007.
- On the motion: Aye, 8 – 0; unanimous.

ACTION ITEMS

Carl D. Perkins Grant Application (Ref. 3)

Motion of Mrs. Collins, seconded by Mr. Doyle that the Board of Education approved the submission of the Carl D. Perkins grant application.

On the motion: Aye, 8– 0; unanimous.

Healthy Food Certification Statement – PA 06-63 (Ref. 4)

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Dr. Switchenko that the Board of Education certify that the Windham School district will not participate in the Healthy Food Certification under Public Act 06-63, An Act Concerning Healthy Food and Beverages in School.

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

2007-2008 Budget Reductions (Ref. 5)

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Diaz that the Board of Education approve the amended requested positions and deductions to the 2007-2008 budget. Mr. Perzanoski noted that the 6 paraprofessional position deductions were now reduced to 3 deductions due to a bilingual teacher replacing 2 tutor positions. He also explained that as money becomes available, positions would be reinstated with the paraprofessional positions being first.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent's Reports

Financial Statement (May 2007) (Ref. 6)

Mr. Nelson stated that the financial statement was the same as indicated at the previous board meeting. Mr. Doyle asked about Medicare funds. Mr. Nelson explained that Mr. Forman is in the process of applying for these funds and they can be used either for this past year or the next fiscal year.

Announcements/Information (Ref. 7)

There were no comments.

(Added agenda item.)

Windham Wrestling Team Sports Event

Mr. Risley and Mr. Calixto presented to the Board information about the KSA Events 2007 Duals Wrestling tournament being held from December 19 – 23, 2007. Mr. Risley estimated the costs to be approximately \$20,000, \$10,000 of which has already been raised through fundraisers. It is anticipated that 16 students from WHS would attend the event and they would assist in defraying the cost of airline tickets. In their presentation, Mr. Calixto and Mr. Risley noted that they would make sure students received homework before the trip to avoid any attendance issues since the students would miss 3 days of school. The Board had approved this event a few years ago.

Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mrs. Collins that the Board move this item to an action item on the June 13th agenda.

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

Motion by Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mrs. Haney that the Board of Education approve the Windham Wrestling team sports event.

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

Board of Education

Proposed Series 4000 (Personnel – Certified & Non-Certified) (Ref. 8)

There were no comments. The proposed Series 4000 will be brought back to the Board for approval at the June 27, 2007, Board meeting.

Subcommittee Reports

Magnet School Building: Mrs. Haney reported that the committee had taken a field trip to 4 different magnet schools in Hartford ranging from pre-school, K-8, middle school and high school. She was very impressed with the flexibility and design of the buildings and programs. Mrs. Collins reported that the committee still has no land and that the Pinnacle 1 Project Manager recommended sending out RFP's on land availability. They are meeting with the town attorney in a day to discuss feasibility for a site RFP, comparing possibly 3 difference pieces of property.

Personnel: Dr. Switchenko reported that Mr. Nelson presented the GASB 45 requirement for potential future retirement benefits that is mandated. The committee is also looking at the possibility of combining a Pep Band stipend with a Marching Band stipend for the 2007-2008 budget. Currently there is a Pep stipend in place.

Budget/Finance: Mr. Doyle reported that the budget items the board had acted on at the meeting tonight were provided from the budget/finance committee.

Mrs. Collins reported to the Board on a dental grant that had been received through Generations providing free dental cleanings for every school including the preschool. She explained that the dentist visits each site for 5-6 days examining students for preventive care and referring students who need additional care. These visits will occur every 6 months. Parents will be billed \$40 but if they cannot afford to pay it, there will be no charge. The 2-year grant stipulates an effort must be made to request payment.

Mr. Doyle asked Dr. Anderberg to report to the Board regarding the Foundation Grant. She reported that 4 banks had awarded the district \$50,000 to fund the following programs: LIFT, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Tutoring at WHS, Multicultural programs at WMS and the Teen Center. Mr. Doyle chairs the Task Force for Before and After School Programs and Mr. Stover serves on it. Mr. Doyle stated that this funding is good incentive for other institutions/foundations who may in turn assist in funding our district with its programs.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board enter into executive session at 8:35 P.M., for the discussion of exempt documents pertaining to personnel matters.

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

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

BOARD ABSENT: Mr. Adamo

ADMINISTRATION

PRESENT: Superintendent Mr. Perzanoski, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Summa,

Director Mr. Nelson

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENES

Chair Mr. Folan reconvened regular session at 9:07 P.M.

Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board add to the agenda at this time the recommended approval of the non-affiliated pay increases.

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

Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve the non-affiliated pay increases as follows: 3% for information systems technicians and network administrator; 3.25% for building and grounds director and cafeteria director; 3% for security officer; 3.27% for non-affiliated administrators with the director of finance receiving a 4.92% salary market adjustment and a \$1,000 TSA market adjustment; 3.25% increase plus an additional \$100 longevity for confidential secretaries; and single health and prescription insurance co-pay increase for non-affiliated personnel who do not follow a specific union group to 8.5%.

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

Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Board add to the agenda at this time the recommended approval of the Superintendent's pay raise.

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

Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mr. Diaz that the Board of Education approve the 3.5% increase and \$4,000 market adjustment to the Superintendent's salary.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mr. Diaz that the Board adjourn its meeting at 9:15 P.M.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Folan, Chair