

WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT
August 15, 2007

BOARD PRESENT: Chair Mr. Folan, Mr. Adamo, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Doyle, Mrs. Haney, Mr. Clements

BOARD ABSENT: Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall, Mrs. Collins, Mr. Diaz

ADMINISTRATION

PRESENT: Superintendent Mr. Perzanoski, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Summa, Directors Mrs. Banks and Mr. Nelson

REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENT: Student Council – No one
Columbia – Mr. William Mulcahy

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrators, general public, and news media

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mr. Folan called the August 15, 2007, Board of Education meeting to order at 7:40 P.M., in conference room one (room 223), 2nd floor, Kramer School.

Mr. Folan asked for a motion to add an executive session for the discussion of personnel matter to the agenda.

Motion of Mr. Clements, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education add an executive session to the agenda for the discussion of personnel matter.

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

MINUTES

July 11, 2007, Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes (Ref. 1)

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve the July 11, 2007, Regular Board of Education meeting minutes, Reference 1.

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

Nay: No one

Abstained: Mr. Clements

The motion passes: 5-0-1

July 17, 2007, Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes (Ref. 1A)

Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve the July 17, 2007, Special Board of Education meeting minutes, Reference 1A.

On the motion: Aye: Mr. Folan, Mr. Adamo, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Doyle

Nay: No one

Abstained: Mrs. Haney, Mr. Clements

The motion passes: 4-0-2

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Folan received two thank-you notes that he passed to the rest of the Board members.

STUDENT COUNCIL

There was no report.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

Pat Calvo, Washburn Street, spoke on behalf of the Windham Parent Network. She said that the Windham Parent Network has reviewed the District Improvement Plan and members give their full support to the district. They are committed to work with the Board of Education in any way that they can.

Mary Gallucci, parent of two students at Natchaug School, asked questions about the testing process at both the local and state levels.

Bill Mulcahy, Columbia Board of Education Member, was welcomed by Mr. Folan.

SUMMARY ACTION

Personnel Action (Ref. 2)

Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve Reference 2 along with the addendum distributed at tonight's meeting.

Resignations:

- . Erin Corso, Self-contained Alternative Program Grades 7&8 Teacher at Windham Middle School, effective June 30, 2007.
- . Lillian Ferguson, Grade 8 Reading/LA Teacher at Windham Middle School, resignation for purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2007.
- . James Hochdorfer, Grade 7 Math Teacher/ Windham Middle School, effective June 30, 2007.
- . Norman Drouin, Crossing Guard, effective August 28, 2007.
- . Janice Joly, Reading Teacher at Natchaug School, effective August 1, 2007.
- . Antoinette Kirk, Grade 4 Teacher at Natchaug School, effective June 30, 2007.
- . Kelly Savoie, Music teacher at Windham High School, effective July 23, 2007.
- . Lynne P. Weeks, Career Center Assistant/Windham High School, effective August 1, 2007.

Resignations (Addendum):

- . Douglas Craig, Social Studies Teacher/Windham High School effective June 30, 2007.
- . Joshua Dinerman, Math Teacher/Windham High School effective August 14, 2007.

Appointments:

- . Alexandria G. Lazzari, Assistant Principal/Windham High School effective July 31, 2007. Salary is \$92995, prorated. New Position.
- . Beverly Chapman, Grade 5 Teacher/Windham Middle School effective August 27, 2007. Salary is MA/3 \$37877. Replaces Sarah Valentin who resigned.
- . Kristin Dill, Grade 5 Teacher/Windham Middle School effective August 27, 2007. Salary is BA/1 \$33865, pending certification. Replaces Melissa Krukoff who transferred to Math Challenge position.
- . Joshua Dinerman, Math Teacher/Windham High School effective August 27, 2007. Salary is BA/4, \$36840. Replaces Joe Stake who resigned.
- . Andrea Holbrook, Grade 1 Teacher/Sweeney School effective August 27, 2007. Salary is BA+30/1, \$35676. Replaces Christine Gambin who resigned.
- . Kit Hastings-Kort, Elementary Transition Teacher/Natchaug & North Windham effective August 27, 2007. Salary is MA/3, \$37877. Replaces Annette Crespo who transferred to Windham Center School.
- . Christina LaRosa, Grade 2 Teacher (Bilingual)/Sweeney School effective August 27, 2007. Salary is BA+15/1, \$34512. New position.
- . Sheila McCracken, Special Education Teacher/Windham Center School effective August 27, 2007. Salary is MA/13, \$66687. Replaces Michelle Kersten who transferred to Natchaug.
- . David Nicholson, PE/Health Teacher at Windham High School/ Windham Academy/ERA effective August 27, 2007. Salary is MA+30/3, \$40206. Replaces David Gruber who transferred to Windham Middle School.

- Scott Perron, Math Teacher/Windham Academy effective August 27, 2007. Salary is BA/3, \$35676. Replaces Joshua Dinerman who was a long term sub.
- Heidi Proba, Developmental Reading Teacher/Windham Center School effective August 27, 2007. Salary is BA/4, \$36840. Replaces Janice Joly who resigned.
- Julie Rey, 7th Grade Math Teacher/Windham Middle School effective August 27, 2007. Salary is MA/2, \$36712. Replaces James Hochdorfer who resigned.
- Amanda Shatney, Special Education Teacher/Sweeney School effective August 27, 2007. Salary is BA/1, \$33865, pending certification. One year appointment replacing Elizabeth D'Amato who is on a childrearing leave of absence.
- Carol Tempest, Reading Teacher/Windham Center School effective August 27, 2007. Salary is PhD/13, \$74361. Replaces Priscilla St. John who resigned.
- Candice Brown, Before & After School Coordinator/Sweeney School effective August 20, 2007. Hourly rate is \$15.99. Replaces Diane Dorfer who resigned.

Leaves of Absence (Addendum):

- Janice Nye, Teacher/Windham Middle School, childbearing/childrearing beginning August 27, 2007 through November 30, 2007.
- Kim Lewis, Teacher/Natchaug, childbearing/childrearing beginning approximately October 8, 2007 through February 25, 2008.

Schedule A-4/Extra Curricular Appointments (Addendum):

- Roberto Rodriguez, Girls Soccer Coach/Windham High School pending coaching certification. Stipend is \$3,258.
- Nicole LaRochelle, Team Leader Grade 5/Windham Middle School. Stipend is \$2,881.
- Tom Collins, Team Leader Grade 5/Windham Middle School. Stipend is \$2,881.
- Sydney Gilbey, Team Leader Unified Arts/Windham Middle School. Stipend is \$2,881.
- Vincent Iovine, Windham Players Tech Advisor/Windham High School. Stipend is \$4,525.

Mrs. Haney thanked Ms. Ferguson for her many years of service.

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

Windham High School Trip Request (Ref. 3)

Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Mr. Adamo, that the Board of Education approve the field trip request for Windham High School students to attend a concert and jazz band competition in Virginia Beach, Virginia, from Sunday, April 3, 2008, through April 6, 2008, in accordance with Board Policy 6110 P. Mr. Doyle recommended tabling this vote until a new music teacher is hired to fill the vacant position. Mr. Blain indicated that the goals for the program have been established and it is his expectation that a trip will take place. Applicants interviewed are aware of the plans for the trip. Following Mr. Blain's comments and discussion, Mr. Doyle withdrew his recommendation.

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

ACTION ITEMS

Before and After School Extended Literacy Program grant application (21st Century Learning Communities (Ref. 4)

Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve the submission of the Before and After School Extended Literacy Program grant application (21st Century Learning Communities). Dr. Anderberg answered questions.

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

Young Parents Program grant application (Ref. 5)

Motion of Mr. Clements, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve the submission of the Young Parents Program grant application. There was no discussion.

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

Windham High School Smaller Learning Communities grant application (Ref. 6)

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve the submission of the Windham High School Smaller Learning Communities grant application. Mr. Blain thanked Dr. Anderberg for the work that she put into writing the grant which, if received, will greatly benefit the high school. Dr. Anderberg said that Windham has a strong application since the Board has approved the proposal and all of the ground work has been set.

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

State Consolidated grant application (Ref. 7)

Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve the submission of the State Consolidated grant application. There was no discussion.

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

Individuals with Disabilities Education grant application (Ref. 8)

Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mr. Clements, that the Board of Education approve the submission of the Individuals with Disabilities Education grant application. There was no discussion.

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

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Transition Class at Windham High School (Ref. 9)

Mr. Blain explained that due to funding from a grant written by Mr. Stover and Ms. Ledey, there will be a new position at the high school which will address the needs of students transitioning back into the classroom due to various reasons. The teacher in this position will assist students with classroom and attendance issues working to help students meet with more success in school. Mr. Blain answered questions and Mr. Folan thanked him.

Meeting with Commissioner of Education (Ref. 10)

Mr. Folan provided an overview of the recent meeting that Mr. Perzanoski and he had with the Commissioner of Education and the Commissioner's cabinet. Windham has many good initiatives already in place; however, there will be financial burdens placed on the district. When the Commissioner asked what he could do for Windham, Mr. Folan replied that he should start lobbying the legislature so that funding goes directly to the district, not to the town, and he asked the Commissioner to attend a public forum in Windham to speak to community members, town leaders, parents and teachers and answer their questions so that everyone understands what is being asked of the district and the financial implications that are involved. Mr. Folan has been in touch with the Commissioner's office and hopes to have a date for the forum by this Friday.

Mr. Perzanoski said that the Commissioner asked many questions about the district. At tonight's meeting, Mr. Perzanoski distributed information from the State Department of Education's Bureau of Accountability, Compliance and Monitoring, along with a listing of the Next Steps with a timeline.

Both Mr. Clements and Mr. Doyle questioned the aggressive timeline. There was discussion about the timeline and the fact that this initiative has been presented after the district's budget has been put in place. It was questioned why the district would be responsible to pay for the state required audits. Mr. Folan agreed that the timeline was aggressive but didn't think that it was set in stone. Mr. Folan felt that it would be important to follow up with a budget forum once the forum with the Commissioner has taken place. Board members had many questions about the requirements indicated by this new legislation. Mr. Folan said that it is important that the Commissioner visit Windham to explain in detail the impact and ramifications that this initiative will have and to answer questions.

Financial Statement – July 2007 (Ref. 11)

Mr. Nelson pointed out that some line items show deficit numbers because savings are anticipated as a result of some of the summer projects.

Announcements/Information (Ref. 12)

There were no comments.

Board of Education

Subcommittee Reports:

Magnet School Building: Mrs. Haney reported that the committee has met and is preparing the bid for the site assessment. The committee is looking at three sites. Work is also being done on the development of a curriculum committee.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion of Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Adamo, that the Board enter into executive session at 8:35 P.M. for the purpose of discussing exempt documents pertaining to personnel matter.

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

BOARD PRESENT: Chair Mr. Folan, Mr. Adamo, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Doyle, Mrs. Haney, Mr. Clements

ADMINISTRATION

PRESENT: Superintendent Mr. Perzanoski

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENES

Mr. Folan reconvened regular session at 9:10 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Board adjourn its meeting at 9:10 P.M.

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

Respectfully submitted,

John Adamo, Secretary