

WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT
September 12, 2007

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

BOARD ABSENT: No one

ADMINISTRATION

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

REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENT: Student Council – No one
Columbia – No one

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrators, general public, and news media

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mr. Folan called the September 12, 2007, Board of Education meeting to order at 7:35 P.M., in conference room one (room 223), 2nd floor, Kramer School.

MINUTES

August 15, 2007, Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes (Ref. 1)

Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mr. Adamo, that the Board of Education approve the August 15, 2007, Regular Board of Education meeting minutes, Reference 1.

On the motion: Aye: Mr. Folan, Mr. Adamo, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Doyle, Mrs. Haney, Mr. Clements
Nay: No one

Abstained: Mrs. Rayhall, Mrs. Collins, Mr. Diaz

The motion passes: 6-0-3

August 15, 2007, Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes (Ref. 1A)

Motion of Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Board of Education approve the August 15, 2007, Special Board of Education meeting minutes, Reference 1A.

On the motion: Aye: Mr. Folan, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Doyle, Mrs. Haney, Mr. Clements
Nay: No one

Abstained: Mrs. Rayhall, Mr. Adamo, Mrs. Collins, Mr. Diaz

The motion passes: 5-0-4

August 21, 2007, Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes (Ref. 1B)

Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mr. Adamo, that the Board of Education approve the August 21, 2007, Special Board of Education meeting minutes, Reference 1B.

On the motion: Aye: Mr. Folan, Mrs. Rayhall, Mr. Adamo
Nay: No one

Abstained: Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Doyle, Mrs. Haney, Mrs. Collins, Mr. Diaz, Mr. Clements

The motion passes: 3-0-6

August 30, 2007, Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes (Ref. 1C)

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve the August 30, 2007, Special Board of Education meeting minutes, Reference 1C.

On the motion: Aye: Mr. Folan, Mr. Adamo, Mr. Doyle, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Haney, Mr. Diaz
Nay: No one

Abstained: Mrs. Rayhall, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Clements

The motion passes: 6-0-3

PRESENTATION

Dr. Donald Leu, John and Maria Neag Endowed Chair, University of Connecticut, thanked the Board of Education for providing the opportunity to work with the students in Windham under a federal research grant. He indicated that the studies done in Windham will have a global impact by providing better learning opportunities for youth around the world. Following his presentation, he answered questions and Mr. Folan thanked him.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

STUDENT COUNCIL

There was no report.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

There were no comments.

SUMMARY ACTION

Personnel Action (Ref. 2)

Motion of Mrs. Collins, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve Reference 2.

RESIGNATIONS

- Kathleen McNamara, English Teacher/Windham High School effective August 17, 2007.
- Sarah Walluk, Special Education Teacher/Windham Middle School effective June 30, 2007.
- Scott Short, Special Education Tutor/Windham High School effective August 17, 2007.
- Michelle Zahansky, Special Education Paraprofessional/Windham High School effective August 17, 2007.
- JoAnn Nyack, Special Education Paraprofessional/Natchaug School effective September 3, 2007.
- Theresa Perry, Cafeteria Worker/Windham Middle School effective August 28, 2007.
- Ayanna McClellan, ISS Paraprofessional/Windham Middle School effective September 20, 2007.
- Denise Flores, Secretary II for Guidance Department/Windham High School effective September 19, 2007.
- Mary Maxfield, Secretary III/Windham High School effective September 7, 2007 for the purpose of retirement.

APPOINTMENTS

- Jessica Groat, Special Education Tutor/ERA, effective August 28, 2007. Replaces Marianne Ouimette who resigned, hourly rate is \$15.00.
- Michael Warriner, Special Education Job Coach/ERA effective August 28, 2007. Replaces Jesse Grano who resigned, hourly rate is \$15.00.
- Adrian Escott, Special Education Teacher/ERA effective August 27, 2007. Replaces Jesse Glaude who transferred, salary is BA/12, \$51,222 pending certification.
- Norma Gervais, Special Education Paraprofessional/ERA effective August 28, 2007. Replaces Tiffany Bill who resigned, hourly rate is \$11.09.

- Shelly Duchesne, Special Education Teacher/Windham High School effective August 28, 2007. Replaces Deborah Weingart who resigned, salary is MA/13, \$66,687.
- Carlos I. Flores, Math Teacher/Windham High School effective August 27, 2007. Replaces Josh Dinerman who resigned, salary is BA/10, \$44,993.
- Khary Fletcher, Special Education Tutor/Windham High School effective August 28, 2007. Replaces Scott Short who resigned, hourly rate is \$15.00.
- Andrew McNamar, English Teacher/Windham High School effective August 28, 2007. Replaces Kathleen McNamara who resigned, salary is BA+30/5, \$40,078 pending certification.
- Stephanie McNamar, Science Teacher/Windham Middle School effective August 28, 2007. Replaces Carrie Manville who resigned, salary is BA/8, \$41,242 pending certification.
- Taylor Duckworth, Reading/LA Teacher/Windham Middle School effective August 28, 2007. Replaces Lillian Ferguson who resigned, salary is MA/10, \$48,874.
- Rebecca Griffiths, Special Education Teacher/Windham Middle School effective August 28, 2007. Replaces Ellen Occhionero-McLean who transferred, salary is MA/1, \$35,676 pending certification.
- Michael Reynolds, Grade 4 Teacher/Natchaug School effective August 28, 2007. Replaces Antoinette Kirk who resigned, salary is MA/7, \$42,277.
- Angela Assalone, Grade 2 Companeros Teacher/North Windham School effective August 28, 2007. Replaces Yusomil Bonet who transferred, salary is BA/3, \$35,676.
- Christina Conde, Kindergarten Teacher/Sweeney School effective August 27, 2007. Replaces Tami Bombard who transferred, salary is MA/13, \$66,687.
- Justin Magoulas, AIS technician/Central Office effective August 14, 2007. Replaces Daniel Boucher who resigned, hourly rate is \$17.44.
- Peter Lillpopp, Music Teacher/Windham High School effective August 27, 2007. Replaces Kelly Savoie who resigned, salary is MA/4, \$38,912.
- Efren Figueroa, Special Education Paraprofessional/Windham High School effective August 28, 2007. Replaces Michelle Zahansky who resigned, hourly rate is \$12.53.
- Frank Hendrick, Special Education Tutor/Windham High School effective August 28, 2007. Position is one of two tutor positions in place of Jane Glenn, special education teacher who resigned. Hourly rate is \$16.00.
- Kim Kuusela, Special Education Tutor/Windham High School effective August 28, 2007. Position is one of two tutor positions in place of Jane Glenn, special education teacher who resigned. Hourly rate is \$16.00.
- Denise Flores, Bilingual Special Education Paraprofessional/Commerce Drive Preschool effective September 20, 2007. Replaces Rosemary Negrón who resigned, hourly rate is \$11.76.
- Celia Negrón, 10-Month Head Start Cook/Prospect Street location effective August 27, 2007. Replaces Angel Vazquez who transferred, hourly rate is \$9.92.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

- Carolina Mendez, Teacher/Natchaug School, childbearing/childrearing leave of absence beginning approximately October 17, 2007, duration unknown.
- Laura Jones, Guidance Counselor/Windham High School, childbearing/childrearing leave of absence beginning approximately December 23, 2007 through March 17, 2007.
- Sandra Canterbury, Autistic Tutor/Windham High School, personal leave of absence beginning August 28, 2007 through December 21, 2007.
- David St. Jean, Grade 4 Teacher/North Windham School, medical leave of absence beginning August 27, 2007 through December, 2007.

SCHEDULE A-4/EXTRA CURRICULAR APPOINTMENT

- Peter Lillpopp, Music Production/Windham High School, replaces Kelly Savoie who resigned. Stipend \$4,525.

- Peter Lillpopp, Dance Band/Windham High School, replaces Kelly Savoie who resigned. Stipend \$1,991.
- Peter Lillpopp, Pep/Marching Band/Windham High School, replaces Kelly Savoie who resigned. Stipend \$3,439.
- David Nicholson, Freshman Boys Soccer Coach, pending certification. Stipend \$2,353.

Mrs. Collins asked for an update on staffing. Mrs. Banks replied that progress is being made and she is in the process of hiring a few more people this week.

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

ACTION ITEMS

Nondiscrimination Resolution (Ref. 3)

Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the Board of Education accept the following resolution: RESOLVED: That the Windham Board of Education hereby adopts as its policy to support the nondiscrimination agreements and warranties required under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 4a-60(a)(1) and § 4a-60a(a)(1), as amended in State of Connecticut Public Act 07-245 and sections 9(a)(1) and 10(a)(1) of Public Act 07-142, as those statutes may be amended from time to time. There was no discussion.

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

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

CMT and CAPT Reports (Ref. 4)

Dr. Summa provided the Board with the CMT assessment results comparing data for 2006 and 2007 at the proficient and above levels in grades three, four, five, six and seven in the content areas. She then compared the same cohorts of students as well in 2006 and 2007. Dr. Summa reviewed the plan of action and she and the elementary principals answered questions from Board members. Dr. Summa presented North Windham Elementary School principal Jack Giordano with a gold CMT star and Windham Center Elementary School acting principal Dr. Torres with a silver CMT star for their schools' accomplishments.

Dr. Summa also reviewed the CAPT scores for 2007 and reported on the percentage of students at proficiency and above in math, science, reading and writing. She compared students' scores in 2004, 2005, and 2006 but could not compare 2007 because a different test was given. She did compare Windham's results with other priority school districts. Dr. Summa also reviewed the plan of action. Mr. Perzanoski indicated that Board members had received a copy of this year's calendar showing the schedule for collecting and analyzing data.

Discussion and Update on Commissioner of Education's Visit – October 4, 2007 (Ref. 5)

Mr. Folan reported that letters of invitation have been sent out and ads will be going into the newspaper inviting people to attend the October 4th community conversation with the Commissioner of Education. Also, he and Mr. Perzanoski will be on the Wayne Norman Show the morning of September 20th and Mr. Folan will be a guest on Bruce and Hannah Clements' radio show on October 2nd to inform the community about the meeting with the Commissioner. He has asked Mr. Clements to serve as the moderator on October 4th. Board members discussed the format for the evening.

Financial Report – August 2007 (Ref. 6)

Mr. Nelson distributed the first five budget transfers.

Announcements/Information (Ref. 7)

There were no comments.

Board of Education

Subcommittee Reports:

EASTCONN Advisory: Mr. Adamo reported that the meeting was canceled due to a lack of a quorum.

Budget/Finance: Mr. Doyle reported that the extra special education funds were transferred by the Town and the three boards will meet on September 17th. He said that Board members have received the first five budget transfers from Mr. Nelson.

Personnel: Mr. Doyle said that several items were reviewed and will be addressed during tonight's executive session.

Magnet School: Mrs. Collins reported that the committee is still working on land options and there is a committee meeting tomorrow night. Mrs. Haney reported that the committee had a presentation on the next steps for hiring a construction manager.

Dental Grant: Mrs. Collins said that the equipment has been purchased and the initiative will begin in January. Every school will take part in the program.

Before and After School Task Force: Mr. Doyle said there is a meeting tomorrow at 9:00 AM at the Early Childhood Center at ECSU.

School Readiness: Mrs. Collins reported that additional funding has been received this year but the preschool program has run out of space.

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 9:34 P.M. for the purpose of discussing exempt documents pertaining to personnel matters.

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

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

ADMINISTRATION

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

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENES

Mr. Folan reconvened regular session at 10:05 P.M.

Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mr. Diaz, that the Board add the following personnel requests to the agenda for action:

(1) eligibility of first line supervisors for four (4) weeks of vacation after 10 (ten) years of service; (2) increase bilingual transition services position at Windham Center School from .60 FTE to 1.0 FTE; (3) reclassify the ISS Monitor position at Windham Middle School to a tutor position; (4) upgrade special services Medicaid secretary from Secretary II to Secretary III; (5) replace one bilingual special education teacher at Windham High School for 2007-08 with two special education tutors; and (6) hire a Distance Learning Coordinator at the tutor level for an online Latin program at Windham High School.

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

Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mr. Diaz, that the Board approve the following personnel requests:

(1) eligibility of first line supervisors for four (4) weeks of vacation after 10 (ten) years of service; (2) increase bilingual transition services position at Windham Center School from .60 FTE to 1.0 FTE; (3) reclassify the ISS Monitor position at Windham Middle School to a tutor position; (4) upgrade special

services Medicaid secretary from Secretary II to Secretary III; (5) replace one bilingual special education teacher at Windham High School for 2007-08 with two special education tutors; and (6) hire a Distance Learning Coordinator at the tutor level for an online Latin program at Windham High School.

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

Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mr. Doyle that the Board add the acceptance of the Superintendent's Goals for 2007-08 to the agenda.

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

Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Board accept the Superintendent's Goals for 2007-08.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

John Adamo, Secretary