

WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
August 17, 2016

BOARD PRESENT: Chair Mrs. Osuba, Vice-chair Dr. Sewall, Mrs. Lambert, Mr. Montalvo, Mr. Flores-Alvarez, Mr. Quamme

BOARD ABSENT: Secretary Dr. Gomez, Mr. French, Mr. Kalajian

ADMINISTRATION

PRESENT: Superintendent Patricia Garcia, Assistant Superintendent Tracy Youngberg, Interim Assistant Superintendent William Chaffin, Directors: Ms. Beghetto, Ms. Markey, Mr. Johnson

STUDENT

REPRESENTATIVES: None

OTHERS PRESENT: General public, staff, administrators, news media

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mrs. Osuba called the August 17, 2016 Board of Education special meeting to order at 6:03pm in the Windham High School Library Media Center.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Quamme led the Board and the Public in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

June 22, 2016, Workshop Meeting (Ref. 1)

The minutes for the June 22, 2016 Board of Education meeting were accepted as submitted.

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Summer School 2016

Summer school was very successful with 489 students across the district participating in seven different programs with over 90 staff members providing instruction and support. The Superintendent recognized Mr. Chaffin, Ms. Silvestro and Ms. Sykes who managed the summer school program. 92% of all K-3 students who participated in the literacy program increased

their DIBELS scores and 31% of all K-3 students who participated in the literacy program made positive growth from the intensive level to the strategic level. 90% of all registered students in credit recovery passed their courses and received credit in one or more courses. The ECO Enrichment did a remarkable job with their final presentations to the panel of judges which included Rep. Susan Johnson, Mrs. Osuba, Mr. Ben Van Rheen and Mr. Chaffin. Thirty eighth graders attended Algebra readiness each day to prepare for Algebra I to be taken at Windham Middle School.

New Administrator Welcome Event

Windham Public Schools will introduce and welcome the new administrators and those administrators who are taking different positions to the Windham Community. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, September 7, from 6 to 7pm in the 1st floor multipurpose room of the Kramer Building. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Opening of Schools 2016

Convocation is scheduled for Friday, August 25 at 8AM in the Windham High School Auditorium. All are invited to attend. Teachers will go to their buildings after convocation. The following Monday and Tuesday will be professional development for all teachers introducing the year's instructional initiatives.

Jobs for America's Graduates

There will be a new program, Jobs for America's Graduates, at Windham Middle School this year. A special thank you to Michelle Firestone for the article on the program that appeared in the newspaper. This is a state-based national program funded through the United Way. The goal is to assist approximately 30 at risk students to graduate and build leadership skills. The program will provide dedicated staff to work with students, staff and parents. This year the program will include only 7th and 8th grade students with the hope that the next school year will include 6th grade also.

Opening of School Kick Off Event

Ms. Markey, the home liaisons and Department of Communications are working on a kick-off event which will be held at the high school on the lawn. The event will be open to the community on Saturday, August 27 and will include events for students and parents from 11:30am to 2pm. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Audit

Dr. Sewall reported that the committee will meet prior to the referendum and the retreat.

School Planning and Design Committee

Mrs. Osuba reported that the committee has not met during the summer.

Executive Committee

Mrs. Osuba reported that the committee has not met.

Ad Hoc Policy Committee

Mr. Flores-Alvarez reported that the committee has not met.

ACTION ITEMS

Recommended approval of Middle School After School Program Grant Application Submission (Ref. 2)

Recommended approval of NWS, WCS and WHS After School Program Grant Application Submission (Ref. 3)

Recommended approval of Young Parent Program Grant Application Submission (Ref. 4)

Motion of Dr. Sewall seconded by Mr. Montalvo, that the approval of the submissions be combined into one action.

There was no further discussion.

Motion unanimously approved.

Motion of Dr. Sewall seconded by Mr. Montalvo, that the Board approve the submission of the grant applications for the Middle School After School Program, the NWS, WCS and WHS After School Program and the Young Parent program.

Mrs. Lambert inquired as to why there were no applications for the other schools that had after school programs. Dr. Garcia explained that many of these grants are multi-year grants or grants that will come up later in the year.

No further discussion.

Motion unanimously approved.

Motion of Dr. Sewall seconded by Mr. Quamme that the Board approve the following personnel recommendations:

APPOINTMENTS

- Lauren Young, to the position of Art Teacher at Windham Center School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$44,412. Replacement.
- Janet Dewey to the position of Reading Interventionist at Charles. H. Barrows STEM Academy effective August 26, 2016, salary \$53,369. Replacement.
- Dani Aponte to the position of Grade 2 Teacher at Windham Center School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$48,804. New Position.
- Jessica Sewell to the position of Grade 1 Teacher at North Windham School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$44,412. Replacement.
- Brooks Kay to the position of Music Teacher at Windham Middle School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$78,607. Replacement.
- Sarah Hodge-Cordero to the position of Special Education Teacher at Windham Center School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$44,412. Replacement.

- Lisa Ferrari to the position of Grade 8 Math Teacher at Windham Middle School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$41,950. Replacement.
- Tara Webb, to the position of RN at Windham Center School effective August 31, 2016, salary \$51,370. Replacement.
- Nicole Bairos, to the position of Social Science Teacher at Windham High School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$41,950. Replacement.
- Karla Occhipinti, to the position of Social Worker at North Windham School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$47,340. New Position.
- Dawne Goodwin, to the position of School Psychologist at Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy effective August 26, 2016, salary \$47,340. Replacement.
- Jennifer Moulard, to the position of Kindergarten Teacher at Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy effective August 26, 2016, salary \$41,950. Replacement.
- Dustin Munson, to the position of Grade 8 Science Teacher at Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy effective August 26, 2016, salary \$44,412. Replacement.
- Juan Negrón, to the position of Companeros Social Studies Teacher at Windham Middle School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$72,535. New Position.
- Nicole Preston, to the position of Grade 8 RLA Teacher at Windham Middle School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$50,268. Replacement.
- Leslie Round, to the position of Grade 8 ESOL Teacher at Windham Middle School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$51,731. Replacement.
- Stephani Seguin, to the position of Grade 2 Teacher at North Windham School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$41,950. Replacement.
- Jeffrey Shields, to the position of Grade 6 Math Teacher at Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy effective August 26, 2016, salary \$69,469. Replacement.
- Jean Trask, to the position of Grade 8 RLA Teacher at Windham Middle School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$83,490. Replacement.
- Sarah Bernhardson, to the position of Art Teacher at North Windham School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$44,412. Replacement.
- Michael Cho, to the position of Music Teacher at Windham Middle School and Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy effective August 26, 2016, salary \$41,950. New Position/Replacement.
- Christopher Caulfield, to the position of Grade 5 Teacher at North Windham School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$44,412. Replacement.
- Monica DeVivo, to the position of 1:1 LPN at Windham High School effective August 31, 2016, salary \$22.55 per hour. Replacement.
- Elizabeth Costa, to the position of Grade 8 Math Teacher at Windham Middle School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$72,051. Replacement.
- Toni Emmanuel, to the position of ESOL Teacher at Windham Center School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$44,412. Replacement.
- Maria Flores, to the position of Grade 7 RLA Teacher at North Windham School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$47,340. Replacement.

- Nanci Fortin, to the position of Math Interventionist at Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy effective August 26, 2016, salary \$78,607. Replacement.
- Tatiana Gomez, to the position of ESOL Teacher at Windham High School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$44,412. Replacement.
- Tracy Goodell-Pelletier, to the position of Grade 8 ELA Teacher at Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy effective August 26, 2016, salary \$60,334. Replacement.
- Julie Hill, to the position of Grade 6 ESOL Teacher at Windham Middle School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$44,412. Replacement.
- Pablo Hernandez-Reyes, to the position of Custodian at Windham Middle School effective August 11, 2016, salary \$15.00 per hour. Replacement.
- Nestor Ramos, to the position of Security Officer at Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy effective August 31, 2016, salary \$18.17 per hour. Replacement.
- Paul Deal, to the position of Library Media Specialist at Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy effective August 26, 2016, salary \$78,607. Replacement.
- Erin Holden to the position of Grade 4 Teacher at North Windham School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$41,950. Replacement.
- Danie Shelton to the position of Kindergarten Teacher at North Windham School effective August 26, 2016, salary \$78,607. Replacement.
- Stephanie Waitt to the position of PK Teacher at WECC Prospect Street Preschool effective August 26, 2016, salary \$44,412. Replacement.

RESIGNATIONS

- Emalie Berke, Grade 2 Teacher at Natchaug School effective June 30, 2016.
- Rebecca Bissonnette, Math Teacher at Windham High School effective June 30, 2016.
- Elizabeth Brown, Companeros Grade 1 Teacher at North Windham School effective June 30, 2016.
- Mary Cote, General Cafeteria Worker at North Windham School effective June 30, 2016 for the purpose of retirement.
- Melissa Ewing, ESOL Teacher at Windham Middle School effective June 30, 2016.
- Danielle Fratoni, Grade 4 Teacher at Natchaug School effective June 30, 2016.
- Jenna Levitt, Preschool Teacher at WECC Prospect Street Preschool effective June 30, 2016.
- Elizabeth Rivera Mendez, Speech Assistant at Windham Middle School effective July 1, 2016.
- Debbie Vossler, Cook Manager at Windham Middle School effective June 9, 2016.
- Soely Barros, Social Worker Assistant at WECC Prospect Street Preschool effective June 9, 2016.
- Ronald Owen, 1:1 LPN at Windham High School effective June 9, 2016,
- Christina Milton, Grade 4 Teacher at Natchaug School effective June 30, 2016.

- Joanne Warner, Administrative Assistant in Human Resources effective April 3, 2017 for the purpose of retirement.
- Andrew Gionfriddo, English Teacher at Windham High School effective July 29, 2016.
- Jamie Vallarelli, Kindergarten Teacher at Natchaug School effective June 30, 2016.
- Norman Allard, Physical Education Teacher at North Windham School effective June 30, 2016 for the purpose of retirement.
- Luis Organista, Tutor at Windham Middle School effective May 27th, 2016.
- Annette Schleicher, Art Teacher at North Windham School effective June 30, 2016 for the purpose of retirement.
- Stephen Caldwell, Tutor at Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy effective June 9, 2016.
- Elizabeth Velez, Secretary III for ESOL, Bilingual Education and World Language Department effective July 15, 2016.
- Jennifer Bergin, Grade 5 Teacher at Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy effective June 30, 2016.

Dr. Garcia noted that some potential hires had withdrawn their applications as a result of the budget issues facing the district.

Mrs. Lambert asked if there is a plan to replace the guidance secretary at the high school. Dr. Garcia said the position would be filled by reassignment of existing staff members. Dr. Sewell noted that there are 28 positions that are not going to be filled but only 19 actual present staff members will be terminated.

Dr. Garcia noted that a teacher who is a product of the Windham Public School system has been hired as a preschool teacher.

No further discussion.

Motion unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Dr. Sewall, seconded by Mr. Flores-Alvarez, that the Board of Education adjourn at 6:23pm.

The motion is unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sewall, Secretary