

WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT
April 25, 2007

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

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

ADMINISTRATION

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

REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENT: Student Council – Patrick Kania
Columbia – No one

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrators, general public

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mr. Folan called the April 25, 2007, Board of Education meeting to order at 7:35 P.M., in conference room one (room 223), 2nd floor, Kramer School.

MINUTES

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

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve the April 11, 2007, Regular Board of Education meeting minutes, Reference 1.

On the motion: Aye, 7 -0; unanimous.

April 3, 2007, Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes (Ref. 1A)

Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve the April 3, 2007, Special Board of Education meeting minutes, Reference 1A.

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

Nay: No one

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

The motion passes: 4-0-3

April 9, 2007, Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes (Ref. 1B)

Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve the April 9, 2007, Special Board of Education meeting minutes, Reference 1B.

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

Nay: No one

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

The motion passes: 3-0-4

PRESENTATIONS

CABE Student Leadership Awards

Mr. Folan and Mr. Blain presented this year's CABE Student Leadership Awards to Windham High School students, Jordan Ritchie and Bryce Monahan. Both students were recognized for their leadership

abilities and their involvement in numerous school activities. They were congratulated for their achievements.

Student Philosopher

Copies of the 2007 *Student Philosopher* were distributed to Board members and Mr. Blain introduced student editor, Ashley Norris, who read *In Retrospect* by Ashley Slater and *Autumn Leaves* by Joey Major. Stephanie LaPointe read *The Eyes of Brandon Lee* by Katharine McManus and *Who Are You* by Angeline Herrick. Katharine McManus read *Twisted* by Mike Guyot and *Natural Harvest* by Joey Major. Mr. Folan thanked Ashley, Stephanie and Katharine for attending tonight's meeting and thanked them, along with Mr. Skoog and the rest of the contributing staff, for their efforts in publishing this year's edition of the *Student Philosopher*.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Patrick Kania reported that this year's Leadership Conference will be held at Eastern Connecticut State University on May 24th. Dr. Robert Thorson, a University of Connecticut professor, will be the keynote speaker and will talk about environmental issues, which is the theme for this year's conference.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

There were none.

SUMMARY ACTION

Personnel Action (Ref. 2)

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

Resignations:

- Joan Kelso, Head Start Cook/Commerce Drive effective May 2, 2007.
- Raychel Hermanson, Head Start Cooperating Teacher/Commerce Drive effective April 18, 2007.
- Robert VanCleve, Maintenance Worker/Central Office, effective April 19, 2007, for the purpose of retirement.

Appointments:

- Marian Giovannini, Grade One Teacher/Natchaug Elementary School, reinstate for the 2007-08 school year, previously nonrenewed. Salary will be BA+30/4, \$38,912.
- Mabell Rosado, Secretary III/Migratory Office, effective April 23, 2007. Salary is \$14.48 per hour. Replaces Mary Rival who transferred.

Leave of Absence:

- Kim Begin, Teacher/Windham Middle School, medical leave of absence beginning April 23, 2007, through approximately May 21, 2007.

On the motion: Aye, 7 -0; unanimous.

ACTION ITEMS

District Attendance Office/Windham High School OPM Grants (Ref. 3 and Ref. 3A)

Ms. Ledey reviewed the background of Windham's participation in the Connecticut Consortium on School Attendance and she provided summary information on the two grant proposals that are in front of the Board for submittal approval.

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approved the submission of the WHS-Effective In-School Suspension Program grant application (Ref. 3) and the WHS-Re-entry Transitional Classroom grant application (Ref. 3A).

On the motion: Aye, 7-0; unanimous. Ms. Ledey was thanked.

Summer Food Service Program 2007 Participation (Ref. 4)

Motion of Mr. Clements, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education authorizes Superintendent Paul K. Perzanoski to sign the Summer Food Service Program Agreement and related claims for reimbursement, and in his absence, Jeffrey I. Nelson, Director of Finance and Management, is authorized to sign claims for reimbursement. There was no discussion.

On the motion: Aye, 7-0; unanimous.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Before- and After-School Programs and Out-of-School Programs (Ref. 5)

Mr. Stover provided the Board with information on the many out-of-school activities and programs available to Windham students. He reviewed some of the activities that are integrated into the Before- and After-School programs which are held at the four elementary schools. He also spoke about the after-school tutorial program offered at the elementary schools and the middle school, as well as Expanding Horizons, an after-school reading intervention program staffed by University of Connecticut interns. Mr. Stover also noted the English Language Learning Center at Windham High School which provides one-on-one tutoring for students; parent involvement activities which include twelve literacy workshops for parents; and the LIFT Program which takes place after school at Windham Middle School. In his role as the district's homeless liaison, Mr. Stover reviewed some of the outreach activities occurring both in the community and in the schools. He reported that summer school this year will run from July 2 through July 27 and will be housed at Sweeney School with attendance by students in grades one, two and three based on their DRA results. Work is underway in the Kramer Building where a Teen Center will be housed, which is an initiative of STRETCH, a leadership program run in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce. Awesome Adventures, a Multicultural/Immigration Unit of Study and the Welcome Center are additional programs that provide activities for students. After-school programs in Windham service 1491 students. Mr. Stover thanked Mr. Doyle for his work with the Windham Community Before- and After-School Task Force. Mr. Folan and Mr. Perzanoski thanked Mr. Stover for his report.

United States Marine Corps' Educator's Workshop (Ref. 6)

Mr. Perzanoski explained that this item is included on the agenda for the Board's information.

Student Recognition (Ref. 7)

Mr. Perzanoski was pleased to announce that the following Windham High School students are recipients of awards sponsored by the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS): Meredith Crosbie received the Performing Arts Award, Melissa Hansen received the Visual Arts Award, and Jordan Ritchie and Andrew Millerd were named this year's Scholar Athletes. The Board of Education and Mr. Perzanoski congratulated these students and wished them continued success.

Announcements/Information (Ref. 8)

There were no comments.

Board of Education

Subcommittee Reports

Districtwide PTO: Mrs. Haney reported that at Monday night's meeting, Mr. Perzanoski provided a budget update; members received promotion and graduation dates; First Day Celebrations were discussed; and members reported on school activities during roundtable.

Tri-Board on School Space: Mr. Perzanoski reported that the elementary school principals provided information on their space needs to the committee. He and Mr. McGlew will contact firms and architects to ask for assistance in planning and cost estimates.

EASTCONN: Mr. Adamo invited Board members to the annual spring meeting on May 22 at the Capitol Theater. He reported that there are twenty applicants for attendance next year in the full-time Arts Magnet School program. Mr. Adamo reported that at the meeting members received an update on Head Start; tuition costs for next year were approved; 07-08 compensations for those not part of a bargaining unit were approved; and an executive session was held for discussion of negotiations.

School-based Health Center: Mrs. Collins reported that concerns were discussed about the number of students in crisis situations that are being seen. Committee members would like the middle school to review reinstating health classes. Committee members hope that there will be an increase in funding from the State for social service programs to assist students and their families. Mrs. Collins reported that the Dental Committee, working in conjunction with Generations, EASTCONN, and Windham Public Schools, has applied for a grant which will allow a dentist and hygienist to visit the schools and identify students with dental problems.

School Readiness: Mrs. Collins reported that the School Readiness Council has just celebrated its tenth year anniversary.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board adjourn its meeting at 8:40 P.M.

On the motion: Aye, 7-0; unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

John Adamo, Secretary