

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES ~ REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

Waterbury Arts Magnet School, 16 South Elm Street, Waterbury, Connecticut

PRESENT: President Stango, Commissioners Awwad, Brown, Harvey, McEntee, Rodriguez, Sweeney, and T. Van Stone.

ABSENT: Commissioners Hernandez and J. Van Stone.

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Kathleen Ouellette, Chief Academic Officer Anne Marie Cullinan (6:45), Chief Operating Officer & Chief of Staff Paul Guidone, and Education Liaison Mary Ann Marold (6:45).

1. SILENT PRAYER

President Stango called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a moment of silence.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Circuit Sisters of Girls Inc. led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. ROLL CALL

CLERK: Commissioner Awwad

AWWAD: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Brown.

BROWN: Here.

CLERK: Vice President Harvey.

HARVEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Hernandez (absent). Commissioner McEntee.

McENTEE: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner Rodriguez.

RODRIGUEZ: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Sweeney.

SWEENEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner J. Van Stone (absent). Commissioner T. Van Stone.

T. VAN STONE: Present.

CLERK: President Stango.

STANGO: Here. Just for the record Commissioner Jason Van Stone and Commissioner Hernandez expressed their regrets for not being here tonight.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file the following communications:

1. Copy of communication dated November 17, 2014 from Civil Service to certifying Janice Valuskas for the position of Administrative Support Specialist I.

STANGO: Motion has been made and seconded. All in favor, opposed, motion carries.

5. PUBLIC ADDRESSES THE BOARD

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to suspend the regular order of business to allow the public to address the Board at 6:33 p.m.

STANGO: Motion made and seconded. All in favor, opposed, motion carries.

Donna Maglio, Executive Director, Girl's Inc., and the Circuit Sisters, the First Lego Robotics Team from Girl's Inc., gave the Board a presentation and demonstration on their robotics challenge.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 6:50 p.m.

STANGO: Motion made and seconded. All in favor, opposed, motion carries.

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Ouellette read and distributed the following announcements:

Earlier this week our high schools and elementary schools held Parent Conferences while our middle schools hosted teacher collaboration time. Next Wednesday our middle schools will be holding Parent Conferences while our elementary and high schools host teacher collaboration time.

Tuesday evening I had the pleasure of accompanying our Teacher of the Year, Patricia Williams, to the state Teacher of the Year celebration in Hartford, where teachers from districts throughout Connecticut were honored. Patricia is an 8th grade English / Language Arts teacher at Wallace Middle School. She is also is a district Concept-Based Curriculum Writer and a member of the Wallace School-Wide Data Team.

December is a season for celebration of the winter holidays, and our schools will be participating with many different activities in the coming weeks. Tonight, for example, Generali School is holding its Winter Concert. West Side Middle School will host a Winter Concert on December 17th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Wilby High School's theater students will present "A Family Reunion to Die For" on Saturday, December 20th at 7:00 p.m.

The Mayor's Christmas Luncheon is Wednesday, December 17th, from noon to 2:00 p.m. in Veteran's Memorial Hall.

Kennedy High School is hosting a Fill-a-Bus campaign this Saturday, from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the Kennedy High School parking lot. This toy drive is organized by the school's DECA students.

Friday, December 19th is the deadline for students to sign up for this year's Summer Bridge program. This is a very popular program open to students in grades 6th – 11th. Held in the summer months, it provides these students with an opportunity to learn more about careers in the health fields as well as to participate in several fun activities and field trips. More information is available from the Waterbury Hospital Grants Department or by calling 203 573-7012. While new students are accepted in grades 6 through 8, only returning students will be accepted in the older grades. The program runs from June 22 through July 30, 2015.

Today the annual meeting of Naugatuck Valley League principals and athletic directors took place at Wolcott High School. On the agenda was an application for membership from the Waterbury Career Academy. Dr. Padua, principal, and Mr. McDonald, athletic director, gave the membership a comprehensive look at the admissions policies and procedures for the Academy. Further, they presented their plan for the creation and expansion of their athletics programs, along with a tentative list of athletic offerings the academy hopes to support.

At the conclusion of the presentation, membership went into executive session to discuss the application's merit on the basis of geography, offerings, and necessary restructuring of the league's divisions. The Academy's presentation included a request that they be considered for full varsity level competition beginning in the winter of 2015 season, after completing 12 months of competition independently at the junior varsity level.

Membership decided to table the motion to vote in order to allow the athletic directors opportunity to review the necessary realignments and their resulting impacts on current schedules and tournaments. The athletic directors will be working on this and have committed to reporting back to the principals' group by January 14th, at which point a vote will be taken on the application. We will keep you apprised of the progress over the next weeks or months.

7. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

STANGO: Just a couple of announcements tonight. First the Board of Education retreat is scheduled for Thursday, January 22, 2015. CABE has agreed to facilitate the retreat. Time and location are yet to be finalized however it will take place after working hours.

Also, the Board is ready to move forward with resolving two RFP's which have been in progress. First is the facility use. Four firms have responded to that RFP. The interviews for the selection will take place on Wednesday morning, December 12. A Board committee has been formed for the interviews. Board members Karen Harvey, Jason Van Stone, and Anne Sweeney, and Tom Van Stone have been assigned to be

part of that Committee. Other members of City government and Mr. Guidone will also serve.

Now we have a second RFP and this one is on property acquisition. A Board committee will entertain proposals for the purchase of a site for the State Street School. The date is pending and not officially set yet for that committee to meet. That committee will tour each site and then meet to discuss. That committee will report back to the Board. The committee will consist of Commissioners Bryan McEntee, Catherine Awwad, Juanita Hernandez, Elizabeth Brown, and Felix Rodriguez, also with members of City government again, and Mr. Guidone. More information will be forthcoming on that particular tour and meeting.

Note, please, that any Board member may attend each of these presentations whether or not they are assigned to that committee or not. The committee of each RFP review are the members of the Board who will actually score the application and discuss the application but anyone is invited. As President I will serve as alternate in case someone can't make it and I will be attending both sessions.

In your little mini-packet tonight there was another handout with the committees listed and the procedure for the interview process of the RFP on the facility use. And if anyone who's on a particular committee can't make that meeting you might want to switch with someone on the other one, just as long as we're apprised of that.

Does anyone wish to remove an item from the Consent Calendar?

President Stango proceeded to read the Consent Calendar, Items 8.1 through 8.9.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, it was voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar, items 8.1 through 8.9, as listed:

- 8.1 With the approval of the Committee of the Whole, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval for the Waterbury Public Schools to partner with the CT Lion's Club to perform pediatric eye screening.
- 8.2 With the approval of the Committee on Finance, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of an agreement with Avon Valley Show Stables, LLC to provide equine and barn related prevocational services.
- 8.3 With the approval of the Committee on Building, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the acceptance of the Enlightenment School Project, State Project #151-0263 RNV/E, as complete.
- 8.4 With the approval of the Committee on School Personnel, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the job specifications for, and new position of, Registered Behavior Technician, as attached.

- 8.5 With the approval of the Committee on Curriculum, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to A. Watkins, WHS, and two chaperones to take 23 students to Miami, Florida from April 6 through 9, 2015 to visit Miami Fashion Mart.
- 8.6 With the approval of the Committee on Curriculum, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to Robert Haxhi, WHS, and four chaperones to take 40 students to New York, NY on December 17, 2014 to visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art.
- 8.7 With the approval of the Committee on Curriculum, the Superintendent of Schools recommends permission be granted to Luanne Capolupo and four chaperones to take 50 students to New York, NY on December 12, 2014 to visit the Museum of Natural History.
- 8.8 With the approval of the Committee on School Facilities and Grounds, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the use of school facilities, at no charge, by the following school organizations and/or City departments:

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>FACILITIES AND DATES/TIMES</u>
R. Augelli	Washington café: Tues., Dec. 16 th , 5:30-7:00 pm (Family Night)
J. Burrus	WAMS atrium: Tues., Dec. 2 nd & 16 th 5:45-8:15 pm (12/2 – prior to Bd. Mtg.) (Grandville Academy meetings)
R. O'Neill	Carrington café: Tues., Dec. 9 th , 5:45-8:15 pm (Book Club mtg.) Carrington café: Wed., Jan. 14 th , 5:45-8:15 pm (Book Club mtg.) (snow date: 1/21/15) Carrington gym: Tues., Jan. 27 th , 3:30-9:00 pm (Family Night) Carrington café: Thurs., Mar. 19 th , 5:45-8:30 pm (Family Night) (snow date: 3/26/15)
T. St. Pierre	Duggan café/gym: Tues., Dec. 16 th , 3:30-6:30 pm (Parent Involvement Night) Duggan café/gym: Thurs., Dec. 4 th , 4:30-6:30 pm (ESL Parent Night) (prior to Bd. Mtg.)
M. Vagnini	WAMS atrium: Mon., Dec. 22 nd 4:00-8:00 pm (H.S. Chorus Concert)
J. Matthews	Chase café: Sat., Dec. 13 th , 7:00 am-12:30 pm (snow date: 12/20/15) (Breakfast with Santa)
A. Solla	Career Academy: Tuesdays, Dec. 16, 2014 thru June 2, 2015, 5:30-6:30 pm (Monthly PTSO meetings)
MaryAnn Marold	WAMS café: Tues., Jan. 20 th 3:30-6:00 pm (snow date: 1/21/15) (School Governance Council training)

- 8.9 With the approval of the Committee on School Facilities and Grounds, the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of the use of school facilities by outside organizations and/or waiver requests, subject to fees and insurance as required:

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>FACILITIES AND DATES/TIMES</u>
<u>REQUESTING WAIVERS:</u>	
P.A.L.	Reed gym: Sundays, Dec. 14 th thru April 5 th , 9:00 am -1:00 pm
Ofc. F. Santopietro	(PAL travel team basketball practice/games) (\$3360.)

STANGO: Motion made and seconded. All in favor, opposed, motion carries.

9. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT

There were no items removed from the Consent Calendar.

10. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

- 10.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted unanimously to approve the request of Ralph Cantito, Hopeville School, to name Hopeville School's Computer Lab in honor of Martha Labbe, former teacher.**

STANGO: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Seeing none – all in favor, opposed, motion carries.

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to receive and place on file items 11.1 through 11.8, as listed:

- 11.1. Athletic appointments effective immediately:
Gray, Ollie III – Head Boys' Indoor and Outdoor Track Coach, KHS.
Barbieri, Stephen – Girls' Junior Varsity Basketball Coach, WCA.
- 11.2 Grant funded appointments effective immediately:
Angelo, Eileen – Teacher (split), Driggs After-school Truancy Program
Blake, Zita – Substitute, Driggs After-school Truancy Program.
Frenis, Kristen – Recruitment & Placement Coordinator, ECEP, (replacing Melinda Rosado), 35 hours p/week, 12 months, \$15.94 p/hour, non-union with benefits governed by the UPSEU, funded by Title I.
Gomez, Bridget – Teacher (split), Driggs After-school Truancy Program.
Griffin, Karen – Substitute, Driggs After-school Truancy Program.
Healy, Heather – Teacher (split), Driggs After-school Truancy Program
Hulse, Maria – Parent Liaison, Kingsbury, 30 hours p/week, 180 days, \$15.12 p/hour, non-union with benefits governed by the UPSEU, funded by Title I.
Pastore Quezada, Paula – Teacher (split), Driggs After-school Truancy Program.
Ruffin, Mardelle – Substitute, Driggs After-school Truancy Program.
Sheetz, Lucia – Substitute, Driggs After-school Truancy Program.
Swanson, Lisa – ELS Instructional Tutor, 15.75 hours p/week for 28 weeks, \$25 p/hour, non-union and without benefits, funded by Alliance Grant.
Wright, Valerie – Substitute, Driggs After-school Truancy Program.
- 11.3 Edgenuity Afterschool Credit Recovery appointments, salary according to individuals contract, effective immediately:

Administrator T,W,R
Substitute Admin. T,W,R (As needed)

Raymond Irrera
Laura Borges

Edgenuity After-School CR Coordinators

School	Days	Time	Coordinator
WAMS	W R	3:15-5:15	Brenda Washington
Career Academy	W R	2:00-4:00	(vacant as of 11-17-14)
Crosby	T R	2:00-4:00	Cassandra Brown
Enlightenment	T R	2:00-4:00	Gail Moriarty
Kennedy	W R	2:00-4:00	Mike Conway
State Street	T R	2:00-4:00	Nancee Luciano
Wilby	T R	2:00-4:00	Anthony D'Agostino

11.4 Extended School Hours (ESH) Program Appointments, salary according to individual's contract:

School	Name		Assignment
<i>Bucks Hill</i>	Gerrish	Jessica	Teacher
	Lawson	Denise	Teacher
	Montes	Michelle	Substitute
	Rebenske	Jessica	Substitute
	Traver	Melissa	Clerical
	Nolan	Joan	Clerical
	Lawson	Doreen	Teacher
<i>Walsh</i>	Foote	Andre	Teacher
<i>Wilson</i>	Vensel	Katie	1 st grade Teacher
	Nelson	Marisa	2 nd grade Teacher
	Reyes	Maximillian	Paraprofessional
	Orsatti	Donna	Secretary
	Geci	Rayae	Substitute

11.5 Adult Education appointments:

Corcoran, John – Substitute as needed @ \$32.00 p/hr.
Lawlor, Brian – Substitute as needed @ \$24.00 per hour.

11.6 Resignations:

Frank, Elizabeth – Sprague Kindergarten, effective 11/12/14.
Galpin-Barker, Letitia – Duggan grade 3, effective 11/19/14.

11.7 Leave of absence requests:

Tolly, Biana – WMS grade 8 Science, requesting an unpaid childrearing leave of absence from approximately 5/22/15 through the end of the 2014/15 school year.

11.8 Walsh School's Afterschool Program teacher appointments, 15-20 hours per week, salary per MOU, funded by Turnaround Funds, effective immediately:

Administrator: Jennifer Calabrese
Sub Administrators: Ellen Paolino, Dawn Biolo

Teachers:

Courtney Smith	Jamie Razz	Matthew Wallace
Talisha DeGroate	Samantha Swartz	Allyson Bilbrough
Jane Natoli		

Sub Teachers:

Angela Shea

Stephanie Ciuffo

Jenna Davino

STANGO: Motion has been made and seconded. All in favor, opposed, motion carries. Item #12 on the Agenda – Unfinished Business of the Preceding Meeting Only. Seeing none, moving onto Agenda Item #13 – Other Unfinished, New, and Miscellaneous Business. Vice President Harvey.

HARVEY: I guess I'm going to address my questions. Dr. Ouellette, just wondering, I actually submitted this request while you were out ill, when we will receive, the Personnel Committee, Board as a Whole, will receive the draft of the job specifications of the revisions for the Personnel Department. When are we going to receive that it's been...

SUPERINTENDENT: I believe that's probably ready to go, Mr. Guidone, right?

HARVEY: So does that mean we'll receive it tomorrow?

GUIDONE: (microphone inoperable)

HARVEY: All right, stay there. There was another thing pending with Mr. Herman, have we...

GUIDONE: (microphone inoperable)

HARVEY: That's one of the items...

GUIDONE: (microphone inoperable)

HARVEY: Okay, great. Next is the use of facilities and grounds, the form, can we put that on our website please so that, have the capability of someone, if we can refer them to the website so they can print the forms down so they don't have to worry about mailing those forms, I think save some money in regards to stamps.

SUPERINTENDENT: Sure.

HARVEY: Lastly, there was an incident that occurred at Wilby, it involved an arrest of five teens, and I believe it was in November and my question is this, because the paper labeled this as a "brawl", and I've heard different things in the community being out in the community, so I would like to know, get a recap of what happened, where were the hall monitors, teachers, behavior techs, etc., what happened there and what provisions are in place to hopefully prevent something like this from happening again. Again, the paper dramatized this as a brawl and described what happened, it was in our incident reports, so I just want to know where the school climate committee is in regard to this, the local school climate committee at Wilby, what they've done to insure that, first of all what they did, what occurred, and what provisions we have put in place to hopefully prevent something from happening like this again. So if we can get a report on that that would be great or an update.

SUPERINTENDENT: I will say if it involves any type of safety and security this would not be open to the public, I would have to do it, anything with health, safety, and security though we might need an executive session.

HARVEY: Okay, I mean it's public, I'm looking at the...

SUPERINTENDENT: I understand. If, safety within the building and some of the precautions I want to make sure, but we can talk about it.

HARVEY: Okay, do you know how soon? I look at this as the local school climate committee perhaps should...

SUPERINTENDENT: So you'd like the School Climate Committee to report out?

HARVEY: Yea, just to give us what happened and what provisions are in place. This was described as something that happened in the hallway so where were the hall monitors, what was happening, we're supposed to move the kids along, what was done to warrant this and then what are we doing to hopefully put provisions in place so we can prevent it in the future.

(tape ended)

HARVEY: ... just some kind of report on what are we doing?

SUPERINTENDENT: I can have the School Climate Committee; school security I will not report out in public on Wilby though. If you want to talk about the incident and talk about what precautions are in place, we can do that with the Climate Committee. Any other security measures I will not be supporting that.

HARVEY: Okay. I mean, again, this is public...

SUPERINTENDENT: The contents of the article absolutely is public.

HARVEY: That's all I'm asking; what happened and then what provisions are in place. So if you, so...

STANGO: Anyone else?

HARVEY: Excuse me President Stango, I don't think I'm finished.

STANGO: Oh, I thought you were, I thought you said last item, my mistake. All right, go ahead.

HARVEY: I'm all set.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to suspend the regular order of business at 7:06 p.m. to allow the public to address the Board.

STANGO: All in favor, opposed, motion carries.

Unidentified speaker had the following comments: I went to CCSU, bombed out, went to Yale for two years, got two masters at U-Hart, I think that for my money it's start with the parents.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 7:08 p.m.

STANGO: Motion has been made and seconded. All in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to convene into Executive Session at 7:09 for discussion concerning the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, health, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

Present: President Stango, Commissioners Awwad, Brown, Harvey, McEntee, Rodriguez, Sweeney, and T. Van Stone. Also present were Dr. Ouellette, Mr. Guidone, and Mrs. Cullinan.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner T. Van Stone, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 7:30 p.m. with no votes taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner T. Van Stone, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

ATTEST: 
Carrie A. Swain, Clerk
Board of Education