

**WESTBROOK BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, November 14, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.
Special of Education Meeting**

MINUTES

Present: Lee Bridgewater, Marti White, Jackie Lyman, Sally Greaves, Michelle Palumbo, Don Perreault, Dee Adorno, Kim Walker, Mary Ella Luft

Also Present: Superintendent Patricia A. Ciccone; Administrators, Taylor Wrye, Ruth Rose, Tara Winch, Madeline Illinger, Special Services Director; Technology, Ben Russell

I. CALL TO ORDER – The regular meeting of the November 14, 2017 Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the WHS library.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. BOARD OF EDUCATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

A. CAPSS (Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents) Superintendent Awards: Two middle school students and two high school students were recognized by the Board for having been selected to receive the Superintendent's Award sponsored by CAPSS, for leadership, scholarship, and community service. The two deserving middle school students are Eric Franco and Alexandra Zanzalari. The high school students are Amanda Wilderman and Christine Banks. Taylor Wrye, WMS Principal, attested to the leadership, scholarship and community service of Eric and Alexandra, and Tara Winch, WHS Principal attested to the qualifying attributes of Christine Banks and Amanda Wilderman. All students excel academically and have earned many awards. The high school students will be honored at a luncheon on November 28 at the Saybrook Point Inn.

IV. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – No report.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments

VI. ADMINISTRATOR(S) COMMENTS

- A. SBAC Accountability Model – Ruth Rose reported on Connecticut's Growth Model for Smarter Balanced Assessments, reviewing what are the growth model targets vs. achievement scores, and how they are different from just achievement scores. She discussed changes in student performance, Connecticut's approach to measuring growth, and a review of achievement level ranges vs. growth targets. At the December 12th BOE meeting, each administrator will give a report in terms of growth for students in their grade ranges.
- B. Fall Sports Wrap-up and Michael's Cup – Teg Cosgriff reported on the fall sports activities and outcomes. He talked about the middle school athletic program reinforcing the philosophy, which is based on participation and the number of participants in the sports programs relative to our small district. Mr. Cosgriff reported that Westbrook was host to a

Unified Sports Tournament with over 100 unified athletes participating.. He was also excited to report to the Board that WHS has been awarded the 2016-17 Michaels Cup Class Act School; one of only 15 high school recipients in CT. Westbrook students were also invited as one of three schools to present at the awards luncheon at the Aqua Turf in Cheshire.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Field Trip Request – Out of State – Newport, RI: Moved by Kim Walker and seconded by Sally Greaves to approve the 8th grade trip to Newport, Rhode Island on Friday, December 1, 2017 to visit two of the Newport mansions to experience what life was like during the Gilded Age. Vote unanimous.
- B. Calendar 2018-19- 1st View: Superintendent Ciccone asked the Board to review the 2018-19 LEARN calendar in anticipation of creating the WPS calendar for 2018-19. She requested Board members convey their thoughts regarding school breaks, start times, etc. and the 2018-19 calendar will be brought up at the December board meeting for a vote of approval.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Climate Report Data –Chet Bialicki was present with three Student Leadership Team sophomores; Alexandria Young, Olivia Hartzell, and Madeline Libertore, who presented on the district Comprehensive School Climate Inventory Data and recent school climate activities, including their participation in a presentation at Mitchell College and the Fairfield County Girls' Symposium. They reported there were very significant responses from students, parents and faculty on the survey, showing a strong connectedness in our schools. The survey data also shows a consistent lack of a sense of safety around social emotional learning and social media. Therefore, they would like to start a forum in the middle school and focus on social emotional security and social media.
- B. Enrollment Update: Superintendent Ciccone reported current enrollment is 736 students.
- C. CT Legislative/Budget Update: Reporting language changes and impacts on the school district: Superintendent Ciccone updated the Board on the current state budget and the SDE view the of the current budget language. She said it is interesting that the budget is impacting schools in terms of its words, but at this time there is still uncertainty in terms of dollars. She reported that the budget eliminated the funding dollars for the Talent Office, which supports the TEAM program. The Board was asked to be aware of the state budget impacts as our budget development process continues.
- D. Email/Technology Platform: The Board was informed of the recent email issues and our migration to a new platform. Superintendent Ciccone complimented Ben Russell and Tiffini Hovey for their work with the transition.

IX. OLD BUSINESS: None

X. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes:
 - 1. Special Meeting – October 17, 2017: Moved by Sally Greaves and seconded by Dee Adorno to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of October 17, 2017. Ayes: M. Luft, M. Palumbo, L. Bridgewater, S. Greaves, D. Adorno, K. Walker, D. Perreault
Abstained: Marti White, Jackie Lyman

XI. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- A. BOE Budget Guidelines – 2018-19 – The budget process will proceed using the same guidelines agreed upon by the board in 2017-18.
- B. Review of Check Listing: Board members reviewed check listings for October 5, 2017 in the amount of \$93,959.56 and for October 19, 2017 in the amount of \$158,665.91.
- C. Budget Narrative/Review of Expenditure Report: Mrs. Wysocki provided an overview of the budget as it stands, noting there is nothing out of the ordinary to report.
- D. Line Item Transfer: There was one line item transfer for the .5 EL teacher shared with Old Saybrook.
- E. Insurance Report: The monthly insurance report was provided.

XII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS: Per Superintendent Ciccone, the Board will review committee membership at the December meeting.

- A. LEARN Report – Dee Adorno reported on activities at LEARN including the purchase of a building to house student support services; Dr. Paul Freeman, Guilford Superintendent, spoke about start times for students, sleep patterns, etc., and Patrice McCarthy gave a presentation on the state budget.
- B. Policy– No report
- C. Communications- No report
- D. Long Range Planning – No report
- E. Insurance- No report
- F. Negotiations - Sally Greaves reported that Negotiations has begun and a scheduled has been agreed upon.
- G. Town Energy Ad Hoc – Lesley. Wysocki reported on the business of the Town Ad Hoc Committee including bids on street lights, micro grids and an update on the Solar Farm proposal.
- H. PTO Representatives - Michelle Palumbo reported on the middle school PTO including a welcome breakfast for Mr. Wrye, a pasta dinner fundraiser and the purpose of future fundraisers. PTO members expressed a concern about doors being locked at 4:00 with the onset of winter sports season.

XIII. PERSONNEL

A. Professional Resignation(s)

1. Elizabeth Egan, WMS Art Teacher, submitted a letter formally announcing her retirement effective January 26, 2018. *Moved by Marti White and seconded by Kim Walker to accept with regret the retirement request from Elizabeth Egan, WMS art teacher, effective January 16, 2018. Vote unanimous.*

XIV. ADJOURN: *Moved by Marti White and seconded by Sally Greaves to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Vote unanimous.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Walker, Board Secretary

Cecilia S. Lester, Board Recording Clerk