

WESTBROOK BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday, June 14, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

Regular Board of Education Meeting

MINUTES

REVISED 10/11/2016

Present: Lee Bridgewater, Marti White, Don Perreault, Mary Ella Luft, Sally Greaves

Absent: Kim Walker, Jackie Lyman, Michelle Palumbo, Dee Adorno

Also Present: Superintendent Patricia A. Ciccone; Administrators, Ruth Rose, Cori DiMaggio; Tara Winch; Madeline Illinger, Special Services Director, Ben Russell, IT Specialist

I. CALL TO ORDER – Lee Bridgewater, Chair, called the regular meeting of June 14, 2016 to order at 7:00 p.m. in the high school library.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. BOARD OF EDUCATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Mr. Bialicki introduced Kristina Arapi, Westbrook's foreign exchange student from Albania. Mr. Bialicki said that Kristina asked to speak to the Board about her experiences at WHS. Kristina was thankful to the Board for giving her the opportunity to come to WHS. She complimented her teachers and the staff and was grateful for the friendships she developed with students. Kristina said "It was a dream come true", and "I have never been happier." Mr. Bialicki presented Kristina with a plaque to express appreciation for her contribution to Westbrook High School. Ms. Winch commented that Kristina is an amazing young woman, with a very positive attitude.

IV. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – No report

V. PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments

VI. ADMINISTRATOR(S) COMMENTS: None

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. IDEA Grant – Madeline Illinger provided a review of how the monies from the Federal IDEA Grant is used. She explained there are two parts; one for pre-school (\$6,570) used for salaries and K-12 (\$138, 377) which offsets salaries and provides for workshops and transportation. She said that the total is down from the previous year about \$4,000. Moved by Sally Greaves and seconded by Marti White to approve submission of the IDEA Grant in the amount of \$144,907 (\$6500 Pre-school plus \$138,337 K-12). Vote unanimous.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Enrollment: Superintendent Ciccone reported June 1st enrollment totals equal 784 students. She said thus far, there are 53 students registered for Fall kindergarten.
- B. Professional Assignments Update: Superintendent Ciccone said that staffing assignments for 2016-17 are being made to align with enrollment and she has not had to resort to a reduction in force. She said that the middle and high school have worked together to share staff. Positions have been filled by moving staff around and the SRBI Math Intervention position is posted.
- C. Building Project Update: The construction work at the high school and Daisy is in progress. There will be a meeting every Monday morning to review the work. There will be a Clerk of the Works at both buildings. It is hopeful that work will be completed by July 25. The Superintendent said that any questions should be addressed by her and the CREC General Contractor.

IX. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Wellness Policy – 6142.101 –This is the 2nd Reading of the Wellness Policy which was discussed at the May meeting. Marti White said that she is in favor of supporting the committee who created the policy. Don Perreault supported the policy the way it is written, stating that it is written in a way to transition and can be “tightened up” in the future. Marti White commented that the policy reflects a “compromise.” Lee Bridgewater read a comment from Dee Adorno that she votes in favor and she believes it is the Board’s obligation to endorse healthy eating. Kim Walker expressed in a written statement that she is not in support due to changes not being made to wording in the celebrations part of the policy. Jackie Lyman and Michelle Palumbo submitted in writing that they are not in favor of the Wellness Policy as written. The Board was asked to approve the Wellness Policy 6142.101 as submitted. Moved by Mary Ella Luft and seconded by Don Perreault. The motion carried by a vote of 5 ayes: (Ayes) Marti White, Don Perreault, Sally Greaves, Mary Ella Luft, Lee Bridgewater, which constitutes a quorum of the BOE. (Approved BOE 6/14/16)

- B. China Trip in Review – Ginny White gave a review of the “China” exchange, starting with the visitors to the United States in October and the activities they participated in. Ginny showed a PowerPoint presentation of the April trip to China showing the “everyday” activities the group participated in including art lessons, paper cutting, and learning Chinese writing characters, and even ping-pong. Ginny pointed out the smiles on everyone’s faces in the photos as they participated in the various events. Mrs. White said a trip is being planned for April 6 – 16, 2017 and she encouraged interested Board members to participate. Superintendent Ciccone said she would host an official event when the Chinese return to the United States.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes:

- 1. Regular Meeting – May 10, 2016: Moved by Marti White and seconded by Don Perreault to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 10, 2016. (Ayes): Marti White, Mary Ella Luft, Lee Bridgewater, Don Perreault. Sally Greaves abstained.

XI. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Review of Check Listing: Board members reviewed check listings for May 5 in the amount of \$170,542.72 and for May 19 in the amount of \$154,499.49. In the absence of the business manager, Superintendent Ciccone reviewed the expenditures.
- B. Budget Narrative/Review of Expenditure Report – The Superintendent reviewed the expenditure report with the Board stating it is in good shape with still three weeks of invoices yet to align with transfers of dollars. She noted that there will likely be an opportunity to contribute 1% of the budget to the CNRE as expected.
- C. Line Item Transfer - None
- D. Insurance Report – Superintendent Ciccone said there is a surplus in the insurance Account. She also reported that the business manager will be meeting with USI to discuss new trends, which will be shared if applicable with the Insurance Subcommittee..

XII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. LEARN report – The Superintendent said that she attended the LEARN end-of-the year/BOD breakfast meeting with Dee Adorno. They heard a presentation on what LEARN is doing to continue its collaboration with school districts.
- B. Enrollment Subcommittee – Superintendent Ciccone discussed conferring with the CT School Finance Project on current trends in school finance; i.e. special education funding, as well as updated demographics.
- C. Policy– The next Policy Meeting is scheduled for July 21st at 4:30 p.m.
- D. Communications – No meeting
- E. Long Range Planning – No meeting
- F. Insurance – No meeting
- G. Negotiations – No meeting
- H. PTSO Representatives – No meeting

XIII. PERSONNEL

- A.** Professional Resignation(s) – Erika Evans, Special Education Teacher: Erika Evans submitted a letter of resignation effective June 13, 2016. Moved by Marti White and seconded by Don Perrault to accept with regret the resignation of Erika Evans effective 6/13/16. Vote unanimous.
- B.** Non-Certified Resignation(s): The Board was informed of the resignation of Karen Graham, Paraprofessional, effective May 31, 2016.

XIV. ADJOURN: Moved by Mary Ella Luft and seconded by Marti White to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Vote unanimous.

**The Board agreed the next Regular Board of Education meeting will be on August 9, 2016.
The Board will not meet in July.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Walker, Board Secretary

Cecilia S. Lester, Board Recording Clerk

BOE Revised: 10/11/2016