

***BOARD OF EDUCATION
WOLCOTT, CONNECTICUT***

A Board of Education meeting was held on Monday, March 23, 2015, at Wolcott High School. In attendance were: Patricia Najarian, Chairman of the Board; Gloria Gubitosi, Vice Chairman of the Board; Cynthia Mancini, Secretary of the Board; Thomas Buzzelli, Gloria Clair, Lori DelBuono, Roberta Leonard, Arthur Lerz Sr., and Kimberly Lumia, all Board members. Also in attendance: Joseph Macary, Superintendent of Schools; Todd Bendtsen, Business Manager; Joseph Monroe, Principal of Wolcott High School; Walter Drewry, Assistant Principal of Wolcott High School; Deborah Osvald, Assistant Principal of Wolcott High School; Arline Tansley, Principal of Tyrrell Middle School; Shawn Simpson, Assistant Principal of Tyrrell Middle School; Holly Wrenn, Principal of Alcott School; Joseph Norcross, Principal of Frisbie School; Robert Nagashima, Principal of Wakelee School; Melissa Iles, Director of Student Services; Wendie Rodriguez, Supervisor of Special Education; David Stankus, Facilities Director; and Joan Gray, Board Clerk.

The regular Board meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mrs. Najarian read the Wolcott Public Schools' Mission Statement.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: by Mrs. Gubitosi, seconded by Mrs. Clair, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 9, 2015. So voted.

Motion: by Mrs. Lumia, seconded by Mrs. Clair, to approve the public session minutes of the transportation hearing of March 16, 2015. So voted.

Communications:

Invitation to the Wolcott Chamber of Commerce's dinner
State Department of Education: Notice of Mediation & Arbitration
Invitation to the Exchange Club's Public Service Awards Banquet
Rotella Monthly Montage – March 2015
The CAFE Journal – March 2015

Business Manager's Report:**Budget Transfers:**

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to authorize the transfer of **\$277,594.17** presented in the Business Manager's report. So voted.

Expenditures:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to approve expenditures in the amount of **\$185,140.15** paid on March 24, 2015 for fiscal year 2014-2015. So voted.

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Stankus reported on the District's energy conservation program. In June 2012, the district partnered with Energy Education, now called Cenergistic, Inc., to reeducate the staff and students on methods to conserve their energy usage. Mr. Stankus introduced the following students and employees, who spoke about energy conservation efforts:

Joey Macary, Frisbie student, and Derek Wood, Wakelee student, - described Student Program *Its Elementary – USE-LESS!!*

Mrs. Tansley, Principal, Tyrrell Middle School

Mr. Bly, Head Custodian, Wakelee School

Mr. Mirto, Tech Ed Teacher, Tyrrell Middle School

Mr. Stankus then introduced Mr. Dell Warren, Division Vice President of Marketing for Cenergistic, who presented the Board of Education with an Energy Excellence Award commemorating the \$1,011 million saved by the District through their energy conservation efforts.

The School Principals gave two minute highlights of activities at their schools. March is Board of Education appreciation month. The Principals brought with them cards, videos, and gifts from their students to thank the Board members for their tireless hours of work on behalf of the schools.

Spring vacation is from April 3-10, 2015. Classes resume April 13th.

Preschool screening is April 17th. The purpose is to identify children, ages 3 and 4, who may have a disability. Please contact Student Services at 203 879-8178 if you are interested in having your child participate in the screening.

Smarter Balanced Testing will take place in Wolcott from April 27 to June 5 in Grades 3 through 8. Grade 11 testing at the high school will be from April 27 to May 29.

Mr. Macary also thanked the Board of Education for their service to the community.

Motion: by Mrs. Lumia, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to approve the Superintendent's Report. So voted.

Public Comment:

No one came forward

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Mancini reported the Finance Committee met earlier. The Business Manager reported on pending invoices, budget reports, transfer requests, and liability insurance.

The Personnel Committee met at 6:30 p.m. Mrs. Clair said they reviewed a job description for Director of Student Learning and Teaching.

Ms. Leonard stated that the ACES Board met and approved their 2015-2016 budget, and also discussed a staff trip to China.

Leah Ciccone, President of WHS' Student Government, reported on what the Student Government was working on, i.e. Powder-Buff Tournament fundraiser, Community Outreach website, and the Policy Committee. She invited the Board members to her Capstone Project at 12:30 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. in WHS' Auditorium on March 26th.

OLD BUSINESS:

Adopt the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget – Final Vote:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. DelBuono, to adopt on final vote the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year Wolcott Public Schools' Budget in the amount of \$33,139,867 or a 1.09% increase. So voted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve – Resignations:

Motion: by Mrs. Lumia, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to accept the resignations of the following employees for the purpose of retirement at the end of the 2014-2015 school year:

1. **Paulette Desjardins** School Secretary Tyrrell School
2. **Paula Gold** Speech & Language Pathologist Frisbie School
3. **Gail Gray** Kindergarten Teacher Frisbie School
4. **Pamela Matfus** Language Arts Teacher Tyrrell School
5. **Cheryl Signor** Special Education Teacher Frisbie School

In addition, to accept the resignation of the following employee as indicated:

1. **Steven Jasulavic** from the position of Assistant Football Coach at Wolcott High School effective immediately. So voted.

Approve – Leave Request:

Motion: by Ms. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Lerz, to approve the request for an unpaid leave of absence from Jennifer Whipple, Grade 2 Teacher at Wakelee School, to commence after her FMLA ends March 27, 2015, and continue until the end of the 2014-2015 school year. So voted.

Out of State Field Trip:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to approve the following Out of State Field Trip:

1. Wolcott High School's Robotics Team (15) requests permission to go to Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA for a robotics competition on April 9-11, 2015.

So voted.

Time for the Public:

No one came forward.

Items for the Next Agenda:

Board members can contact the Board of Education Office if you have additional agenda items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion: by Mr. Buzzelli, seconded by Mrs. Clair, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of a collective bargaining agreement for certified employees and a discussion of the employment of a certified employee.

Motion: by Mrs. Clair, seconded by Ms. DelBuono, to come out of Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting at 9:11 p.m. So voted.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: by Ms. DelBuono, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:12 p.m. So voted.