

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

A Board of Education meeting was held on Monday, November 17, 2014, 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, Roberta Leonard, and Arthur Lerz Sr., all Board members. Also in attendance: Joseph Macary, Superintendent of Schools; Todd Bendtsen, Business Manager; Joseph Monroe, Principal of Wolcott High School; Deborah Osvold, Assistant Principal of Wolcott High School; Walter Drewry, 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; Robert Nagashima, Principal of Wakelee School; Joseph Norcross, Principal of Frisbie School; Melissa Iles, Director of Student Services; Wendie Rodriguez, Supervisor of Special Education; David Stankus, Facilities Director; Deborah Nicol, Lisa Riggi, Janet Discepolo, Katherine Jones, Sarah Stabile, Robert Cormier, and Erich Urban; 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 Ms. Leonard, seconded by Ms. DelBuono, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 27, 2014. So voted.

Communications:

CABE Journal Special Convention Issue – November 2014

Thank-you note the Taylor Family

Thank-you note the D'Agostino Family

Thank-you note the Rossi Family

Rotella Monthly Montage – November 2014

CABE Journal – November 2014

Letter from Eli Whitney Museum

Business Manager's Report:**Expenditures:**

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. DelBuono, to approve expenditures as follows:

To approve the December 2014 payroll expenditure in the amount of **\$ 1,600,000.00.**

To approve expenditures in the amount of **\$ 564,814.47** paid on November 18, 2014 for fiscal year 2014-2015.

So voted.

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Cormier introduced two student LEGO Robotics teams, the Nitrobots STORM and the Nitrobots Baconators. The students did the presentations for the Board that qualified them for the State of CT robotics competition.

Mrs. Nicol and Mrs. Riggi introduced students who in turn introduced their school's Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Najarian and Mr. Macary congratulated each teacher and presented them with an award from the Board. The teachers honored were

Janet Discepolo – 2015 District Teacher of the Year, also

Alcott, Frisbie, and Wakelee Elementary Schools

Sarah Stabile – Wolcott High School

Katherine Jones – Tyrrell Middle School

Motion: by Mrs. Gubitosi, seconded by Mrs. Clair, to take a 15 minute recess to congratulate our Teachers of the Year.

Mrs. Najarian called the meeting back to order at 8:20 p.m.

The School Principals and Mrs. Iles reported on the activities at their schools and the Student Services Department. Mr. Urban demonstrated Tyrrell's new website that will have a live-feed of Tyrrell's morning announcements.

Congratulations to Wolcott High School for being named one of the Top 500 High Schools in America by Newsweek Magazine. Wolcott High School was one of only two schools in Connecticut who Newsweek honored on two lists: 1) high schools who did the best job of preparing students for college, and 2) schools where low income students are scoring at or above average on state assessments. Mrs. Najarian and Mr. Macary presented Mr. Monroe a banner to be hung on the outside of the school celebrating the Newsweek designation, and a plaque to be hung in the school.

The Wolcott Board of Education has received the CABA Board of Distinction Award – Level II. The Boards were judged on 34 criteria, and to qualify for Level II distinction

additional indicators. The Board has received the Level I award for the past two years. Wolcott is one of only 13 School Boards in CT to attain this higher standard. Mr. Macary presented Mrs. Najarian with the CABA award.

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

Public Comment:

No one came forward

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Gubitosi stated that the Facilities Committee met at 6:30 p.m. and received a report from Mr. Stankus, the District's Facilities Director. He updated them on security cameras, well drilling bids, Election Day, and the new truck.

Mrs. Mancini reported the Finance Committee met earlier. Pending invoices, budget reports, internal service report, bids for drilling a new well at Alcott, bids for security cameras, electricity bids were discussed by Mr. Bendtsen, the Business Manager.

Mrs. Leonard reported on the ACES Governing Board meeting she attended.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Accept – Resignations:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to accept the resignations of:

1. **Danielle Medeiros** in the position of Grade 1 Teacher at Frisbie Elementary School effective immediately;
2. **Debi Nadeau** in the position of Food Service Worker at Tyrrell Middle School effective November 25, 2014.

So voted.

Approve – Transfer Between Jobs:

Motion: by Mrs. Gubitosi, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to approve the following transfer to the position indicated:

1. **David Castro** from the position of Head Custodian at Wolcott High School to the position of 2nd Shift Custodian at Tyrrell Middle School effective December 10, 2014;
2. **Hiam Noujaim** from the position of Special Education Paraprofessional for the Phoenix Program at Wolcott High School to

the position of Special Education Paraprofessional for the STEP Program at Wolcott High School effective November 10, 2014.
So voted.

Approve – Nominations:

Motion: by Mrs. Clair, seconded by Ms. DelBuono, to appoint the following person(s) as indicated:

1. **Mark Magas** in the position of Special Education Teacher at Wolcott High School effective January 5, 2015;
2. **WHS Winter Sports Volunteers** as follows:
Boys JV & Varsity Basketball Joseph Murphy
Boys Freshman Basketball Ron Cyr
Cheerleading Jaime Gaudiosi & Jillian Guerrera

So voted.

Approve – Leave Request:

Motion: by Mr. Buzzelli, seconded by Mr. Lerz, to approve the following request: Dana Colgate, Kindergarten Teacher at Wakelee Elementary School, requests an unpaid leave of absence from her position to begin approximately June 2015 until the commencement of the 2015-2016 school year. So voted.

Out of State Field Trips:

Motion: by Ms. DelBuono, seconded by Mr. Lerz, to approve the following out-of-state field trips:

1. Tyrrell Middle School's Grade 7 Project Explore Students (32) request permission to go to New York City to see the play "Matilda" on April 22, 2015 to continue exploration of careers in technology;
2. Wolcott High School Softball Team (25) requests permission to go to Disney's Wide World of Sports in Kissimmee, FL from April 7 – 12, 2015 for spring training.

So voted.

Approve – Hourly Substitute Wage Increase – January 2015:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to approve an increase on January 1, 2015 to \$9.50 per hour for hourly substitute employee wages.
So voted.

Approve – Hourly Substitute Wage Increase – July 2015:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. DelBuono, to approve an increase on July 1, 2015 to \$10.25 per hour for hourly substitute employee wages. So voted.

Approve – Substitute Teacher Wage Increase – July 2015:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. DelBuono, to approve an increase on July 1, 2015 to the Substitute Teacher's wage to \$90 per day, and to BA-Step 1 (as per the Teacher's Contract) on the 41st day. So voted.

Approve - the 2015-2016 School Calendar – Initial Vote:

Motion: by Ms. DelBuono, seconded by Mrs. Clair, to approve on initial vote the 2015-2016 school calendars as presented. So voted.

Bid Award – Security Cameras:

Motion: by Ms. Leonard, seconded by Mrs. Clair, to approve the bid and award the contract for security cameras, monitoring equipment, and installation to **The Mercury Group** in the amount of **\$68,413.70**. So voted.

Bid Award – Alcott Well:

Motion: by Mrs. Gubitosi, seconded by Ms. DelBuono, to approve the bid and award the contract for the new well at Alcott Elementary School to **J.H. Barlow Pump & Supply** in the amount of **\$19,517.78**. So voted.

ADD TO THE AGENDA:**Approve a Nomination/Resignation:**

Motion: by Mrs. Gubitosi, seconded by Mr. Buzzelli, to add to the agenda a resolution to approve a nomination and another resolution to accept a resignation. So voted.

Accept – Resignation:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. DelBuono, to accept the resignation of **Phyllis Reis** in the position of 10-month Secretary at Wolcott High School effective December 19, 2014. So voted.

Approve – Nomination:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. DelBuono, to appoint the following person(s) as indicated:

1. **Thomas Blake** in the position of Grade 1 Teacher at Frisbie Elementary School effective November 19, 2014.
So voted.

Time for the Public:

No one came forward.

Items for the Next Agenda:

Final vote on the 2015-2016 School Calendar.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion: by Ms. DelBuono, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to take a 5 minute recess at 8:58 p.m., and then go into Executive Session for the purpose of 1) discussion of the district employment of certified teachers; 2) a discussion of a confidential student matter which would result in disclosure of information protected by FERPA; and 3) the contract of the Superintendent of Schools.

Motion: by Ms. Leonard, seconded by Mrs. Clair, to come out of Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting at 10:10 p.m. So voted.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: by Ms. DelBuono, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:11 p.m. So voted.