

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
WOLCOTT, CONNECTICUT**

A meeting of the Board of Education was held on Tuesday, November 14, 2017, at Tyrrell Middle School. In attendance were: Patricia Najarian and the Board elect-members Thomas Buzzelli, Christopher Charette, Kathleen Cordone, Paul D'Angelo, Lori DelBuono Bartlett, Anthony Gugliotti, Roberta Leonard, Cynthia Mancini, and Kelly Mazza. Also in attendance: Dr. Anthony Gasper, Superintendent of Schools, Frank Purcaro, Director of Student Learning & Teaching; Kevin Hollis, Director of Student Services; Rosa Ramalhete, Supervisor of Special Education; Walter Drewry, Principal of Wolcott High School; Bryan MacKay, Assistant Principal of Wolcott High School; Joseph Morgan, Assistant Principal of Wolcott High School; Joseph Norcross, Principal of Tyrrell Middle School; Daniel Caetano, Assistant Principal of Tyrrell Middle School; Shawn Simpson, Principal of Alcott Elementary School; Kimberly Murtaugh, Principal of Frisbie Elementary School; David Stankus, Facilities Director; and Joan Gray, Board Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mrs. Najarian, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Swearing in:

Mrs. Najarian swore in the new Board of Education. Members are as follows: Thomas Buzzelli, Christopher Charette, Kathleen Cordone, Paul D'Angelo, Lori DelBuono Bartlett, Anthony Gugliotti, Roberta Leonard, Cynthia Mancini, and Kelly Mazza.

Organizational Vote:

Motion: by Ms. Leonard, seconded by Mr. D'Angelo, to nominate Lori DelBuono Bartlett as Chairman of the Board of Education.

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mr. D'Angelo, to close nominations.
So voted.

***All Board Members present voted "aye" in support of Mrs. DelBuono Bartlett to the position of Chairman of the Board of Education.
The motion carries.***

Motion: by Mrs. DelBuono Bartlett, seconded by Mr. Charette, to nominate Cynthia Mancini as Vice Chairman of the Board.

Motion: by Ms. Leonard, seconded by Mr. D'Angelo, to close nominations.
So voted.

*All Board Members present voted “aye” in support of Mrs. Mancini to the position of Vice Chairman of the Board of Education.
The motion carries.*

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Mazza, to nominate Roberta Leonard as Secretary of the Board.

Motion: by Mrs. Mazza, seconded by Mr. D’Angelo, to close nominations.
So voted.

*All Board Members present voted “aye” in support of Ms. Leonard to the position of Secretary of the Board of Education.
The motion carries.*

Motion: by Mr. Buzzelli, seconded by Mr. Gugliotti, to take a 10 minute recess.

Mrs. DelBuono Bartlett called the meeting back into session at 7:50 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mr. D’Angelo, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 23, 2017. So voted.

Communications:

Thank you note – Ms. Sullivan
Wakelee invitation to Thanksgiving Feast
CABE New Board Member Orientation
Exchange Club invitation

Business Manager’s Report:

Expenditures:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to approve the following expenditures:

To approve the December 2017 payroll expenditure in the amount of **\$1,460,000.**

To approve expenditures in the amount of **\$743,755.10** paid on November 15, 2017 for fiscal year 2017-2018.

So voted.

Superintendent’s Report:

The School Principals gave two minute school highlights, and Mr. Hollis gave an update on Student Services and Alternative Programs.

Dr. Gasper welcomed and thanked the new and returning members of our Board of Education. He said, “To campaign, be elected, and then serve on the Board represents a commitment of hundreds of hours of volunteerism in the name of serving the children and families of Wolcott. This commitment does not go unnoticed by me and many

within our community. The administrators, staff, and I look forward to continued collaboration with the Board of Education as we move forward on important strategic projects such as NEASC accreditation, creating policies and budgets that support our Vision of the Graduate, and making critical decisions about the future of our school facilities. Congratulations to each member on their election!”

The Superintendent also thanked the community members for their support of the bond referendum. The roughly \$700,000 of the \$7 million bond that is apportioned to Board needs will be very helpful to our school system. He said that we will begin immediately the long process of oil tank removal, boiler upgrades, and minor renovations that were specified in the bond.

Our schools and students honored our veterans on Thursday, October 9th. Schools held a variety of programs that showed due respect to those who have served and sacrificed in defense of our country and its guiding principles. Dr. Gasper said he is honored to serve a community that holds our service men and women in such high esteem.

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mr. D’Angelo, to approve the Superintendent’s Report. So voted.

Public Comment:

No one came forward.

Committee Reports:

Mr. Gugliotti stated that on October 30th, the Negotiations Committee had a nine hour contract mediation with the teachers’ union. We are waiting to hear whether the WEA has ratified the contract. He gave a brief overview of the contents of the contract.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nominations:

Motion: by Mrs. Mazza, seconded by Mr. D’Angelo, to appoint the individual(s) as indicated:

1. **Brett Distasio** to the position of Boys Basketball Coach at Tyrrell Middle School effective for the 2017-2018 season;
2. **Joseph Murphy** to the position of Freshman Girls Basketball Coach at Wolcott High School effective for the 2017-2018 season.

So voted.

Request for a Leave - #1:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to approve the request from Krista Nori, Grade 5 Teacher at Wakelee School, for an unpaid leave of absence to begin after the completion of her FMLA leave and to run until the end of the 2017-2018 school year. So voted.

Request for a Leave - #2:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mr. Charette, to approve the request from Michelle Signor, Grade 1 Teacher at Frisbie School, for an unpaid leave of absence to begin after the completion of her FMLA leave and to run through December 22, 2017. So voted.

Approve a Revised Out of State Field Trip:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mr. D'Angelo, to approve the following revised out of state field trip:

1. Wolcott High School's Varsity Cheerleaders (23) request permission to revise the Teacher in Charge and Chaperones on their Board approved trip to the National Cheerleaders Association's High School National Championship being held in Dallas, TX from January 25-29, 2018.

A roll call vote was taken. All Board members voted "aye", except Mr. Gugliotti who voted "no".

The motion carries.

Authorize a WHS Boys Swim Program:

Motion: by Mrs. Mazza, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to authorize Brandon Casanova to practice and compete for Wolcott High School in cooperation with the Wilby High School's Boys Swim Team as a one-man team for the 2017-2018 school year. So voted.

Time for the Public:

No one came forward.

Items for the Next Agenda:

The next meeting is November 27 and will be at Tyrrell Middle School.

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

ADD TO THE AGENDA:**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to add to the agenda a motion to go into Executive Session. So voted.

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to go into Executive Session to discuss a pending legal matter. So voted.

Motion: by Mr. D'Angelo, seconded by Mr. Charette, to come out of Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting at 8:52 p.m. So voted.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: by Mr. Buzzelli, seconded by Mr. D'Angelo, to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. So voted.

Note: The Board of Education meetings are videotaped, and as result are available to be viewed on the WLCT96 site on the Town of Wolcott's website, www.wolcottct.org.