

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
WOLCOTT, CONNECTICUT**

A meeting of the Board of Education was held on Monday, February 27, 2017, at Wakelee Elementary School. In attendance were: Patricia Najarian, Chairman of the Board; Gloria Gubitosi, Vice Chairman of the Board; Kimberly Lumia, Secretary of the Board; Thomas Buzzelli, Gloria Clair, Anthony Gugliotti, Roberta Leonard, Arthur Lerz, and Cynthia Mancini, all Board members. Also in attendance: Dr. Anthony Gasper, Superintendent of Schools, Todd Bendtsen, Business Manager; Frank Purcaro, Director of Student Learning & Teaching; Kevin Hollis, Director of Student Services, Rosa Ramalhete, Supervisor of Special Education; Walter Drewry, Interim Principal of Wolcott High School; Bryan MacKay, Assistant Principal of Wolcott High School; Joseph Morgan, Interim Assistant Principal of Wolcott High School; Arline Tansley, Principal of Tyrrell Middle School; Daniel Caetano, Assistant Principal of Tyrrell Middle School; Joseph Norcross, Principal of Frisbie Elementary School; Deborah Oswald, Principal of Wakelee Elementary School; Shawn Simpson, Principal of Alcott Elementary School; Sarah D'Alessandro, Wakelee Teacher; 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. There was a moment of silence observed for Mr. Joseph DiLeo and Ms. Jean Berardi.

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: by Mrs. Gubitosi, seconded by Mr. Gugliotti, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 9, 2017. So voted.

Motion: by Mrs. Clair, seconded by Mr. Lerz, to approve the minutes of the public session of the expulsion hearing of February 13, 2017. So voted.

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to approve the minutes of the special meeting of February 23, 2017. So voted.

Communications:

Holiday card – Wolcott Police Department

Thank you card – the DiLeo Family

Thank you letter – Junior Women's Club of Wolcott

CAS letter – Alcott honored with its Positive School Climate Recognition

Rotella Monthly Montage – February 2017
Invitation to WHS' Winter Sports Banquet

Business Manager's Report:

Budget Transfers:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Lumia, to authorize the transfer of **\$18,516.12** from fiscal year 2016-2017 as presented in the Business Manager's report. So voted.

Expenditures:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Lumia, to approve the following expenditures:
To approve the March 2017 payroll expenditure in the amount of **\$1,535,000.**
To approve expenditures in the amount of **\$538,745.25** paid on February 28, 2017 for fiscal year 2016-2017.
So voted.

Superintendent's Report:

Ms. Michelle Lucian, who is on CABE's Board of Directors, presented the Board of Education with four CABE Communication Awards.

Mrs. D'Alessandro told the Board about the "When I Was a Kid" project, which consisted of Wakelee 4th grade students interviewing senior citizens about an important event from when they were children. She then introduced three of her Wakelee students, who read their stories that they wrote as a result of their meetings at the Wolcott Senior Center.

Motion: by Mrs. Lumia, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to take a brief recess to enjoy refreshments provided by the Wakelee Student Council. So voted.

Mrs. Najarian called the meeting back to order.

Two minute school highlights were presented by each principal. Mr. Purcaro reported on the District Data Team, student testing, and professional development.

Dr. Gasper commended the All-Star bus company, the volunteer fire department, police department, Central Office/school administrators, Mayor Dunn, the volunteer ambulance personnel, and Eversource for their quick response when live electrical wires fell on a school bus carrying students on February 13th. Everyone worked together to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the students involved. He especially recognized the bus driver, Dina Shepard, for her actions in keeping all students onboard the bus and keeping the mood calm and bright.

The Superintendent also thanked all of the parent organizations for hosting him at their meetings this month. He encouraged all parents to become involved in the budget process at both the state and local levels.

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

Public Comment:

No one came forward.

OLD BUSINESS:

Approve – Course of Studies Guide – Final Vote:

Motion: by Mrs. Clair, seconded by Mrs. Lumia, to approve on final vote the Wolcott High School's Course of Studies Guide 2017-2018.
So voted.

Adopt – Curricula – Final Vote:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Lumia, to adopt on final vote the following curricula for Wolcott High School:

- English Language Arts Revision with ACES (Grades 9 & 10)
- English Language Arts, Part 1 (Grade 11)
- Computer Applications
- Personal Finance
- Spanish for Health Care Providers
- Algebra I C & CR/Honors
- UCONN ECE Courses:
 - American Studies 1201
 - Statistics 1100Q
 - Math 1131Q
 - Math 1132Q

So voted.

Adopt – New Textbooks – Final Vote:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Lumia, to adopt on final vote the following Textbooks for Wolcott High School:

The Practice of Statistics 5th Edition by D. Starnes, J. Tabor,
D. Yates & D. Moore, 2015, W.H. Freeman

Single Variable Calculus: Early Transcendentals, 8th Edition,
James Stewart, 2016, Cengage.

So voted.

Approve – 2017-2018 WPS Calendar – Final Vote:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Lumia, to approve on final vote the 2017-2018 school calendar as presented. So voted.

NEW BUSINESS:**Resignations:**

Motion: by Mrs. Gubitosi, seconded by Mrs. Lumia, to accept the resignation(s) of:

1. **Ed Belval** in the position of Head Boys JV Baseball Coach at Wolcott High School effective immediately;
2. **John Matthews** in the position of Tech Ed Teacher at Wolcott High School for the purpose of retirement effective at the end of the 2016-2017 school year;
3. **Jason Pace** in the position of Head Football Coach at Wolcott High School effective immediately, and Head Weightlifting Team Coach at Wolcott High School effective on March 10, 2017;
4. **Becky Riviezzo** in the position of Girls' Soccer Team Coach at Tyrrell Middle School effective immediately;
5. **Brenda Ruegg** in the position of Paraprofessional at Tyrrell Middle School effective immediately.

So voted.

Nominations:

Motion: by Mr. Gugliotti, seconded by Mr. Buzzelli, to table the nomination of a custodian for Tyrrell Middle School for further discussion.

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

1. **Alyssa Burksa** to the position of Paraprofessional at Tyrrell Middle School effective as of February 28, 2017;
2. **Martin DiTuccio** to the position of Girls' Lacrosse Coach at Wolcott High School effective as of March 13, 2017;
3. **Samuel Glaser** to the position of Boys' Lacrosse Coach at Wolcott High School effective as of March 13, 2017;
4. **Sara Tedesco** to the position of Director of the Summer Studies Program for the Wolcott Public Schools effective as of February 28, 2017;
5. **Robert Warren** to the position of Boys' Assistant (JV) Baseball Coach at Wolcott High School effective as of March 13, 2017;
6. **Tyrrell Middle School's Fall 2017 Coaches:**
Marian Boisvert Volleyball
Dan Goldstone Cross Country Co-Coach
David Fortier Cross Country Co-Coach

Brett Distasio Boys' Soccer

7. Tyrrell Middle Schools' Spring Volunteers:

Bryan Camarratta Softball

Patrick Crimmins Softball

So voted.

Approve Out of State Field Trip:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Lumia, to approve the following out-of-state field trips:

1. Wolcott High School Cheerleaders (20) request permission to go to the New England Regional Cheer Championship on March 17-19, 2017 being held in Providence, RI;
2. Wolcott High School Golf Team (8) requests permission to compete at the Ben Russell Cup Tournament being held in Queenstown, MD from April 11-13, 2017;
3. Wolcott High School's Counseling Department requests permission to take Students (40) on a tour of Springfield College on April 18, 2017;
4. Wakelee's Grade 4 Students (66) request permission to go to Old Sturbridge Village on April 20, 2017 to research colonial life as part of their social studies and writing units;
5. Wolcott High School's Senior Class of 2017 (150) requests permission to go to Six Flags New England on May 30, 2017 as their Senior Class Trip.

So voted.

Approve Out of State Conferences:

Motion: by Mrs. Lumia, seconded by Mrs. Mancini, to approve the following out of state conference:

1. **Sharon Lake-Post**, who is a Spanish Teacher at Tyrrell Middle School, requests permission to attend the Group Leader Training being offered by the Experiment in International Living-World Learning organization from June 20-26, 2017 in Brattleboro, VT.

So voted.

Permission to Dispose of Equipment:

Motion: by Mrs. Gubitosi, seconded by Mrs. Clair, to approve the Director of Student Learning & Teaching's request for permission to dispose of outdated network equipment from all five of the Wolcott Public Schools' buildings. So voted.

Accept Grant Awards:

Motion: by Mrs. Lumia, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to approve and accept the Wolcott Education Foundations Grants as follows:

1. Michael Lynch \$ 500.00
Location: Tyrrell Middle School
Project Title: Ryan's Story
2. Todd Jones & Christine Bove-Virr \$ 951.00
Location: Tyrrell Middle School
Project Title: GoPro Integration at TMS

So voted.

Approve a Contract for a Feasibility Study:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to award a contract to **Friar Associates** to design feasibility study for the Wolcott Public Schools facilities in the amount of **\$9,500**. So voted.

Permission to Teach a Sixth Class:

Motion: by Mrs. Lumia, seconded by Mrs. Mancini, to approve teaching a 6th class by the following person(s) as indicated:

Tyrrell Middle School:

Brett Distasio Special Education Teacher

So voted.

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Mancini reported that the Finance Committee met earlier and reviewed pending vendor invoices, budget reports, and transfer requests. Also discussed was the potential extension of the NSI contract, the Friar Associates Feasibility Study, and a proposal for a playscape at Wakelee School.

Mrs. Lumia, the Chair of the Negotiations Committee, said the Committee will meet on March 2nd to review the contracts of the Cafeteria Workers, Custodians, and Nurses.

Ms. Leonard stated that the Operations & Programs Committee met on February 23rd and reviewed the WHS' Course of Studies Guide, curricula, and textbooks.

Time for the Public:

No one came forward.

Items for the Next Agenda:

The next Board meeting will be Monday, March 13th at Wolcott High School.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to go into Executive Session to discuss the hiring of administrative staff, a student matter, and a personnel matter. So voted.

Mrs. Najarian requested that Mr. Stankus join the Board members and Dr. Gasper in Executive Session.

Motion: by Mr. Gugliotti, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to come out of Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting at 9:56 p.m. So voted.

Board Discussion.

Nominations:

Motion: by Mr. Buzzelli, seconded by Mr. Lerz, to appoint the following person(s) as indicated:

1. **David Langdeau** to the position of Custodian at Tyrrell Middle School effective as of March 1, 2017;

So voted.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: by Mr. Buzzelli, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 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.