

DRAFT

**Sterling Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
July 21, 2021
Community Room - 6:00 pm
“EXCELLENCE WITH KINDNESS”**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by F. Bood, Board Chair.

Present were: F. Bood; L. Shippee; D. Capobianco; C. Langlois; M. Rouillard,
V. Robinson-Lewis

Also in attendance were: H. Nickerson, C. Chandler

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comment

- **Adam Belesimo** voiced concerns about continued mask wearing for the upcoming school year. He gave each board member a printed booklet containing information that he had compiled with statistics and facts. He submitted this booklet on a flash drive for the record. He asked the board not to push the mask mandate.
- **Miriam Izzary** brought her concerns about mask wearing and asked the board that they consider allowing students to attend school unmasked.
- **Nancy Chenette** stated that she did not send her children to school for the 20/21 school year because of having to wear the masks.
- **Jennifer Goodwin** voiced her opinion in favor of mask wearing.
- **Lindsay Baldwin** questioned how other towns are making the decision not to wear masks. She gave the example of Lyme Old Lyme Schools and stated that she had heard of 2-3 others schools.
- **Frank Bood** asked for the names of other towns and clarified that the district has historically followed the state guidelines that have been set by the CDC which has no case studies.

IV. Reports and Communications

A. Correspondence - None

Motion was made by C. Langlois and seconded by M. Rouillard to add to New Business

B. Signature for the new retirement and **C.** Review of the draft agreement with Plainfield High School. All in favor.

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B. Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting, June 23, 2021
2. Principal's Report

A motion was made by D. Capobianco and seconded by M. Rouillard to accept the consent agenda with corrections as presented. Vote: All in favor.

V. Unfinished Business

None

VI. New Business

A. Tyler Technologies

Kim Gunn, Transportation Director, gave a presentation on the Tyler Technologies Bus Transportation Software.

B. Signature for the new retirement

A motion was made by C. Langlois and seconded by V. Robinson-Lewis for dual signatures on the Capital Group form allowing Heather Nickerson and Dottie Capobianco to sign for retirees.

C. Review of the Draft Agreement with Plainfield High School

C. Langlois asked all board members to review the document and email her with any questions, concerns or comments.

VII. Recommendations, Questions and/or Comments

- L. Shippee requested a list of all Plainfield Board of Education Meetings.
- F. Bood stated that James Connelly, Consultant, will be submitting a report with recommendations and discussed having EASTCONN come in to help with accounts payables.

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- L. Shippee questioned if a financial report as of June 30, 2021 had been submitted.

A motion was made by L. Shippee and seconded by M. Rouillard to keep the public comments to a three minute limit. All in favor.

VIII. Public Comment

_____ **Adam Belesimo** - Asked if the BOE has the final say as to whether the students have to wear masks? He stated that we should stand up for our beliefs and take a position.

Krista Kettle, a former student, stated that she wanted to help her friends at this school. She spoke about how wearing masks makes students feel.

Nancy Chenette asked that if we are going to push the masks again shouldn't the remote option be allowed for students?

IX. Executive Session

_____ A motion was made by L. Shippee and seconded by C. Langlois to go into executive session to discuss possible employment. All in favor

Present at Executive Session: F. Bood; L. Shippee; D. Capobianco; C. Langlois; M. Rouillard; V. Robinson-Lewis; and Heather Nickerson

A motion was made by V. Lewis-Robinson and seconded by L. Shippee to adjourn executive session. All in favor.

- Executive session adjourned at 8:24pm.

X. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm. __