

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

A meeting of the Board of Education was held on Monday, December 11, 2017, at Tyrrell Middle School. In attendance were: Lori DelBuono Bartlett, Chairman of the Board of Education; Cynthia Mancini, Vice Chairman of the Board of Education; Roberta Leonard, Secretary of the Board of Education; Thomas Buzzelli, Christopher Charette, Kathleen Cordone, Paul D'Angelo, Anthony Gugliotti, and Kelly Mazza. Also in attendance: Dr. Anthony Gasper, Superintendent of Schools, 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; Kimberly Murtaugh, Principal of Frisbie Elementary School; Shawn Simpson, Principal of Alcott Elementary School; Deborah Osvald, Principal of Wakelee Elementary School; David Stankus, Facilities Director; Robert Cormier, Wolcott High School Teacher; and Joan Gray, Board Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Mrs. DelBuono Bartlett, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mrs. DelBuono Bartlett read the Wolcott Public Schools' Mission Statement.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion:           by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 27, 2017. So voted.

**Communications:**

Enrollment Spreadsheet – November 2017  
Thank You for a WEF Grant – Ms. Ciarleglio  
Rotella Monthly Montage – December 2017

**Business Manager's Report:**

**Budget Transfers:**

Motion:           by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mr. Charette, to authorize the transfer of **\$229,280.24** from fiscal year 2017-2018 as presented in the Business Manager's report. So voted.

**Expenditures:**

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

To approve the January 2017 payroll expenditure in the amount of **\$1,510,000.**

To approve expenditures in the amount of **\$1,003,479.75** paid on December 12, 2017 for fiscal year 2017-2018.

So voted.

**Superintendent's Report:**

Mr. Cormier gave the Board of Education a report on the Lego Robotics Program, and then introduced students who showed the Board the project they had worked on.

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

Dr. Gasper reported that earlier in the evening, the Board of Education heard an update from our Facilities Director, Mr. Stankus, regarding the state of our facilities. He indicated that all of our school buildings are in a state of needing constant repair. These are not issues of normal maintenance, as our custodians and maintenance staff do a good job of regularly scheduled upkeep. The issue at hand is that the core, the infrastructure of our buildings' systems are all coming to their end-of-life almost simultaneously. While our facilities are currently safe and compliant with all pertinent codes, the heating, cooling, plumbing, and roofing systems within them are beginning to fail in substantial ways. While we do our best to plan for such things during the budget process, the speed at which critical items are failing is accelerating.

The Board engaged Friar Associates, an architectural firm from Farmington experienced in school construction, to conduct a feasibility study. This study was thorough and looked at all of our building exteriors, interiors, systems, and our enrollment projections. These architectural and engineering studies verified that our school buildings will need critical attention and renovation within the next five-to-ten years. It's also important to remember that current enrollment in our elementary schools ranges from 51% to 62% of capacity.

In the coming months, the Board and the Superintendent will continue to discuss these important matters and we will keep Wolcott families and staff apprised of our progress.

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

**Public Comment:**

No one came forward.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:****Nominations:**

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mr. Charette, to appoint the individual(s) as indicated:

1. **Rachel Turner** to the position of Long Term Substitute Reading Specialist at Tyrrell Middle School effective December 12, 2017;
2. **WHS Volunteer Coaches for the 2017-2018 school year** as follows:

Christopher Bendtsen	Indoor & Outdoor Track
Monica Gray	Cheerleading
Matthew Maisto	Boys Basketball (pending certification)
Michael Bozzuto	Boys Basketball (pending certification)

So voted.

**Out of State Field Trip:**

Motion: by Ms. Leonard, seconded by Mr. D'Angelo, to approve the following out of state field trip:

1. Tyrrell Middle School's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students (190) request permission to go to Washington, D.C. from May 29 to June 1, 2018.

So voted.

**Permission to Discard Old Equipment:**

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Mazza, to approve giving the following departments permission to dispose of equipment:

**Food Services at Wolcott High School:**

- Two door reach-in Hobart refrigerator, model #DE2, asset tag #01340
- Company Serve Lift hot holding unit, model #1500H-73-C, asset tag #04777.

**Technology Services:**

- Recycle outdated computer and monitors currently being stored at Tyrrell Middle School.

So voted.

**Permission to Accept a Donation:**

Motion: by Mr. D'Angelo, seconded by Mr. Charette, to accept a donation from Mr. Kevin Burns and family to Tyrrell Middle School's Music Program of a Gemeinhardt flute, an Olds clarinet, and a non-name brand trumpet. The estimated value of the donation is \$400. So voted.

**Contract Award – Special Education Transportation:**

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mr. Charette, to enter into a contract with **Kids Wheels, LLC** for Special Education transportation services from 7/1/2018 to 6/30/2023 using the attached rates per the RFP response.  
So voted.

**Committee Reports:**

Mrs. Mancini said that the Finance Committee met at 6:00 p.m. and reviewed pending invoices, budget transfers, the internal service report, medical claims, the Special Education transportation contract, and the regular education transportation bid.

Mr. Buzzelli reported that the Facilities Committee met earlier and Mr. Stankus gave them an overview of the facilities feasibility study done by Friar Associates.

Mr. Gugliotti said that the Negotiations Committee met last week to discuss flaws in the contract with the WEA. The results of their meeting would be discussed with the Board during Executive Session.

**Time for the Public:**

No one came forward.

**Items for the Next Agenda:**

The next meeting is January 8 and will be at Alcott Elementary School.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mr. Buzzelli, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing ongoing negotiation. Mr. Bendtsen was invited to attend Executive Session. So voted.

Motion: by Mr. D'Angelo, seconded by Mr. Buzzelli, to come out of Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting at 8:39 p.m. So voted.

**Ratify a Contract – WEA:**

Motion: by Mr. Gugliotti, seconded by Mr. Buzzelli, to ratify the agreement between the Wolcott Board of Education and the Wolcott Education Association, effective August 1, 2018 to July 31, 2022. So voted.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion: by Mr. Buzzelli, seconded by Mr. D'Angelo, to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 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](http://www.wolcottct.org).