

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

A Board of Education meeting was held on Monday, September 22, 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, Lori DelBuono, Roberta Leonard, Arthur Lerz Sr. and Kimberly Lumia, all Board members. Also in attendance: Joseph Macary, Superintendent of Schools; Todd Bendtsen, Business Manager; Frank Purcaro, Director of Curriculum & Professional Development; Joseph Monroe, Principal of Wolcott High School; Deborah Osvald, 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; Joseph Norcross, Principal of Frisbie School; Robert Nagashima, Principal of Wakelee School; Melissa Iles, Director of Student Services; Wendie Rodriguez, Supervisor of Special Education; David Stankus, Facilities Director; Cristin Buckley, Alcott Teacher; Stacey Hart, Wolcott High School Teacher; 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 Mrs. Lumia, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 8, 2014. So voted.

**Communications:**

Thank you note from the Purcaro Family

Thank you note from Mrs. Wrenn

**Business Manager's Report:**

**Expenditures:**

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

To approve expenditures in the amount of **\$269,925.33** paid on September 23, 2014 for fiscal year 2014-2015. So voted.

**Superintendent's Report:**

Mrs. Iles gave a two minute update on the Student Services Department. The School Principals reported on the activities at their schools.

Mr. Macary asked parents/guardians to contact Mr. Walter Drewry, District ADA 504 Coordinator, if they have a child with a handicap that substantially limits one or more major life activity and who is not currently identified. His number is 203 879-8164.

The "Parent Portal" is available for Middle and High School parents to access their students' attendance, grades, assignments, etc.

Mrs. Buckley spoke to the Board about a charity that she and her husband founded in memory of their son, Benjamin John Buckley. Ben Was Here Inc. will be awarding grants to schools/classes for Arts and Education. The charity will also be supplying inhalers to treat asthma for students whose families may not be able to afford them.

Miss Hart introduced Wolcott High School students, Brianna Favreau, Ashley Fontaine, Alexandra Gugliotti, Jordyn Lugo, and Taylor Way, who reported on the students' summer trip to Spain.

Mrs. Girgenti did a presentation on the District's Food Service Program.

There was a moment of silence in memory of Nicholas D'Agostino, who was the former Wolcott Superintendent of Schools.

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

**Public Comment:**

No one came forward

**Committee Reports:**

Mrs. Mancini said the Finance Committee met earlier. Pending invoices and the internal service report were discussed. They received a report from Mrs. Girgenti on the Food Service Program.

Mrs. Lumia said the Negotiations Committee met on September 15<sup>th</sup> and received a report on the Affordable Care Act.

Ms. Leonard reported on the ACES Board meeting which was held September 11<sup>th</sup>.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Approve – Resignations:**

Motion: by Ms. DelBuono, seconded by Mrs. Lumia, to accept the following resignations of:

1. **Marian Boisvert** in the position of Yearbook Advisor at Tyrrell Middle School effective immediately;
2. **Holly Jayne** in the position of Business Teacher at Wolcott High School effective on September 30, 2014;
3. **Richard Sirois** in the position Custodian at Alcott Elementary School effective on September 16, 2014;
4. **Tonyia Tafuto** in the position of Reading Consultant at Tyrrell Middle School effective October 3, 2014;
5. **Kari Yashenko** in the position of Special Education Paraprofessional at Alcott Elementary School effective September 26, 2014.

So voted.

**Transfer Between Jobs:**

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

1. **Ann Bourassa** from the position of 4.0 Hour Food Service Worker at Wolcott High School to the position of 4.5 Hour Food Service Worker at Wolcott High School effective September 23, 2014.

So voted.

**Approve – Nominations:**

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

1. **Tammy Cameron** in the position of School Nurse at Alcott Elementary School effective September 23, 2014;
2. **Amy Devine** in the position of Special Education Teacher at Tyrrell Middle School effective October 1, 2014;
3. **David Fortier** in the position of Assistant Cross Country Coach at Tyrrell Middle School effective with the fall 2014 sport season;

4. **Andrea Krug & Amy D’Ettore** in the position of Yearbook Co-Advisors for the 2014-2015 school year at Tyrrell Middle School;
5. **Lucille Simoneau** in the position of Lunchroom Monitor at Wakelee Elementary effective September 23, 2014.

So voted.

**Leave of Absence:**

Motion: by Mrs. Clair, seconded by Mr. Lerz, to approve Amanda Brencher, Grade 3 Teacher at Alcott Elementary School, request for an unpaid leave of absence from her position to begin approximately mid-March 2015 until the commencement of the 2015-2016 school year. So voted.

**Out of State Field Trips:**

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

1. Tyrrell Middle School’s Grade 6 Project Explore Students (36) request permission to go to Radio City Music Hall’s Christmas Show on November 14, 2014 to explore careers in the field of music and technology;
2. Tyrrell Middle School’s Grade 7 Students (233) request permission to go to the Boston Science Museum on November 7, 2014 to enhance their 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science curriculum;
3. Tyrrell Middle School’s Grade 8 Students (200) request permission to go to Salem, MA on October 24, 2014 to analyze the impact of the witch trials and understand the value of tolerance in today’s society.

So voted.

**Accept a Donation:**

Motion: by Mrs. Lumia, seconded by Mrs. Clair, to accept the following:

1. A donation of \$900 to Alcott Elementary School to help fund their *Poetry Extravaganza* from Ben Was Here Inc., a charity established in memory of Benjamin John Buckley.

So voted.

**Out of State Conferences:**

Motion: by Ms. Leonard, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to approve the following out-of-state conferences:

1. **Janet Discepolo**, Project Explore Teacher, requests permission to attend the “Making Roads for Gifted Learners (National Conference)” being held by the National Association for Gifted Children on November 13-16, 2014 at the Convention Center, Baltimore, MD;

2. **Alyssa Ferrone and Laura Stabile**, School Counselors at Wolcott High School, request permission to attend the Colleges of the Fenway Counselor Tour on November 6, 2014 in Boston, MA. So voted.

**Approve a Contract:**

Motion: by Mrs. Gubitosi, seconded by Mrs. Lumia, to table to Executive Session to approve a contract as follows:  
David Stankus in the position of Facilities Director/Energy Education Specialist from September 9, 2014 to June 30, 2016.  
So voted.

**ADD TO THE AGENDA:**

**Approve – Resignation(s):**

Motion: by Mrs. Gubitosi, seconded by Mrs. Lumia, to add to the agenda a resolution to approve the resignation of a paraprofessional from Alcott Elementary School. So voted.

Motion by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. DelBuono, to accept the resignation of: **Shirley Johnson** in the position of Special Education Paraprofessional at Alcott Elementary School effective on September 19, 2014.  
So voted.

**Time for the Public:**

No one came forward.

**Items for the Next Agenda:**

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion: by Mrs. Lumia, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to take a 5 minute recess at 8:15 p.m., then go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the employment and performance of non-certified employees, and discussion of an independent contract.

Motion: by Ms. DelBuono, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to come out of Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting at 9:38 p.m. So voted.

**Approve a Contract:**

Motion: by Ms. DelBuono, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to approve a contract as follows:

David Stankus in the position of Facilities Director/Energy Education Specialist from September 9, 2014 to June 30, 2016.

So voted.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion: by Ms. Leonard, seconded by Mrs. Lumia, to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:40 p.m. So voted.