

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
WOLCOTT, CONNECTICUT**

A meeting of the Board of Education was held on Monday, April 27, 2020, on Google Meet. In attendance were: Cynthia Mancini, Chairman of the Board; Paul D'Angelo, Vice Chairman of the Board; Roberta Leonard, Secretary of the Board; Christopher Charette, Kathleen Cordone, Tony Gugliotti, Sean Hughes, Timothy McMurray, and Kelly Mazza, all Board members. Also in attendance: Dr. Anthony Gasper, Superintendent of Schools, Shawn Simpson, Assistant Superintendent; Todd Bendtsen, Business Manager; Wayne Natzal, Facilities Director; Alex Pagan, Director of Technology, Andrew Bundock, Desktop Technician; Attorney Craig Meuser; and Jessica Kenny, Board Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Mrs. Cynthia Mancini, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a Moment of Silence was given for Michael DeNegriz and everyone impacted by COVID 19. Mrs. Mancini then read the Wolcott Public Schools' Mission Statement.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: by Ms. Leonard, seconded by Mrs. Mazza, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 06, 2020.

So voted

Motion: by Ms. Leonard, seconded by Mrs. Mazza, to approve the minutes of the special meeting of April 20, 2020;

So voted.

Committee Reports:

Nothing to Report

Communications:

Thank you card

APPROVED



Cynthia Mancini, BOE Chairman
Wolcott Public Schools

Business Manager's Report:

Mr. Bendtsen gave his Business Manager's Report and reviewed health claims, pending vendor invoices, variable accounts report, and spoke on fuel oil, diesel oil, and electric prices.

Expenditures:

Motion: by Mr. D'Angelo, seconded by Mr. Gugliotti, to approve the following expenditures:

To approve expenditures in the amount of **\$177,955.96** paid on April 28, 2020.

So voted.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Gasper gave his report on how our staff continues to work incredibly hard during our response to COVID-19 pandemic. He stated under the leadership of Shawn Simpson, we continue to evolve our delivery of distance learning and we are expanding resources and training for teachers. The Superintendent and Todd Bendtsen are communicating each day on the financial impacts of this crisis. Tonight, Dr. Gasper and Mr. Bendtsen are presenting recommended changes in the budget for the next school year. He stated, at this point, we are not yet ready to summarize the impact of COVID-19 on our budget. The changes that are being recommended tonight are made possible through prudent planning by our Special Education department and the unpredictable nature of special education outplacements. There is the possibility of substantial savings to the district related to COVID-19 but this cannot be known precisely until the Governor issues an order on when schools can resume.

Mr. Simpson gave an update on Distant learning. He gave a big thank you to everyone for the team effort that has been going on. He stated that there was a survey that was sent to teachers and the most common response was how much they miss the interaction with their students. With this information, on Friday a letter was sent out to staff in regards to allowing 1-1 videos, with full safety and privacy. A professional development was held for teachers on how to post videos for students. Mr. Simpson gave a huge thank you to Isabel Nunes, Shelia DiStatsio, and the IT department for hosting this professional development. He also thanked the Board for purchasing *Screenatify* for the staff to record videos for students.

The Board, Dr. Gasper, and Mr. Simpson also spoke briefly on using distance learning in the future for such things as snow days.

Motion: by Mr. Charette, seconded by Mrs. Mazza, to approve the Superintendent's Report.
So voted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Nothing to Report

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion and Possible Action on Contract with All-Star Transportation:

Mrs. Mancini turned this part of the meeting over to Attorney Meuser, who explained Governor Lamont’s Executive order 7-R and had a discussion with the Board and Dr. Gasper in regards to the contract with All-Star Transportation.

Motion: by Mr. Charette, seconded by Mr. Hughes to authorize the Superintendent and Board Counsel to enter into a memorandum of understanding with All-Star Transportation for \$288,923.87 with the caveat that All-Star has continued provision in data in regards to if it’s employees are back onto the payroll or not
A roll call was taken:

Name	Yes	No
Mr. Christopher Charette	1	
Mrs. Kathy Cordone	2	
Mr. Paul D’Angelo	3	
Mr. Tony Gugliotti		1
Mr. Sean Hughes	4	
Ms. Roberta Leonard	5	
Mrs. Kelly Mazza	6	
Mr. Tim McMurray	7	
Mrs. Cindy Mancini	8	

Motion Carries

Discussion and Possible Action on Amending the 2020-2021 Board of Education

Budget

The Board, Dr. Gasper and Mr. Bendtsen had a discussion on amending the 2020-2021 Board of Education Budget, they spoke of decrease the request of a 1.19% increase to 0%.

Motion: by Mr. Gugliotti, seconded by Mr. Hughes to amend the 2020-2021 Board of Education Budget as discussed resulting in the amount of **\$35,524,031.00.**
So voted.

Discussion and Possible Action on Extending Temporary Wage Payments for Non-Certified Staff Members:

The Board had a discussion on continuing to pay non-certified staff members until the School year, to extend their previous approval of payment from April 30, 2020. This is With the stipulation that an employee could be called back to work at any time if needed.

Motion: by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Gugliotti to authorize the Superintendent and Board Counsel to enter into temporary memoranda of understanding with non-certified bargaining units and employees to continue wage payments through the 2019-2020 school year.
So voted.

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Financial Impact on Families of Cancellation of Out-of-State Field Trips:

The Board and Dr. Gasper had a discussion on the impact of the families that are impacted by the cancellation of out-of-state fieldtrips. Although Dr. Gasper had some information he was still missing some exact figures. The Board decided to have this on the Agenda for the next Board meeting to discuss and make a possible decision at that time.

Consent Agenda

Motion: by Ms. Leonard, seconded by Mrs. Cordone, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

1. Resignation(s):

- a. **Diane Giordano** from the position of Paraprofessional at Wakelee School, for the purposes of retirement, effective September 1, 2020;
- b. **Mark Klemenz** from the position of Custodian at Frisbie School effective May 08, 2020.

So voted.

Items for the Next Agenda:

The next meeting is May 11th. Board members can contact the Board of Education Office if you have additional agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: by Mr. Gugliotti, seconded by Mrs. Mazza, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. So voted.