

Sterling Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
June 23, 2021
Community Room - 6:00 pm
“EXCELLENCE WITH KINDNESS”

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by F. Bood, Board Chair.

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

Also in attendance were: H. Nickerson

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comment

- **Faith Coderre** brought concerns for the upcoming school year. There are 60 days to the start of school and there are 14 positions open. She wanted to know why job postings were updated and there has been nothing for a superintendent. Will there be a committee? Maybe someone should be looking internally at the Board. Need to focus on children.
- **Jennifer Goodwin** expressed concerns over the high staff turnover. Not a casualty of the pandemic, seems to be a problem. Are all of the staff surveyed? What is their dissatisfaction? Are there exit interviews? Majority of people insist that it's administration. She asked the Board to cast a wide net to find someone with experience and to involve the parents as stakeholders in the decision making.
- **Christina Kettle** stated that she has a 3 year old coming into the school system next year and does not want masks. What is the mask plan?
- **Miriam Izzary** expressed mask concerns and asked that students be allowed to choose.
- **Frank Bood** addressed the superintendent posting; other area schools and open positions. He encouraged community members to run for open positions in November. He also stated his personal opinion on masks. Frank referred to local health departments and mentioned that 3 school districts say that they don't have to wear masks. Right now the state is choosing what is done.
- **Faith Coderre** commented about Frank's comment on the severity of COVID.

IV. Reports and Communications

A. Correspondence

Correspondence regarding the Board of Education vacancy will be discussed under *V. Unfinished Business Item C. Appointment of Board Vacancy.*

B. Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting, May 26, 2021
2. Minutes of the Special Meeting, June 7, 2021

3. Superintendent/Special Education Director's Report
4. Principal's Report
5. Clinical Supervisor's Report
6. Monthly Check Register

D. Capobianco stated that she crossed off Superintendent and wrote BOE next to her name when she reviewed the checks.

A motion was made by C. Langlois and seconded by V. Lewis to accept the consent agenda as presented. Vote: All in favor.

D. Plainfield Board of Education Liaison

C. Langlois attended a meeting where many community members were paying tribute to Ken DiPietro. They are developing a 'Reopening Plan' and are sending out parent surveys. They have 35 vacancies through Zoom they conducted 40 interviews. They are working on how they are going to spend ESSRIII grid 3.2million dollars. Their budget has a \$900K surplus. Summer programs were reviewed - Discovery Bus will give out 1000 books. They have aligned with the recreation center for coverage for a full week to provide activities, academics, and enrichment. Plainfield has awarded a contract for busing to DATTCO. They have 5 year renewal for their curriculum revision. A connection with our teachers would be helpful (possible teacher contacts). The BOE is having a summer 'Retreat' to develop goals and to work on the strategic plan. Plainfield will be having regular school days/week. They are not offering Remote Learning. The 'Cooperative Agreement' with Sterling has been sent to the attorney.

V. Unfinished Business

None

VI. New Business

A. Hand Sign Checks

A motion was made by L. Shippee for the treasurer to sign checks. It was seconded by V. Lewis. All were in favor.

B. Board Packets Mailed

It was decided that Board packets should be mailed each month.

C. Resignations

A motion was made by C. Langlois and seconded by D. Cappobianco to accept the resignations of Dr. Gail Lanza, Deana Chrzan, Sebastian Sanzaro, Meghan McCoil, Ashlyn Hart, and Deb Zajac. All in favor.

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VII. Recommendations, Questions and/or Comments

- Curriculum - Oct/Nov. Update (5 year plan)
- It was suggested to work on getting support for Cory
- Plainfield graduation invite of Sterling BOE was discussed.
- C. Langlois stated that it would be beneficial to have an additional 'RETREAT' day to discuss BOE goals and direction. The date decided on for the meeting was August 17th - 10:00am at C. Langlois house.

VIII. Public Comment

_____ **Nancy Chenette** expressed concerns that the milk that is being distributed to families for meal pick up for a week is a day/two days from expiration date listed on the container.

IX. Executive Session

_____ A motion was made by V. Lewis and seconded by M. Rouillard to go into executive session to look at the hiring of external candidates. All in favor

X. Adjournment

_____ Meeting was adjourned at 6:47pm.____