

Draft

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

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Monday, March 14, 2016, at Wolcott High School. In attendance were: Patricia Najarian, Chairman of the Board; Gloria Gubitosi, Vice Chairman of the Board; Thomas Buzzelli, Gloria Clair, Anthony Gugliotti, Roberta Leonard, Arthur Lerz Sr., and Cynthia Mancini, all Board members. Also in attendance: Dr. Anthony Gasper, Superintendent of Schools; Todd Bendtsen, Business Manager; Kevin Hollis, Director of Student Services; Rosa Ramalhete, Supervisor of Special Education; Joseph Monroe, Principal of Wolcott High School; Arline Tansley, Principal of Tyrrell Middle School; Daniel Caetano, Assistant Principal of Tyrrell Middle School; Shawn Simpson, Principal of Alcott School; Joseph Norcross, Principal of Frisbie School; Robert Nagashima, Principal of Wakelee School; and Joan Gray, Board Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mrs. Najarian, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Wolcott High School Teacher, David Pape.

Mrs. Najarian read the Wolcott Public Schools' Mission Statement.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Clair, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 22, 2016. So voted.

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to approve the minutes of the Budget Hearing of February 25, 2016. So voted.

Motion: by Mrs. Gubitosi, seconded by Mrs. Clair, to approve the minutes of the Expulsion Hearing of March 2, 2016. So voted.

Communications:

Letter from Mackenzie Roy
Invitation from Wolcott Chamber of Commerce
CABE workshop notice
Rotella Monthly Montage – March 2016
Waterbury Arts Magnet – March 2016
The CABE Journal – March 2016

Business Manager's Report:**Expenditures:**

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

To approve the April 2016 payroll expenditure in the amount of **\$1,400,000.**

To approve expenditures in the amount of **\$875,537.87** paid on March 15, 2016 for fiscal year 2015-2016.

So voted.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Gasper introduced Mr. Monroe, who spoke about Mr. David Pape, the 19 year veteran teacher at Wolcott High School, who sadly passed away over the weekend.

Dr. Gasper thanked the District professionals who worked with the students and staff to help them deal with their feelings of grief at the passing of Mr. Pape.

March 2nd, there was a statewide administration of the SAT. He thanked the school administration, teachers, and Mr. Purcaro for their hard work resulting in minimum problems.

Our pilot project of mathematics resources is underway in grades Kindergarten through 8th. A total of 24 teachers are using the pilot materials in their classrooms during four weeks of instruction. A total of three titles are being piloted. A final recommendation for selection will be brought to the Board of Education in April.

Kindergarten materials have been sent out by email and regular mail to the parents who pre-registered their children for Kindergarten starting in the 2016-2017 school year. Parents with access to the internet are encouraged to fill out the electronic forms, which will streamline operations for the school system. Parents also have the option to fill out the paper forms and bring them with them to their registration appointment.

The Elementary Schools will be holding Parent/Guardian Kindergarten Orientations at 6:30 p.m. on the following schedule:

Alcott School	March 16 th
Frisbie School	March 24 th
Wakelee School	March 30 th

Parents are welcome to attend any of these presentations. The content is identical.

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

Public Comment:

No one came forward.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve – Resignation(s):

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi to accept the resignation(s) of:

1. **Richard Bonczek** in the position of Mathematics Teacher at Wolcott High School for the purpose of retirement effective at the end of the 2015-2016 school year;
2. **Christine Fitzpatrick** in the position of Paraprofessional at Tyrrell Middle School for the purpose of retirement effective at the end of the 2015-2016 school year;
3. **Gary Jayson** in the position of Mathematics Teacher at Wolcott High School for the purpose of retirement effective at the end of the 2015-2016 school year.

So voted.

Approve – Nominations:

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

1. **2016-2017 WHS Winter Coaches:**

Boys Basketball	Varsity	Matthew Craig
	Asst. Varsity (JV)	Martin Dituccio
	Asst. Varsity (FR.)	James Maisto
Cheerleading	Varsity	Jillian Guerrero (Head Coach)
	Asst. Varsity	Scott Rossignol (Asst. Coach)
		Jessica Geddes
Girls Basketball	Varsity	Nicole Rindos
	Asst. Varsity (JV)	Bruce Neville
	Asst. Varsity (FR.)	Rebecca Riviezzo
Indoor Track	Varsity	Chris Riviezzo
	Asst. Varsity	Samantha Barrett
	Asst. Varsity	Danielle Maringola
Dance Team	Varsity	Justin Bolton
Strength & Conditioning		Jason Pace
Weight Lifting		

2. **2016 WHS Spring Sports Volunteers:**

Boys/Girls Tennis	Brandon Cepelak
Varsity Baseball	Charles Guerrero
	Don Angiolillo

Freshman Baseball	Ronald Gambino John Kiely James Maisto
Varsity Softball	Shelby Slie

So voted.

Approve – Out of State Field Trips:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to approve the following out-of- state field trip:

1. Wolcott High School’s Grade 11 English Classes (40-50) request permission to go to New York City on April 13, 2016 to see the production of *The Crucible*.
2. Wolcott High School’s National Honor Society (50) requests permission to go to Boston, MA on May 3, 2016 for a group problem-solving experience at *Escape the Room*.
3. Tyrrell Middle School’s 7th Grade Science Students (20) request permission to travel to the Florida Keys/Everglades to study the relationships between organisms and their environment. The trip is from June 23-27, 2017.

So voted.

Adopt the 2016-2017 WPS Budget – Initial Vote:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mr. Gugliotti, to adopt on initial vote the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Wolcott Public Schools’ Budget in the amount of \$33,768,882. So voted.

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Mancini said that the Finance Committee met earlier. The Committee discussed pending invoices, internal service report, and approved the 2016-2017 Superintendent’s budget of \$33,768,882.

Ms. Leonard reported on the ACES Board meeting. Dr. Dianna Wetzell, the Commissioner of Education, gave them an update on the effects of State budget cuts on education, teacher evaluations being tied to student test scores, which won’t go into effect until 2017-2018, and other topics.

Time for the Public:

Theresa Marin, 1147 Wolcott Road, informed the Board that WHS Parent Action Council’s Project Graduation will take place again this year. She thanked Dr. Gasper for his attendance at PAC’s last meeting. She supports the budget.

Lori Capozzi, 5 Evas Terrace, supports the Superintendent's budget, especially adding Lacrosse at WHS.

Justin Darley, 273 Beach Road, supports adding a Lacrosse team at WHS.

Marian Boisvert, 72 Chesterfield, supports adding a Lacrosse team at WHS.

Joe Capozzi, 5 Evas Terrace, supports adding a Lacrosse team at WHS.

Items for the Next Agenda:

Final vote on the 2016-2017 WPS Budget.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion: by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mrs. Clair, to go into Executive Session for discussion of two personnel matters (certified employees) So voted.

Motion: by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mrs. Clair, to come out of Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting at 8:12 p.m. So voted.

Approve –Leave Requests:

Motion: by Mr. Gugliotti, seconded by Ms. Leonard, to approve the following:

1. Kate McCasland, Grade 5 Teacher at Wakelee School, requests an unpaid leave of absence to commence after her FMLA ends through to the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year.
2. Cindy Skerritt, Physical Teacher at Wakelee, requests an unpaid leave of absence to participate in the World Masters Games in Auckland, New Zealand, from April 17-28, 2017.

So voted.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: by Mrs. Mancini, seconded by Mrs. Gubitosi, to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:15 p.m. So voted.

Note: A videotape of this meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the WLCT96 site on the Town of Wolcott's website, www.wolcottct.org.