Chairman Mark Holden called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:02 p.m.

Roll Call:
Mark Holden, Chairman       Kate Kutash
Thomas Minotti, Vice Chairman  Win Oppel
Arlene Liscinsky, Secretary      Darlisa Ritter
David Gioiello (via Skype)  Kathleen Yolish
Faith Hack

Full Quorum

Board of Education Administration present:
Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Christopher Clouet
Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Lorraine Rossner
Finance Director, Dominic Barone
Human Resources Director, Carole Pannozzo

(1 tape on file in City/Town Clerk’s office)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda
Win Oppel moved to add four items to the agenda: Donation of used computer storage equipment from Iroquois Gas; donation of $2,895 for Promethean board and white board to Elizabeth Shelton School from ESS PTO; donation of $2,888.88 for outdoor tables to Elizabeth Shelton School from ESS PTO; a matching donation of $1,000 to Long Hill School from Sempra Energy. Motion was seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Kate Kutash moved to approve the agenda as amended; motion seconded by Thomas Minotti and passed unanimously.

Public Hearing
Deb Keller, 311 Pheasant Glen, Co-Chairman of Teacher of the Year Committee, thanked the board for support of the program and presented the board with a plaque listing all previous Teachers of the Year starting with inception of the program. The plaque will be displayed in the Board Room.
Approval of Minutes
Faith Hack moved to approve the minutes of Special Meeting 1-20-16; Special Meeting 1-27-16; Regular Meeting 1-27-16; Special Meeting 2-3-16; Special Meeting 2-12-16. Motion was seconded by Kathy Yolish and passed unanimously.

Presentation
Tina Henckel and Victoria White gave a PowerPoint presentation on Shelton’s Full-Day Kindergarten Program, including a comparison to the former half-day program and the benefits. Detailed data on numeracy and literacy assessments were discussed and questions were addressed. A video was shown of the full-day kindergarten program in action.

Superintendent’s Commentary
Dan DiVito was asked to speak about the recently added position of Technology Integrator. Mr. DiVito said we recently hired some Technology Integrator stipends from a pool of teacher applicants for Technology Integrator positions at the elementary schools and Perry Hill. Their role is to work with staff members in their buildings to provide successful professional development to help teachers integrate technology in the classroom. This will help them to align the district’s vision of technology along with the building needs. It is the first step to make sure technology is entwined with curriculum and the teachers understand and are comfortable using it. Technology Integrators who were in the audience were acknowledged.

Superintendent Clouet discussed the participation rate of SHS students involved in UConn courses. He said the fact that so many students and a higher percentage than other Fairfield County schools are involved in these courses is a very positive reflection of the high school, both for the students and the teachers. He noted in order to teach the courses, teachers have to be approved by UConn as adjunct professors, which is not easy. He thanked Dr. Smith and everyone involved in the process.

Dr. Clouet discussed receipt of two modest but important grants funded by Pitney Bowes. One is a NASCAR related STEM grant to enable students to do hands-on projects with assistance. The other is support of our Mentoring Program. He stated Valerie Knight-DiGangi and he have begun to work closely together, and he recently met with a group of mentors. He said he appreciates Tina Henckel’s efforts to guide the grants through, and the money has been placed with the Valley Community Foundation.

Superintendent Clouet talked about a food donation project by Elizabeth Shelton students, which was one of the top in the United States. As a result, the children were treated with a delightful Skype visit from a children’s book author. Ken Saranich and his ELA teachers were commended for forming an SIS book club where parents and students are paired to read a book together. Dr. Clouet was invited to participate and is paired with a student. He said it is a wonderful way to reach out to middle school kids and is an opportunity for parent involvement.
Dr. Clouet mentioned a School Food and Nutrition Summit will be hosted by the district and the PTO Alliance with discussion about school lunches, as well as good health, healthy eating, and the federal laws associated with the Healthy and Hungry-Free Kids Act. The event will be at 6:30 p.m. on March 8 at SIS cafeteria.

The Superintendent met with a group of PTO members and formed districtwide PTO Alliance, which includes a very good group of smart, committed parents.

Superintendent Clouet extended thanks to Kathy Yolish for her article about him in *Shelton Life*.

**Approved Field Trip**
Board members were apprised of an approved field trip for SHS Robotics Team to travel to Maine for a competition April 7-9, 2016.

**Items Voted on**
Win Oppel moved to approve Christopher Clouet as an Authorized Signer, along with Dominic Barone, of the ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs with the Connecticut State Department of Education Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education; motion seconded by Thomas Minotti and passed unanimously.

Kate Kutash moved to approve a request from SHS Boys Volleyball Team to conduct fundraising activities during the 2015-16 school year; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Win Oppel moved to approve a request from Sunnyside School to conduct fundraising activities during the 2015-16 school year; seconded by Thomas Minotti. Discussion included question about the financial information accompanying the request. Motion passed unanimously.

Win Oppel moved to approve the following:
- **Accept donation from Iroquois Gas Transmission System of the following used computer storage equipment with total value of $6,000 to the SBOE Technology Department:**
  - 2 APC Netshelter racks (estimated cost used is $800 each)
  - 2 Dell server racks (estimated cost used is $800 each)
  - 8 APC Power Bars – 2 per rack (estimated cost used is $350 each)
- **Accept on behalf of Elizabeth Shelton School a donation from ESS PTO in the amount of $2,895 to purchase a new Promethean board and white board for the library/media center.**
- **Accept on behalf of Elizabeth Shelton School a donation from ESS PTO in the amount of $2,888.88 to cover the expense of three 45” square outdoor tables to be installed by members of the Fathers Club in the enclosed front play area.**
Accept on behalf of Long Hill School an employee matching grant of $1,000 from Sempra Energy Foundation to be used at Principal’s discretion.

Motion was seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Comments by the Board Chair
Mark Holden said our budget request is in, noting that it is a very frugal budget with hopes that it will be well received by the City. He commended Dominic Barone and Dr. Clouet for finding ways to provide information that we have traditionally given in a way that is clearer and easier for laymen to understand. Chairman Holden said at the last Board of Aldermen meeting, the aldermen passed a motion that accepts responsibility for the solvency of our self-insured medical fund. (NOTE: Tape 1, Side B – 8:05 p.m.) Mr. Holden said he appreciates the City accepting responsibility for our reserve and feels it was the best possible solution to a problem.

Reports of Standing Committees
Teaching & Learning – Thomas Minotti reviewed the topics covered at the last meeting on January 9 including discussion of 10 new courses at SHS for 2016-17; changes in Housatonic Community College course offerings; Kindergarten Cohort Performance Data; ongoing ELL programs in the system; EXCELL Grant for TESOL services; Read Across the Valley. Next meeting is March 10 at 4:00 p.m.

Finance Committee - Win Oppel said the committee met earlier today and brings forward the following recommendation:

Win Oppel moved to accept the Finance Committee’s recommendation to approve an expenditure of $32,650 to cover the Board’s portion of the Perry Hill School punchlist completion, which is a combined City/Board activity with parties having both individual and joint responsibilities. Further, the Board of Education accepts the renovation of the Perry Hill School. Motion seconded by Thomas Minotti and passed unanimously.

Policy Committee - Kate Kutash said the committee met on February 9 and began the process of reviewing policies.

Kate Kutash moved to approve the following policy revisions to sit for review until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education:

#0200 Statement of Education Goals
#0521 Non-Discrimination Policy
#4117.3 Reduction in Force
#5118.1 Homeless Students
#5125 Health and Medical Records
#6115 School Ceremonies and Observances

Motion seconded by Thomas Minotti and passed unanimously.

The committee will meet on March 10 following the Ad Hoc Policy Committee meeting.
Ad Hoc Policy Committee - Arlene Liscinsky said the committee met and presented the 1000-2000 Series to the Policy Committee to be put on their next agenda to present to the full board. The 3000 Series will be presented at the next Ad Hoc meeting.

Reports of Special Committees
CES - Nothing new to report. CES does not meet in February.

CABE – Faith Hack reminded members they can register online for A Day on the Hill in Hartford on March 2. Information was also shared about the CABE/CAPSS Convention November 18-19; CABE Student Leadership Awards; NSBA Convention in Boston April 9-11; Lighthouse Workshop March 8.

For Your Information
Chairman Holden noted the attachments in the packet including Vacancy Report, Staff and Stipend Actions, and Enrollment Report, and flyer for Read Across the Valley Event.

Highlights
Members discussed ESS Skype visit; Science Fairs at SIS and SHS; National Merit Finalist; Robotics events; upcoming wellness event on March 8 at SIS, following Lighthouse Workshop.

Chairman Holden adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Diane Luther
Diane Luther
Secretary to Board of Education
March 3, 2016