Chairman Mark Holden called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:06 p.m.

Roll Call:
Mark Holden, Chairman
Thomas Minotti, Vice Chairman
Arlene Liscinsky, Secretary
David Gioiello
Faith Hack (excused)

Quorum: 8 present, 1 absent

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
Thomas Minotti moved to approve the agenda; motion seconded by Kathy Yolish and passed unanimously.

Presentations/Recognitions
Superintendent Clouet read the names of 25 newly tenured teachers, and those in attendance were recognized and congratulated for their achievement.

Public Hearing
Nobody from the public spoke.

Approval of Minutes
Thomas Minotti moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 24, 2016; motion seconded by Arlene Liscinsky and passed unanimously.

Communications to the Board
Notes of appreciation from Building Administrators for opening day floral arrangements were acknowledged.
Superintendent’s Reports & Action Items
Superintendent Clouet discussed Public Act 16189, a new law regarding student data privacy that goes into effect October 1, which will force us to change our Acceptable Use policies. He stated due to legislative action, the district will incur unanticipated tuition costs next year of approximately $350,000, based on the current number of Shelton students opting to attend two Bridgeport magnet schools. As an update to Strategic Planning, Dr. Clouet said about 75 people attended last night’s showing of Most Likely to Succeed, which was intended to be mind opening and a start of a series of conversations relative to helping students adapt to 21st century technology changes. He discussed upcoming forums on Community on October 13, STEAM on October 6, and Humanities on September 29. Dr. Clouet announced that the state has accepted our paperwork on closing costs for Perry Hill School construction, which will begin the negotiation process with state school construction officials to define eligible reimbursements. He said it is likely the state will return to the city approximately $3-5 million. Superintendent said in working with a group called National Professional Development in partnership with UCLA, we received notice of money for a grant called Project Exc-EL, which focuses on providing training, professional learning options and programming for English language students. He explained that over the next five years Shelton Public Schools will receive $70,000 a year; our partners at Plumb Library and The Boys and Girls Club each will get $15,000 a year. He said it is an example of being creative and finding other ways to bring in resources, and he is confident there is more to come.

Tina Henckel and Victoria White gave an updated detailed analysis of Smarter Balanced Assessment and District Results 2015-16 for grades 3-8 and answered questions from board members. Student reports will be distributed at the school level on October 7. Next year’s reports will include data for students who attended Shelton’s first all-day kindergarten.

Approved Field Trips
Board members were apprised of the following approved trips:

- SIS Nature’s Classroom, October 5-7, 2016
- SIS Washington, DC, May 3-6, 2017
- SIS Philadelphia, PA, April 29-30, 2017
- SHS Ski Club, Vermont, February 10-12, 2017
- SHS Ski Club, Maine, March 10-12, 2017

Items Voted on
Thomas Minotti moved to approve the following requests to conduct fundraisers during the 2016-17 school year:

- Shelton High School Gaelettes Soccer
- Perry Hill School
- Shelton High School Girls’ Cross Country Parents’ Club
- Shelton High School Swim Team Parents’ Club
- Shelton High School Girls Volleyball
- Shelton High School Cheer Athletic Club

Motion was seconded by Kate Kutash and passed unanimously. (Question arose later in the meeting about cost for Philadelphia trip, which was subsequently clarified.)
Arlene Liscinsky moved to approve the revisions to Bylaws # 9110, #9132(a) and #9323 to sit for review until the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education. Motion seconded by Win Oppel. Discussion. David Gioiello moved to amend Bylaw #9132(a) to include wording “The Finance Committee will have a Chairman and Vice-Chairman.” Motion seconded by Kate Kutash. All voted in favor of amendment. The original motion passed unanimously.

Comments by the Board Chair
Chairman Holden commented on a strong start to the school year noting that there were remarkably few complaints about transportation this year; schools were nicely prepared, thanks to John Calhoun and crew; administrators have organized well for Back to School nights and parents are enthusiastic. He said SchoolDigger ratings based on SBAC show almost all of our schools have moved up considerably in the rankings, and he expects ranking for our district overall to rise. He commented that there was a great turnout last night for MLTS and attendees were engaged. Mr. Holden recognized Dr. Clouet’s success in obtaining some grant money.

Arlene Liscinsky commented (and others were in agreement) on the improvement in transportation since Jim Burns has been in the position, and especially the smooth opening the last couple of years. She suggested Superintendent Clouet could express appreciation to him. Dr. Clouet agreed and noted that he will be taking a tour of the transportation hot spots with Mr. Burns next week.

Reports of Standing Committees
Teaching & Learning – Thomas Minotti highlighted the topics of the September 20 meeting including a report from Tina Henckel on Edgenuity (on-line program used successfully for credit recovery or advancement/enrichment during summer learning program); Accreditation Review of the Arts; SAT Report from Kathy Riddle; presentation by Lorraine Rossner of DMC Scheduling Outcomes for Elementary Schools; discussion of meeting time; and a summary of Superintendent Clouet’s comments. The next meeting is scheduled for October 11 at 4:00 p.m.

Finance Committee – Win Oppel said the committee met on September 21. The committee discussion included encumbrances currently under review by the Finance Director. There are three major items, the largest being a $75,000 potential invoice for Sunnyside School's media center. The committee discussed the Fairchild Wheeler potential cost impact for tuition and whether the students participating are considered Shelton High School students, since we are paying 100% of the tuition. He suggested the Policy Committee consider this, and a determination needs to be made how we will treat these students going forward. John Calhoun had given a report on Sunnyside School roof and front entryway projects; SHS Fire Code Compliance project (contract has been signed); SHS fuel cell. The PHS solar project is online and generating. LHS is currently offline due to faulty inverter that needed to be replaced. There are no recommendations to the full board tonight.
Policy Committee/Ad Hoc Policy Committee – Arlene Liscinsky said Policy met on September 20. During Public Session a member of Shelton Administrative Council asked that the BOE adhere to the public comment portion at BOE meetings, meaning that personnel matters should not be addressed during public portion of a BOE meeting. Also discussed at meeting was a draft of Posthumous Diploma policy and minor changes to Administrative Regulation. Mrs. Liscinsky stated the 9000 series bylaws have been reviewed and revisions voted on earlier will come before the board for approval next month. A handout was provided with suggested policy findings from 2014-15 CABE report to be reviewed. She said officially the Ad Hoc Policy Committee has served its purpose. Multiple examples of policy verbiage were shared with the committee. The next meeting is October 11 at 5:00 p.m. Chairman Holden thanked Arlene Liscinsky for serving as Chairperson and for her contributions to Ad Hoc Policy Committee.

Reports of Special Committees
CES – Notes from last CES meeting are included in packet. Arlene Liscinsky stated there will be a vote on the calendar at their meeting next week. Any thoughts or suggestions should be sent to Arlene to bring to meeting.

CABE – Members were reminded of the CABE/CAPSS Convention on November 18-19.

Unfinished Business
Kate Kutash asked if Sunnyside library will be ready for next week’s Back to School night. Dr. Clouet said he is confident it will be complete with books on shelves.

New Business
There was nothing to discuss.

For Your Information
Chairman Holden noted the attachments in the packet including Vacancy Report, Staff and Stipend Actions, Hiring Summary, Enrollment Report, as well as a list of remaining back to school nights. Dr. Clouet commended Carole Pannozzo and staff for filling every full time position.

Highlights
Kathy Yolish commented on the Back to School Nights. She noted that Dr. Zavodjancik used three forms of the Word of the Week in his presentation. She expressed appreciation to Carole Pannozzo for the Hiring Summary, which gives the whole picture. Chairman Holden commented that it has been a good start to the school year.

Chairman Holden adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Diane Luther
Diane Luther
Secretary to Board of Education
October 5, 2016