

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Board of Education Administrative Offices
382 Long Hill Avenue
Board Room, 2nd Floor
October 28, 2015**

Chairman Mark Holden called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:19 p.m.

Roll Call:

Mark Holden, Chairman

John Francino-Quinn

Thomas Minotti, Vice Chairman

Faith Hack

Arlene Liscinsky, Secretary

Kate Kutash

Win Oppel

Kathleen Yolish

Timothy Walsh (excused)

Quorum 8 present, 1 absent

Board of Education Administration present:

Superintendent of Schools, Freeman Burr

Assistant Superintendent, Lorraine Rossner

Director of Finance & Business Services, Dominic Barone

Human Resources Director, Carole PannoZZo

Also present: Incoming Superintendent, Dr. Christopher Clouet

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda and Addendum

Win Oppel moved to approve the agenda and addendum; motion seconded by Arlene Liscinsky and passed unanimously.

Public Hearing

Megan Doyle, 72A Wooster Street, spoke on behalf of the SHS Cooperative Work Experience sponsorship of the Fourth Annual Fill the Truck, in memory of Mrs. Audrey Dryer. The board was invited to participate in the event at the November 13th Shelton vs. Hamden football game at Shelton High School by bringing a turkey or non-perishable food item to help support the SHS Food Bank for families in need.

Deborah Keller, 311 Pheasant Glen and SEA President, thanked the board for supporting the Teacher of the Year program. She expressed appreciation of Mr. Burr and Mrs. Rossner for helping to reinstitute the program, which is important for the esteem of teachers, schools and their administrators.

Judson Crawford, 8 Jordan Avenue, discussed the Sunnyside School project and questioned the start and completion dates. Freeman Burr stated there was a walkthrough with the bidders today, and the Mayor and PIBC will be finalizing the bids. The goal is to start and finish the project as soon as possible. He said the selected contractor will be required to begin work at the end of each school day and work through the weekends.

Approval of Minutes

Win Oppel moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of September 17, 2015; Special Meeting #1 of September 23, 2015; Special Meeting #2 of September 23, 2015; Regular Meeting of September 23, 2015. Motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Communications to the Board

Superintendent Burr said each of the schools will be holding events on Veterans Day. He encouraged participation in the turkey/food drive donations and noted board members will be receiving invitations to Derby/Shelton Thanksgiving Day football game breakfast in Derby.

Instructional Update

Superintendent's Commentary - Freeman Burr discussed the Professional Learning schedule for November 3. Relative to the math and science assessments, feedback has been synthesized from our rollout, and parent letter and data analysis guide have been constructed. Mr. Burr discussed the student progress reports and electronic resources including the Parent Tool Kit. Mr. Burr thanked Carole Pannozzo for finalizing the lines of evaluation for this year and discussed the Teacher and Administrator Evaluation and Support Plan revisions. He stated Dr. Clouet attended the first District Data Team meeting on October 15, at which norms, roles and NWEA and SRI data were reviewed. The team finalized the District Improvement Plan, an overview of which will be presented at the Teaching and Learning Committee meeting this month. Superintendent Burr said the proposed regional calendar was received, which will go into effect for 2016-2017 if there is no change at the State. Lorraine Rossner is working on a draft calendar and explained the possible use of some flex days in the beginning for teachers only to keep PL as it is and allow our district to set first day for students after Labor Day. Freeman Burr noted that all of the Regional Education Service Centers have different calendars. He stated the gr. 5-12 first quarter marking period closes November 6; report cards will be posted November 13; parent/teacher conferences are scheduled for November 23 from 6-8 p.m. Professional Learning activities for K-4 faculty will be held November 24, which is a planned early dismissal for K-12 students and 5-12 faculty. Mr. Burr thanked Tina Henckel for her efforts in finalizing our Title I allocation, which combined with Title II A amounts to about \$520,000.

We will not only fund the Math Specialist as proposed through the budget process last year, it appears we will also be able to add a full-time Math Specialist with these funds at Elizabeth Shelton. Mr. Burr reminded the board of their request at the Retreat two years ago to explore Math Specialists and noted that Elizabeth Shelton is the last to receive one as a result of these funds. He stated Special Ed staff will receive dyslexia training tomorrow. Regular Ed

elementary teachers are doing phonological awareness next week, which is necessary prior to dyslexia training in December. Notification was received from CTSDE that the bonding (\$108,000) is on hold for the technology grant to purchase 210 Chromebooks and 252 Chromeboxes. The Mayor may consider funding a portion or all of the need. Citrix will be here later this month to conduct interviews for the Citrix Innovator Award. The IT Department is a finalist due to the work of Dan DiVito and Tina Henckel in creating the data visualization and the data warehousing and coherence behind it. Superintendent Burr noted that Tim Walsh is at home recuperating and is not running for re-election. Mr. Burr acknowledged Tim, remarking on his experience and expertise as a teacher and administrator in Shelton and especially as a mentor to him when he became Superintendent. He thanked Tim publicly for providing guidance and support and expressed well wishes to Tim and Gail.

Comments by the Board Chair

Mark Holden expressed disappointment that the camera has not arrived yet but is expected soon for the purpose of recording our meetings for public viewing. He commented that the transition process between Superintendent Burr and Dr. Clouet is off to a strong start, with Dr. Clouet's participation in several planning sessions. Chairman Holden reflected on the board's accomplishments including a successful full-day kindergarten program; oversaw advances in participation in summer reading program; an increased emphasis on STEM; promoted sound policies and emphasis on doing our best to prepare our students for the world of tomorrow; replaced several administrators over the last two years, most due to retirements, and in each case have been fortunate to find and hire someone who was prepared to step into the job and excel. He said the board recently completed perhaps the single most important task the board is responsible for...hiring a well-qualified superintendent who will continue the work of improving our student achievement. Mr. Holden expressed some personal thoughts of appreciation for Tim Walsh and wished him best of luck and much improved health for the future.

(A brief recess was observed at 7:47 and the meeting resumed at 7:52.)

Approved Field Trips

Board members were advised of an approved field trip for SHS Robotics team to attend a competition at UMass Dartmouth on March 18-20, 2016.

Items Presented for a Vote

Faith Hack moved to accept on behalf of Perry Hill School a \$3,000 grant from Target for Gardening Project, Pretty Up Perry Hill; motion seconded by Thomas Minotti and approved unanimously.

Win Oppel moved to accept on behalf of Long Hill School a donation of \$4,800 from Long Hill School PTO for the purchase of technology, specifically Chromeboxes, for Long Hill School classrooms; motion seconded by Thomas Minotti. Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Thomas Minotti moved to approve the 2016 Board of Education meeting schedule; motion seconded by Win Oppel and passed unanimously. Discussion. Thomas Minotti moved to rescind the motion; motion seconded by Win Oppel and passed unanimously. Win Oppel moved to accept the 2016 Board of Education meeting schedule with a change to the December date to the 21st; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously. The dates approved are as follows:

January 27	July 27
February 24	August 24
March 23	September 28
April 27	October 26
May 25	November 16
June 22	December 21

Arlene Liscinsky moved to accept the Amendment to the June 17, 2014 Management Agreement between Sodexo Management, Inc. (FSMC-Food Service Management Company) and the Shelton Board of Education (SFA-School Food Authority) for the 2015-2016 school year; motion seconded by Faith Hack. Motion passed with one abstention by Jay Francino-Quinn due to conflict of interest. Vote: 7-0-1

Kate Kutash moved to approve the fundraising activities of the Shelton High School Cheer Athletic Club for the 2015-2016 school year as outlined in their request; motion seconded by Arlene Liscinsky and passed unanimously.

Reports of Standing Committees

Teaching and Learning – Thomas Minotti reviewed the topics covered at the last meeting on October 20 including Professional Learning Calendars; updated and revised District Assessment Calendar; Overview of revisions to Teacher Evaluation & Support Plan and Administrative Evaluation & Support Plan. Minutes are posted online. The next committee meeting is scheduled for November 10 based on outcome of November 3 election.

Policy – Kathy Yolish stated there were many attendees at the October 20 meeting and several speakers voiced concerns about discussion of CIAC position statement and afterschool activities for Fairchild Wheeler Magnet School students. The committee accepted the Superintendent's recommendation for an MOU articulation agreement between the SBOE and magnet schools. It was understood that the MOU would come back to the full board for review in order to move forward. The committee discussed SHS Dress Code, It was decided the committee would move forward with this item in December and/or January to begin policy revisions as recommended by our CAFE consultant. Next meeting date is tentatively scheduled for November 10 at 5 PM.

Finance – Arlene Liscinsky said the committee met last week and presented the following motions:

Arlene Liscinsky moved to accept the L2 Object Summary Report for 2014-2015 expenditures from 7/1/14 to 6/30/15 as presented; motion seconded by Win Oppel and passed unanimously.

Arlene Liscinsky moved to accept the Schedule of Rental Fees, Custodial Fees, Fire and Police Fees, and Utilities Costs as presented; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Reports of Special Committees

CES – Arlene Liscinsky said there will be a meeting next week and the calendar will be discussed.

CABE – Kathy Yolish said early registration and housing for the NSBA Annual Conference in Boston opened today. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Diane Luther, who will handle registrations. A conference registration number is required to reserve housing. Mrs. Yolish discussed upcoming events including the CABE/CAPSS Convention and various workshops.

New Business

Win Oppel moved to add an item to the agenda to vote on a recommendation to authorize ECG to issue an RFP on our behalf for Energy Engineering Services; motion seconded by Arlene Liscinsky and passed unanimously.

Win Oppel moved to authorize ECG Engineering, P.C. at no obligation or cost to draft and issue Request for Proposals (RFP) on behalf of the District to solicit proposals from energy services companies to determine opportunities for energy efficient capital improvements, thereby reducing the District's energy consumption and generating cost savings for the District; motion seconded by Faith Hack. Discussion. Win Oppel explained the opportunity exists to engage ECG to create an RFP, and they will then present an in-depth study of our facilities a dollar amount of both energy savings and energy impacts. Mr. Oppel stated Dominic Barone will initiate a meeting with the Mayor prior to issuing RFPs for further discussion and possible partnering. Motion passed unanimously.

For Your Information

Chairman Holden referenced the attachments in the packet including Vacancy Report, Staff and Stipend Actions, and Enrollment Report.

Highlights

Arlene Liscinsky reflected on Tim Walsh's career with Shelton Public Schools and expressed appreciation for his many years of hard work and dedicated service to district, students and

taxpayers. Kathy Yolish shared some personal comments about Mr. Walsh and wished him well. Mrs. Yolish discussed Elizabeth Shelton's Literacy Night and said over 200 people in attended. She commended Bev Belden, Deanna Toohey and ESS staff. Faith Hack thanked the SEA for inviting the board to the candidate forum held last night and said the JSA students were brilliant and represented their school well. Win Oppel thanked the board members for a successful two-year term and expressed appreciation to Freeman Burr for his service to Shelton Public Schools, noting his dedication to the district, staff and students and for leading us through some difficult budgetary times from which we emerged stronger. He stated it has been an honor to serve with Freeman and wished him well in his retirement. Faith Hack echoed the sentiment. Freeman Burr commented that we had the highest level of participation (70th percentile) this year in our Summer Reading Challenge and thanked Vicky White, building principals and point persons for their contributions. Mark Holden commented on the Long Hill School Literacy Night and the Astronomical Society participation at STEM Night at Sunnyside School. He discussed the SEA Candidate Forum and said he is so proud of the JSA students. Chairman Holden concluded by stating he hopes the next term for the Board of Education will be even more successful than the one just completed.

Adjournment

Chairman Holden adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

Diane Luther

Diane Luther

Secretary to Board of Education

November 5, 2015