

Weston Public Schools
 Board of Education Meeting
 Weston Middle School Library Resource Center
 April 23, 2013

Attendance:

Philip Schaefer, Chairperson	Sonya Stack
Ellen Uzenoff, Vice Chairperson	Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent
Richard Bochinski, Secretary/Treasurer	Dr. Kenneth Craw, Assistant Superintendent
Nina Daniel	Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources
Denise Harvey	Dr. Jo-Ann Keating, Director of Finance & Ops.
Dana Levin	

III. RESUME PUBLIC SESSION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. RECOGNITION – No report

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the minutes of the March 28, 2013 Executive and Regular Sessions, the April 7 Special Meeting, and the April 9 Special Meeting. Motion by Mrs. Uzenoff, second by Mr. Bochinski, all in favor. (7-0)

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Appointment of Hurlbutt Elementary School Principal

Dr. Palmer presented Laura Kaddis as the finalist for Hurlbutt Elementary School Principal.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education appoints Laura Kaddis as Principal of Hurlbutt Elementary School. Motion by Mr. Bochinski, second by Mrs. Uzenoff, all in favor. (7-0)

2. Non-Renewal of Long-Term Substitute Teachers

In order to comply with Connecticut General Statutes, Section 10-151, it was recommended that the following long-term substitute teachers not be renewed for the 2013-2014 school year. This action is necessary based on the duration of their long-term substitute employment, which approximates or exceeds ninety (90) consecutive days in the same assignment and does not reflect on their service to the Weston Public Schools.

Motion: Moved that the contract of employment of the following long-term substitute teachers not be renewed for the 2013-2014 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise such persons in writing of this action: Rachel Baliban, Sherry Panuzio, Jessica Donovan. Motion by Mrs. Levin, second by Mrs. Uzenoff, all in favor. (7-0)

3. Non-Renewal Long-Term Building Substitute Teachers

In order to comply with Connecticut General Statutes, Section 10-151, it was recommended that the following building substitute teachers not be renewed for the 2013-2014 school year. This action is necessary based on the duration of their long-term substitute employment, which approximates or exceeds ninety (90) consecutive days in the same assignment and does not reflect on their service to the Weston Public Schools.

Motion: Moved that the contract of employment of the following permanent building substitute teachers not be renewed for the 2013-2014 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise such persons in writing of this action: Lisa Kilcourse. Motion by Ms. Daniel, second by Mrs. Stack, all in favor. (7-0)

4. Non-Renewal Reduction in Force – Teachers

In order to comply with Connecticut General Statutes, Section 10-151, it was recommended that the following teachers not be renewed for the 2013-2014 school year. This action is attributed to the lack of an available position related to a staff reduction under consideration in the school district's budget for the 2013-2014 school year.

Motion: Moved that the following teachers not be renewed for the 2013-2014 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise such persons in writing of this action: Carol Walsh. Motion by Mr. Bochinski, second by Mrs. Uzenoff, all in favor. (7-0)

5. Resignation

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education notes and records the resignation of Doris Fiotakis, .4 Weston High School English Curriculum Instructional Leader, effective June 30, 2013. Motion by Mrs. Levin, second by Mrs. Uzenoff, all in favor. (7-0)

6. Gifts

Dr. Palmer, as per Board policy #3280, accepted, with appreciation, the following donation from the Weston Middle School PTO:

\$7,500 towards the AIM initiative.

7. 2013-2014 Tuition Rates

Dr. Keating reviewed the 2013-2014 tuition rates.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the 2013-2014 tuition rates. Motion by Ms. Daniel, second by Mrs. Uzenoff, all in favor. (7-0)

8. Third Quarter Report

Dr. Keating reviewed the FY 2013 Third Quarter Report.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS - No report

IX. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

1. Special Board Meeting Monday, May 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.; Next Regular Board Meeting Monday, May 20, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Palmer requested that any feedback or suggestions on budget mitigation strategies be forwarded to her office or Dr. Keating’s office prior to the May 6 special meeting, in which such strategies will be discussed.

2. District Update

Dr. Palmer announced Weston High School’s ranking with *U.S. News and World Report* – third in Connecticut and 220 in the nation – and the May 11 Special Olympics hosted on the Weston Public Schools campus. She applauded the technology team for their switch replacement work over April break. Dr. Palmer also reminded the community of the Annual Town Budget Meeting on April 24 and informed them that a SchoolMessenger message containing top budget questions would be forthcoming.

3. Principals’ Report

Dr. Cicchetti, Hurlbutt Elementary School Principal, spoke about support for struggling learners, a recent school safety and security meeting for staff, and funding provided by the Hurlbutt PTO for the *One School, One Book* project and the purchase of 38 iPads for classroom use. Pattie Falber, Weston Intermediate School Principal discussed the launch of the first AIM unit for third graders, the school musical *A Wonderful World with Disney*, and the band and orchestra concert. Amy Watkins, Weston Middle School Principal, spoke about action research projects and the S.O.A.R. bingo game. Lisa Wolak, Weston High School Principal provided updates on NEASC, John Antonetti’s visit regarding student engagement, the WHS student delegation visit to China, and an upcoming fall visit from the Chinese sister school.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Communications Committee: Mrs. Levin discussed the following items from the last Committee meeting: budget communications, security communications, and potential logo design. Next meeting April 24 at 8:00 a.m. at Central Office.

2. **Curriculum Committee:** Mrs. Uzenoff discussed the following items from the last Committee meeting: French and Spanish enrollments, Joel Barlow's language lab, Bhutan's Royal Education Council visit, Weston's teacher evaluation plan compared to the state evaluation plan, the K-5 renewal committee, a master assessment plan, electronic curriculum mapping, and adult education. Next meeting May 8 at 8:00 a.m. in WIS 225 for the Annual Instructional Update.
3. **Finance Committee:** In addition to what was covered previously in meeting, Ms. Harvey discussed the following items from the last Committee meeting: health insurance, proposed infrastructure upgrades, solar panels, high school window replacement, an energy audit, and the Safe Routes to School project. She announced that the May 9 Board of Finance meeting would address the request for carry-over of funds for a contingency teacher and supplemental appropriation for Mile of Safety. Next meeting May 17 at 8:00 a.m. in Dr. Keating's office.
4. **Facilities Committee:** Mrs. Stack discussed the following items from the last Committee meeting: use of facilities by outside groups and research to determine potential review of existing policy, summer projects list, summer camp scheduling, Hurlbutt garden project, tennis court repairs, and security. Next meeting May 9 at 4:00 p.m. in Dr. Keating's office.
5. **Policy Committee:** Mrs. Levin discussed the following items from the last Committee meeting: three policies regarding technology use. Next meeting May 1 at 8:30 a.m. in Central Office.
6. **Negotiations Committee:** nothing to report
7. **CES:** Mrs. Stack discussed professional development concerning teacher evaluation
8. **CABE:** Ms. Daniel announced upcoming events: Collective Bargaining Law workshop on May 16 and Legislative Wrap-Up on June 11. She also reviewed the April 12 Policy Highlights email which discussed a growing number of districts considering replacing traditional grading systems with standards-based grading systems and the April 5 Advocacy Highlights email regarding new security laws adopted by states and their impacts on Boards of Education.
9. **Weston Education Foundation:** Ms. Harvey announced that a grant was awarded to Sydney Girardi for an adaptor that will allow her to project works of art on a SmartBoard. She announced that the Trivia Night fundraiser is rescheduled for September 27 at Norfield and tickets are \$75 per person. Ms. Harvey also reported that The Connecticut Consortium of Education Foundations will hold their annual conference on October 1 and that Dr. Craw, Mr. Scott, and a student spoke at the recent WEF meeting regarding Mr. Scott's entrepreneurship seminar.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

*MOTION: Motion to adjourn by Mrs. Levin, second by Mrs. Uzenoff, all in favor. (7-0)
Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.*

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Markov, Board of Education Clerk.

Minutes reviewed/approved by Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent.

Chairman

Secretary

Approved by the Board of Education May 20, 2013