

Board of Education Regular Meeting

July 17, 2017 7:30 PM
Weston Middle School Library

Attendance Taken at 7:30 PM:

Present Board Members:

Gina Albert
Jacqueline Blechinger
Elise Major
Daniel McNeill
Sara Spaulding

Absent Board Members:

Denise Harvey
Ellen Uzenoff

I. CALL TO ORDER, VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

II.A. Discussion of Superintendent of Schools' Contract

III. RESUME PUBLIC SESSION

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

V.A. Approval of Minutes from May 15 Executive and Regular Session

Motion Passed: Move that the Weston Board of Education approve the minutes of the May 15 Executive and Regular Session; passed with a motion by Sara Spaulding and a second by Jacqueline Blechinger.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

V.B. Approval of Minutes from June 19 Executive and Regular Session

Motion Passed: Move that the Weston Board of Education approve the minutes of the June 19 Executive and Regular Session; passed with a motion by Daniel McNeill and a second by Jacqueline Blechinger.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Discussion:

Mr. Robert Birge, accompanied by his wife Ms. Catherine Barrett, read a statement to the Board regarding the "firing of an athletic coach last fall," and their concerns about the administration's handling of the situation and the Board of Education's oversight. Their opinion is that the staff member in question deserved more serious discipline than they believe occurred.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion:

VII.A. Retirements

Motion Passed: Move that the Weston Board of Education note the retirement of Mary Lou Dunne, Hurlbutt Elementary School Administrative Assistant, effective July 31, 2017; passed with a motion by Gina Albert and a second by Sara Spaulding.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

VII.B. Resignations

Motion Passed: Move that the Weston Board of Education note the resignation of Jeanne Ireland, 1.0 FTE Weston High School Special Education Paraeducator, effective July 7, 2017 and Sarah Lessler, 1.0 Special Education Teacher at Hurlbutt Elementary School, effective July 28, 2017; passed with a motion by Daniel McNeill and a second by Gina Albert.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

VII.C. Discussion and Vote on Superintendent of School's Contract

Motion Passed: Move that the Weston Board of Education approve the: (1) the contract term of Dr. William McKersie, Superintendent of Schools, for a new period of three years, July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020; (2) establishes a base salary of \$262,782.50 representing a 2.25% increase, and (3) authorizes the Chairperson to negotiate and execute a revised contract with the Superintendent incorporating these changes. This contract represents acknowledgement of both Superintendent McKersie's outstanding service to our district and continuity of his executive leadership as he begins his second year as Weston Public Schools' Superintendent; passed with a motion by Jacqueline Blechinger and a second by Sara Spaulding.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

VII.D. Review of Board and Superintendent Roles and Responsibilities Regarding Staff Evaluation and Discipline

Discussion:

Dr. Kenneth Craw, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, updated the Board on the Teacher Evaluation Plan. All certified staff are evaluated annually as outlined in the Teacher Evaluation Plan, approved by the Board of Education. The purpose of the Teacher Evaluation Plan is to 1) support development and growth, 2) provide high-quality feedback, and 3) make employment decisions. Teachers are rated within four domains: Planning, Environment for Learning, Teaching and Learning, and Professionalism. Dr. Craw outlined the process in which a teacher and principal/assistant principal sets goals, observes, and evaluates. He spoke to how assistance is provided to teachers who may have areas of improvement. At the August Board of Education meeting, Mr. Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel, will provide the Board with an overview of staff discipline. Dr. McKersie asked Board members if there were any specific questions that Mr. Brey could address during his presentation in August. Several questions were listed by Board members, with

the commitment to ask additional questions at the August Board of Education meeting.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

VIII.A. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

VIII.A.1. Second Reading of Weston Board of Education Policy 6147, Curricular Exemptions

Motion Passed: Move that the Weston Board of Education approve Policy 6147, Curricular Exemptions; passed with a motion by Daniel McNeill and a second by Sara Spaulding.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

VIII.A.2. Second Reading of Weston Board of Education Proposed Policy 4112.8, Nepotism

Motion Passed: Move that the Weston Board of Education approve Policy 4112.8, Nepotism; passed with a motion by Gina Albert and a second by Sara Spaulding.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

VIII.A.3. Second Reading of Board of Education Proposed Policy 4218.3, Duties (Non-Certified)

Motion Passed: Move that the Weston Board of Education approve Policy 4218.3, Duties (Non-Certified); passed with a motion by Gina Albert and a second by Sara Spaulding.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

IX.A. District Update

Discussion:

Mr. Rudl provided a brief financial update as FY 2017 will not be closed until mid to late August. Three transfers were approved in June surrounding Special Education expenditures. Dr. McKersie and Dr. Craw spoke to the Smarter Balanced Assessment(SBA)results that were released on July 14, 2017. Dr. Craw is in the process of looking at the data with his team. The SBA does not provide the level of detailed data that we received with the Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) results. Dr. Craw will send preliminary analysis to the Board within two weeks. The Gauging Progress Report, forthcoming from Dr. Craw in the Fall, will provide detailed and comparative analysis. Dr. McKersie spoke about the upcoming Board Retreat on August 23. The District Leadership Team will have a retreat from August 15-16, where goals and action plans for the upcoming year will be outlined and will be brought to the Board during its retreat.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

X.A. Communications Committee

X.B. Curriculum Committee

X.C. Facilities Committee

X.D. Finance Committee

X.E. Policy Committee

X.F. Negotiations Committee

X.G. CES

X.H. CABE
X.I. Weston Education Foundation

XI. WRITTEN REPORTS
XI.A. Principals' Reports

XII. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

XII.A. Regular Session on August 21, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.
XII.B. Review of Pending Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Discussion:

Dr. McKersie mentioned two additions to the Board agenda for August. Ms. Pernice will provide an ESS Update with the ESS leaders. Dr. McKersie and Ms. Lisa Deorio will provide an update on the Drug and Alcohol Initiative, including Advisory Group design and early work by the Task Force.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Discussion:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Sara Spaulding and a second by Jacqueline Blechinger.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Chairperson

Secretary