Chairman Mark Holden called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

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
Thomas Minotti moved to approve the agenda and addendum with the addition of SIS PTO fundraising request to Item VIII.A.3; motion seconded by Kate Kutash and passed unanimously.

Presentations/Recognitions
Tina Henckel and Victoria White presented an overview of the new State of Connecticut school accountability protocol. A PowerPoint presentation detailed The Next Generation Accountability System and the 12 indicators that help tell the story of how well a school is preparing its students for success in college, careers and life. Information was shared on the State Accountability Report and the Shelton Public Schools Report for 2014-2015, which is the first year of data under the new model. Lengthy discussion and questions followed.

Public Hearing
Nobody from the public spoke.
Approval of Minutes
Win Oppel moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of July 27, 2016; Regular Meeting of July 27, 2016; Special Meeting of July 28, 2016; and Special Meeting of August 17, 2016. Motion seconded by Thomas Minotti and passed with vote 8-0-1 (abstention by David Gioiello).

Communications to the Board
There were none.

Superintendent’s Reports & Action Items
Superintendent Clouet discussed the results of the SHS Advanced Placement exam scores and the University of Connecticut Early College Experience Program and said in both cases Shelton High School did quite well, beating the Connecticut average. In the AP exams, they beat the global average. In the UConn ECE, Shelton outperformed Fairfield County, their DRG (District Reference Group), and very large high schools.

Relative to building projects, Dr. Clouet said there is a lot of progress being made. He said he has been in regular contact with city officials, including the mayor, and has been working closely with Dominic Barone and John Calhoun to get things done, Dominic Barone reported that Sunnyside’s roof should be completed by end of week with testing to be done next week. Furniture for the Media Center will be in place end of September. All three fortification projects are moving along well with completion expected next week. Mr. Barone stated the City is in the process of signing a contract with selected vendor for SHS Fire Code Compliance project. He reported the status of bids for Energy Performance contract and gave an update of PHS closeout.

Carole Pannozzo stated all hiring is finalized and we are fully staffed for teachers, nurses, and areas of technology, secretarial, and administrative staff. Interviews will be conducted next week for a paraprofessional position at BHS. Other vacancies were discussed including a building substitute at ESS and several tutors. Additionally, the five maintenance/custodial positions have been offered and will be filled this month. Dr. Clouet said a total of 35 new teachers will be joining the district, many of whom are replacements for retiring personnel.

Superintendent Clouet said he met with the PTO Alliance leadership and established a calendar of meetings for the year, which will be shared with board members at a later date.

Items Voted on
Win Oppel moved to approve the contract extensions for Assistant Superintendent, Director of Finance, and Director of Human Resources, as discussed; motion seconded by Faith Hack. Discussion. Motion passed with vote 8-0-1 (abstention by David Gioiello).

Win Oppel moved to approve the Superintendent’s contract extension, as discussed; motion seconded by Arlene Liscinsky. Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
Kate Kutash moved to approve the following requests to conduct fundraisers during the 2016-17 school year:
- SHS Marching Gaels Parents Association
- Elizabeth Shelton School (conditional approval subject to submission of revised letter and financial report)
- Shelton Intermediate School
- Booth Hill School
- Shelton Intermediate School PTO
- Sunnyside School

Motion was seconded by Thomas Minotti. Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Comments by the Board Chair
Chairman Holden said the board completed the review of the superintendent and in general the board was very pleased with how he has immersed himself into our community and with his work in the district, and we’re very happy with his performance. Mr. Holden said the news about UConn and AP courses is fantastic and is something he often tries to include in our budget presentations to the Board of Aldermen, because we really are impressive in that area. He stated we traditionally do much better than Trumbull, a district that has much more money to work with. We are doing a better job in that we’re saving parents money by allowing their kids to earn college credits while attending high school. Chairman Holden said he is looking forward to convocation next week.

Reports of Standing Committees

Teaching & Learning – Thomas Minotti highlighted the topics covered at the committee meeting of August 16. He discussed a presentation given by Lorraine Rossner and Carole Pannozzo on the Leadership Cohort Program, which provides skills building opportunities for qualified personnel. Detailed committee meeting minutes are posted online. Next meeting is scheduled for September 20 at 4:00 PM in the Training Room. Topics will include On Line Learning – Edgenuity; Accreditation Review of the Arts (instrumental); DMC Scheduling Outcomes for Elementary Schools; SAT Report; and meeting time discussion.

Finance Committee – Win Oppel said the committee met last week and brings forward three motions:

Win Oppel moved to approve the hiring of a FT Kindergarten Teacher and a PT Speech and Language Pathologist at a projected cost of $122,588, as recommended by the Finance Committee; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Win Oppel moved to approve the newly proposed IT salary ranges for Network Technician A ($60,000-$85,000) and District Data Technician ($40,000-$55,000), as recommended by the Finance Committee; motion seconded by Faith Hack. Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
Win Oppel moved to approve the stipend of $3,000 for website communication, as recommended by the Finance Committee; motion seconded by Faith Hack. Discussion. Motion passed with vote 8-0-1 (abstention by David Gioiello).

Policy Committee/Ad Hoc Policy Committee - Kate Kutash said Policy met on August 16 and discussed transportation of students to school-sponsored events by parents resulting in consensus to move ahead to draft a policy prohibiting such practice. John Calhoun reported on changes needed for building use application process which will now be funneled through Office of Operations. Mr. Calhoun will revise the process and report back in 90 days. Also discussed was the awarding of posthumous diplomas. Dr. Clouet will present recommendations at the next meeting. Arlene Liscinsky said the 9000 Series was presented with a few changes and will sit until the next meeting in September. The committee will review all the recommendations made by Mr. Mustaro. There was research presented on the use of Skyping and discussion of a board self-evaluation. Next scheduled meeting is September 20 at 5:00 PM.

Reports of Special Committees
CES - Arlene Liscinsky stated September 1 will be the next meeting and CES Convocation is on August 29.

CABE – Faith Hack mentioned two upcoming workshops (Running an Effective Board Meeting on September 20 and Legal Issues 2016 on October 13). Diane Luther reminded board members that early registration rates expire August 29 for CABE/CAPSS Convention in November.

Unfinished Business
There was nothing to discuss.

New Business
Win Oppel moved to accept on behalf of Mohegan School a donation in the amount of $7,000 from Mohegan School PTO to help purchase technology; motion seconded by Kate Kutash and passed unanimously.

Win Oppel moved to add to the agenda the approval of Sodexo contract; motion seconded by Arlene Liscinsky and passed unanimously.

Win Oppel moved to authorize the Superintendent and Finance Director to sign and execute the contract with Sodexo; motion seconded by Arlene Liscinsky and passed unanimously.

Win Oppel moved to add to the agenda the salary adjustments for IT employees; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Win Oppel moved to adjust salaries of two IT employees (Network Technician A and District Data Technician) for a total of $9,000, as recommended by the Finance Committee; motion seconded by Faith Hack. Discussion. Motion passed with vote 8-0-1 (abstention by David Gioiello).
For Your Information
Chairman Holden noted the attachments in the packet including Vacancy Report, Staff and Stipend Actions, as well as a list of back to school nights.

Highlights
Darliisa Ritter mentioned the retirement of school secretary Sandy White, after 42 years, and expressed appreciation for her years of dedication and commitment to students and staff. Kathy Yolish expressed gratitude to all staff for working so hard to get their classrooms back in order, the administrators for putting programs together, and the custodians who worked so hard over the summer. Mark Holden talked about attending CABE’s Leadership Conference last month where the concept of having student reps on the board was discussed. He said the BOE retreat went very well. He congratulated Ken Saranich and staff for an impressive SIS Orientation.

Chairman Holden adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Diane Luther
Diane Luther
Secretary to Board of Education
September 7, 2016