SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
Board of Education Administrative Offices
382 Long Hill Avenue
Board Room, 2nd Floor

July 31, 2019

Chairman Mark Holden called the Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 5:02 p.m.

Roll Call:
Mark Holden, Chairman
Thomas Minotti, Vice Chairman
Kate Kutash, Secretary (via Skype)
Anne Gaydos (arrived 5:03)
David Gioiello

José Goncalves
Amanda Kilmartin (excused)
Darlisa Ritter
Kathleen Yolish

Quorum – 8 present, 1 absent

Board of Education Administration present: Christopher Clouet, Superintendent of Schools; Kenneth Saranich, Assistant Superintendent; Rick Belden, Finance Director; Carole Pannozzo, Human Resources Director

(1 tape on file in Town Clerk’s Office)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda
Thomas Minotti moved to approve the agenda; motion seconded by Darlisa Ritter and passed unanimously.

Superintendent’s Commentary
Budget – Superintendent Clouet stated the fiscal year budget was closed out with no deficits. He said the issue of Excess Cost funding for special education costs remains up in the air. The City has not credited the school district the money due to us by state law, so legal action will be pursued. Rick Belden clarified that the City has not credited us the $1.528M Excess Cost Grant, but the balance was the Set-Aside Grant and other items that were credited. He confirmed that all bills have been paid; and, while there is no immediate concern, it will catch up around May or June of next year if not resolved. Mr. Belden provided a handout and reviewed budget information that will be used at the joint workshop of the Board of Aldermen and Board of Education on August 1.

Transportation – Dr. Clouet said the name of the vendor we are working with is Shelton Student Transportation Services, which will be a City department. Contact information will be on our website. Mark Holden mentioned in the past our buses have always been marked with the provider’s license and contact information. Mr. Belden will bring this up with the City. Mr. Holden also expressed concern about back-up buses.

Items Presented for a Vote
David Gioiello moved to amend motions A.1 and A.2 to strike wording of House assignments; motion seconded by Darlisa Ritter and approved unanimously.

There was brief discussion of appointments and whether the board needs to be involved in the approval process at the assistant principal and principal level. It was consensus to refer this topic to the Policy Committee for discussion.
Jose Goncalves moved to appoint Robert Ayer to the position of Shelton High School Assistant Principal; motion seconded by Kathy Yolish. Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Thomas Minotti moved to appoint Victoria Sargeant to the position of Shelton High School Assistant Principal; motion seconded by Kathy Yolish and passed unanimously.

Thomas Minotti moved to appoint Dina Marks to the position of Shelton Intermediate School Principal; motion seconded by Kathy Yolish and passed unanimously.

Each of the appointees spoke and expressed gratitude and excitement for being chosen for their positions.

Kathy Yolish said she was pleased to see promotion of internal candidates, which has been talked about for years and inspires our staff. Mark Holden stated that was a priority for the board when Dr. Cloutet was hired, and he has listened.

Kate Kutash moved to take from the table the motion to approve the revised Superintendent’s Evaluation Document; motion seconded by Darlisa Ritter followed by discussion of document. Chairman called for a vote on the motion to approve the revised Superintendent’s Evaluation Document. Motion passed with vote of 7-1 (Nay David Gioiello).

Kathy Riddle was recognized for her appointment as Interim Principal of Shelton High School and spoke briefly about her vision.

Adjournment
Chairman Mark Holden adjourned the meeting at 5:44 p.m.

Diane Luther
Secretary to Board of Education
August 2, 2019