

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Board of Education Administrative Offices
382 Long Hill Avenue
Board Room, 2nd Floor
September 27, 2017**

Chairman Mark Holden called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:03 p.m.

Roll Call:

Mark Holden, Chairman	Kate Kutash
Thomas Minotti, Vice Chairman	Win Oppel (via Skype)
Arlene Liscinsky, Secretary	Darlisa Ritter
David Gioiello	Kathleen Yolish
Faith Hack	

Full Quorum

Board of Education Administration present: Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Christopher Clouet; Assistant Superintendent, Lorraine Rossner; Human Resources Director, Carole Pannozzo; Finance Director, Edward Drapp

(2 tapes on file in City/Town Clerk's office)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

Thomas Minotti moved to amend the agenda with the following additions:

Board Action Items (VIII.A.I.)

- **Motion to approve Perry Hill School PTO's request to conduct fundraisers**

New Business (XIII)

1. **Motion to elect Secretary of the Board**
2. **National Federation High School Sports School Broadcast Program**

Motion to amend was seconded by Kate Kutash and passed unanimously.

Kate Kutash moved to approve the agenda as amended; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Presentations/Recognitions

Tenured Teachers - Superintendent Clouet read names of teachers who achieved tenure status effective August 20, 2017, and those in attendance stood and received congratulations.

Darcy Epstein	Special Education Teacher	SIS
Alyssa Fernandes	Visual Arts Teacher	SIS
James Goddard	Physics Teacher	SHS
Kelly Guerra	English/Language Arts	SIS
Lacey Hebert	Elementary Teacher	LHS
Heather Holmes	Visual Arts Teacher	BHS/SS
Ashley Jarvie	Mathematics Teacher	SIS
Kayla Liggins	Pre-Kindergarten Teacher	MS

Roseann Moon	Special Education Teacher	PHS
Lindsay Nardone	Elementary Teacher	MS
Amy Rawden	Special Education Teacher	ESS
Kimberly Sterback	Elementary Teacher	MS
Patrick Sullivan	Elementary Teacher	MS
Maria Trevetten	Social Studies Teacher	SHS
Sara Troy	Speech & Language Pathologist	SIS
Kari Yacawych	Library Media Specialist	SS

Foreign Exchange Student – Rahel Schaeffer from Germany expressed her excitement and appreciation for the opportunity to be a student this year at Shelton High School. She received a warm welcome.

Award Presentation – Ed Drapp, Finance Director and also a Professor at Sacred Heart University and Past President of SHU Alumni Association, presented Andrea D’Aiuto with a long-overdue Administrator of the Year Award from the organization.

Public Hearing

Ann Kosiorowski, 36 Anna Street, a member of Local 217 discussed negotiations with Whitsons and asked for the board’s support with wages and benefits. Gloria Timple, 146 Myrtle Street, and David Keilly, 27 Barber Street, were supportive of the cafeteria workers’ concerns. Dr. Clouet responded to the speakers and members in the audience stating that Whitsons is the employer; and, while the board recognizes the workers have done a good job for us and for our children, we are not legally able to speak to the issues, as the board is not party to the negotiations.

Jessica Sciamanna, 27 Molnar Drive, addressed the board on behalf of three additional mothers from Mohegan School about the grade 2 class sizes with 25-26 students in each room.

Approval of Minutes

Faith Hack moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting and Regular Meeting of August 23, 2017; motion seconded by Kate Kutash and passed with vote of 8-0-1 (abstention David Gioiello).

Communications to the Board

Notes of appreciation from school principals for opening day floral baskets were recognized.

Superintendent’s Commentary/Instructional Update

Superintendent Clouet stated the Strategic Planning group continues to do its work with a meeting scheduled October 4 at 9 a.m. to discuss plans for this year, specifically our focus on certain non-tested milestone assessments. He said teacher evaluation data report information was provided to board members and brief discussion and questions were addressed. Dr. Clouet said staff will look at how the data is presented. He said the topic of crowdfunding was discussed at length at the Policy Committee meeting and will continue at the next Policy meeting with a recommendation at the next board meeting.

Exc-EL Grant Overview – Victoria White, Supervisor of Literacy, provided an update on the five-year federal grant of approximately \$2.5 million, now in its second year. She said the philosophy is to increase our knowledge base in our teacher strategies around our EL students so we can personalize learning and create tiered systems for groupings of students to hone in on what is needed to improve

their achievement. Additional information was provided with a PowerPoint presentation and video. Superintendent Clouet stated it is a great program, and Shelton is being recognized as a leader regionally with plans to establish a leadership academy.

Superintendent Clouet stated he visited some of the SHS athletic facilities (field, bleachers, track, bathroom facilities, tennis courts) this morning with the Mayor and members of his team including Gene Sullivan and Gary DeFilippo, as well as Ed Drapp, John Niski, and John Calhoun. The Mayor's office will be getting out an RFQ for a design professional. The plan is to have some of the major work done so that by next fall the field will be completed. There was further discussion of funding in place and total cost.

Approved Field Trips

Board Members were apprised of an approved field trip for SIS grade 7 to Nature's Classroom in Colebrook, CT, October 4-6.

Items Voted on

Kate Kutash moved to approve the following requests to conduct fundraising activities during the 2017-2018 academic year:

**Elizabeth Shelton School PTO
Shelton High School Girls Cross Country
Perry Hill School PTO**

Motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Kate Kutash moved to approve for the purpose of discussion the request of SIS School Band, Jazz Band, and Jazz Choir to fundraise using a GoFundMe campaign to purchase sheet music; motion seconded by Thomas Minotti. Discussion. (Note: Tape 1; Side B @ 7:51 p.m.) Consensus was to amend the motion to allow the SIS Band Program to accept the funds already donated through the GoFundMe program and to put a hold on all future GoFundMe proposals until the Policy Committee has been able to formulate a policy and that policy has been approved by the Board. Motion to amend was seconded by Kathy Yolish. All were in favor of amendment. The motion as amended passed unanimously.

Kate Kutash moved to approve the Assistant Superintendent's contract extension, as discussed; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed with vote of 8-0-1 (abstention David Gioiello).

Win Opel moved to approve the Superintendent's contract extension, as discussed; motion seconded by Kathy Yolish and passed unanimously.

Comments by the Board Chair

Chairman Holden welcomed Mandy Kilmartin to the board. Mr. Holden said he accompanied the Superintendent to all schools on opening day. He stated there are plans in place to improve the appearance of the front of Sunnyside School. Mr. Holden said Elizabeth Shelton's library has been freshened and updated. He stated the Teacher of the Year Dinner for Christine McNamara will be October 12 at Brownson Country Club.

Reports of Standing Committees

Teaching & Learning – Thomas Minotti said no meeting was held due to lack of agenda items. The next meeting is scheduled for October 10 at 4:00 p.m.

Finance Committee – Win Oppel said the committee met last week and reviewed the current Operating budget. He said there was discussion of the cafeteria contract and also talk of going out to bid for transportation.

Policy Committee – Kate Kutash said the committee met on September 12 and had discussion on crowdfunding, which will continue next meeting, and completed discussion of banners at athletic events. The committee will meet next on October 10 at 5:00 p.m.

Kate Kutash moved to approve the Booster Club Sponsorship Banner Administrative Regulations to sit for review until the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Reports of Special Committees

CES – Chairman Holden said Thomas Minotti, who was an alternate (non-voting) to CES, will become our CES representative. Mr. Minotti discussed the first meeting held and said there will be no election of CES officers until January, since many of the representatives are up for election in November.

CABE – Faith Hack had nothing new to report.

Unfinished Business

There was nothing to discuss.

New Business

Thomas Minotti nominated Kate Kutash to be Secretary of the Board of Education until the November elections; motion seconded by Faith Hack. Chairman Holden closed nominations and authorized the secretary to cast one ballot for the election of Kate Kutash as Secretary of the Board of Education.

John Niski discussed the National Federation High School Sports School Broadcast Program proposal for live Internet streaming school and athletic events in SHS gymnasium and Finn Stadium and answered numerous questions from board members.

Kate Kutash moved to accept the donation of \$12,000 from Paul and Claudia Paparella for the investment into the NFHS Sports School Broadcast Program; seconded by Darlisa Ritter. Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Kathy Yolish requested an update on the School of Innovation at a future board meeting. Mark Holden said he is working on a tour for board members.

For Your Information

Chairman Holden noted the attachments in the packet including Vacancy Report, Staff and Stipend Actions, and Enrollment Report. Back to School Nights are listed on agenda.

Highlights

Faith Hack commended Karen Devonshuk for an exemplary job of organizing and planning the Hall of Fame event. Kate Kutash commented on the Hall of Fame Dinner, presentations by principals at

back to school nights and band performance at first home game. Kathy Yolish commended the principals for their back to school night presentations. Dr. Clouet discussed the rededication of Lafayette School as the Richard O. Belden Community Center, where some of our students videotaped the ceremony. Mark Holden mentioned the Hall of Fame Dinner, back to school nights, and our band being featured on WTNH recently. **(Note: Tape 2; Side A at 8:34 p.m.)** He said the district will have a huge presence at Shelton Day on October 1, which is a great opportunity to have our students out in the community to show the public the wonderful things that are happening in our schools.

Adjournment

Chairman Holden adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Diane Luther

Secretary to Board of Education

October 4, 2017