Chairman Mark Holden called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call:
Mark Holden, Chairman
Thomas Minotti, Vice Chairman
Arlene Liscinsky, Secretary
Win Oppel
Kathleen Yolish
John Francino-Quinn (excused)
Faith Hack
Kate Kutash
Timothy Walsh (excused)

Quorum 7 present, 2 absent

Board of Education Administration present:
Superintendent of Schools, Freeman Burr
Assistant Superintendent, Lorraine Rossner
Director of Finance & Business Services, 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 with one modification to move item V. Presentations/Recognitions forward; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Presentations/Recognitions
Superintendent Burr discussed the reinstated Teacher-of-the-Year program and commended TOY Selection Committee co-chairs Deb Keller and Michele Piccolo and committee members Christine McNamara, Jen Macchia, Sean O'Rourke, Katie Devonshuk, Kate Sulik, Colleen Baldino, Toni Pannella, Christine Butler, Gale Kreho, Margie Everett, and Deborah Testani for their commitment and hard work. Mr. Burr announced that out of five finalists, the committee selected Deb Tucker, Special Education teacher at Perry Hill School, and Brad Piccirillo, Science teacher at Shelton High School, as Co-Teachers of the Year. Deb Tucker could not be present, and Brad Piccirillo talked about the process and expressed his gratitude. Mr. Burr said there will be further recognition of the winners and finalists in the fall.

SIS Headmaster Kenneth Saranich stated he was approached by the officers of the SIS Student Council regarding their 8th Grade Cotillion and concerns about some parents' perceptions of formality of the dance. He said the Council initiated action by addressing the student body to explain the event and to ensure everyone understood that all students were
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welcome. Mr. Saranich stated as a result, the dance was exactly as it should have been and was the highest attended cotillion in his tenure at SIS. The following officers were presented plaques recognizing their leadership and received congratulations from the board: Gianna Silva, President; Robert Dillon, Vice President; Katherine McKeon, Vice President of Student Activities; Matt Dileo, Vice President of Student Affairs; Hritish Bhargava, Secretary.

Public Hearing
There was no one from the public who wished to speak.

Approval of Minutes
Arlene Liscinsky moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 27, 2015 and Special Meeting of June 9, 2015; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Communications to the Board
A note to the board from retiring Booth Hill School Principal Kathleen Sheehy was acknowledged. Mr. Burr commented that Mrs. Sheehy has performed consistently in her leadership role, and Booth Hill continues to be one of our most viable and high-performing schools.

Instructional Update
Superintendent’s Commentary - Freeman Burr stated early analysis on district-wide data looks very promising. Mr. Burr said the State will release Smarter Balance Assessment data online between July 15-31. Principals and Central Office personnel will have access to information for analysis while it is embargoed until the State issues a press release. He said he will send members potential retreat dates and times, which will be sometime latter July/August, based on availability. The format will be afternoon/evening and following morning. As this is an election year, potential candidates will be invited. Board members were asked to submit agenda items they would like included. He also asked them to submit their vacation dates for planning purposes.

Items Presented for a Vote
Win Oppel moved to accept on behalf of Long Hill School a donation of $600 from Long Hill School PTA to purchase a refrigerator and stove for the Life Skills Program; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Win Oppel moved to accept on behalf of Sunnyside School a grant award of $3,000 from CAS-CIAC Endowment and Flanagan Grant; motion seconded by Arlene Liscinsky and passed unanimously.

Thomas Minotti moved to approve the request of Shelton High School Girls Soccer to conduct fundraising activities during the 2015 fall season; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Thomas Minotti moved to approve the request of Sunnyside School PTO to conduct fundraising activities during the 2015-2016 school year; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.
Comments by the Board Chair
Chairman Holden commented on a very successful graduation ceremony, noting that the students were very excited and respectful. He thanked everyone who has been a part of a successful year for Shelton Public Schools. Mr. Holden stated the budget minimizes the need for layoffs; but, sadly, our staff will be reduced through attrition and the layoff of one person, and some class sizes are bound to increase a bit. He said we have a talented team of people and trusts they are up to the challenge of continuing to provide an even better education for our students, in spite of more limited resources. He stated the superintendent search is underway and applications have been received from talented people. There is a link on our website to the online superintendent search survey, and input is being sought from anyone interested in expressing views on what is important for the superintendent. Interviews for elementary principal for Booth Hill will be conducted this Friday. Chairman Holden said the reviews he has gotten from parents at all of the schools about the full day kindergarten program reinforce the fact that it was the right move. Mr. Holden regrets missing the retirees’ reception due to illness and wished he could have been there to wish them well and thank them for their years of service.

Reports of Standing Committees
Teaching and Learning – Thomas Minotti said the committee did not meet in May due to lack of agenda items. The next meeting is scheduled for June 26 at 10:00 a.m.

Policy – Kathy Yolish said the committee did not meet in May due to lack of agenda items. The next meeting is scheduled for June 26 at 9:00 a.m.

Finance – Arlene Liscinsky stated the committee met on June 17 and the following motions are brought forward:

Arlene Liscinsky moved to empower the Superintendent or designee to enter into a contract with CBS Bloom for managed print services and that the Finance Director monitor usage and look at the second year for any savings to reduce costs; motion seconded by Kate Kutash and passed unanimously.

Thomas Minotti moved to approve and appropriate dollars for the purchase of a piano for Perry Hill School in the amount of $4,895 and for two scoreboards for the baseball and softball field in the amount of $7,315; motion seconded by Win Oppel and passed unanimously.

Faith Hack moved to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a three-year contract with DMC Consulting Services and to pay for the bulk of this contract out of the 2014-15 budget year; motion seconded by Win Oppel. Vote 7-1 (Kathy Yolish – nay); motion passed.

Thomas Minotti moved to accept the 2015-16 budget as presented in the amount of $69,470,000 which includes $125,000 in additional funds to come from the city after July 1, as agreed to by the Mayor and Superintendent. The total amount of $69,470,000 includes the anticipated $125,000; motion seconded by Win Oppel. Discussion – Mark Holden commented if the agreement does not come to fruition, it will be necessary to revisit, since as it stands currently, we are not in balance. Motion passed unanimously.
Faith Hack moved to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the Human Resources Director and Assistant Superintendent receive 2.75% increase in salary, in keeping with the SAC agreement of 2015-16; motion seconded by Win Oppel and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Liscinsky stated the Finance Committee special meeting held earlier focused on the budget.

**Reports of Special Committees**

CES – Arlene Liscinsky stated no meetings are held over the summer. She said the lobbyist attended the June meeting for a legislative update.

CABE – Kathy Yolish mentioned upcoming events including the 5th Annual Summer Leadership Conference on July 27 in Old Saybrook; 2015 School Facility Workshop (Streamlining the School Construction Process and Building the Budget) on November 6 in New Haven; and the 2015 CABE/CAPSS Convention (Changing Faces, Changing World – Are we Prepared?) on November 20-21 in Mystic.

**New Business**

Win Oppel moved to add an item to the agenda regarding the Finance Director and the HSA Account; motion seconded by Thomas Minotti and passed unanimously.

Win Oppel moved that the Finance Director’s HSA Account contribution from Shelton Board of Education be set at 75% of the total; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

**For Your Information**

Chairman Holden referenced the attachments in the packet including Vacancy Report, Staff and Stipend Actions, and Enrollment Report.

**Highlights**

Kathy Yolish discussed Perry Hill School Life Skills class; Kindergarten site visits at Elizabeth Shelton and Long Hill; SHS scholarship awards ceremony; recognition breakfast for Work Experience students; Long Hill concert; Elizabeth Shelton spelling bee, kindergarten step-up program and Living Museum; SIS Drama Club presentation on The Lion King; and SHS graduation. Kate Kutash referred to a parent letter commending teacher Courtney Dishian and noted how rare it is to receive such comments. Freeman Burr discussed the Sunnyside School full-day kindergarten graduation and thanked Lorraine Williams for hosting the retiree celebration at Perry Hill. Mr. Burr received communications from parents commending Ashleigh D’Addio on the high quality of the music program at Mohegan. Kathy Yolish suggested bringing back the citywide music performance. Mark Holden commented about the graduation ceremony noting the friendliness, politeness and respectfulness of our students, which reflects well on our teachers and administrators. Freeman Burr discussed a meeting he and Mayor Lauretti had with Sunnyside fourth graders, who shared their experiences of attending the CAS Statewide Elementary Leadership Program.
Adjournment
Chairman Holden adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Diane Luther
_Diane Luther_
_Secretary to Board of Education_
_June 29, 2015_