

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Board of Education Administrative Offices
382 Long Hill Avenue
Board Room, 2nd Floor
May 24, 2017**

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

Roll Call:

Mark Holden, Chairman	Kate Kutash
Thomas Minotti, Vice Chairman	Win Oppel
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 of Schools, Lorraine Rossner; Finance Director, Dominic Barone; Human Resources Director, Carole Pannozzo

Also present: Edward Drapp, Candidate for Director of Finance and Business Services

(1 tape on file in City/Town Clerk's office)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

Thomas Minotti moved to add an addendum to the agenda; motion seconded by Win Oppel. Motion passed unanimously. Win Oppel moved to approve the agenda and addendum; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Presentations/Recognitions

An overview of the Mind Fest 2017 family event held recently at Long Hill School was given by Tina Henckel, Assistant Director of STEM and Data Analysis, and Long Hill School Principal Kristen Santilli and staff. Theresa Manus, LHS Art Teacher, presented Dr. Clouet and the Board with a gift, a tiled "Unity" mural that was created by students at the festival. The mural will be on display at Central Office.

Sunnyside School Principal Amy Yost presented a brief video and several students demonstrated the process of coding Ozobots/robots to perform specific tasks.

Public Hearing

Chairman Mark Holden noted the presence of numerous Sodexo school cafeteria workers and commended them for doing an exemplary job. He said while the board was unable to include their contract into the bid specifications, we would be happy if whoever is awarded the food service contract kept all of the existing employees.

The following Sodexo cafeteria workers spoke personally about the importance of preserving their jobs with current benefits and health insurance: Karin Moriarty, SHS; Michelle Fida, PHS; Joy del Vecchio, BHS; Pam Teixeira, SIS; Janet Allen, SHS.

Approval of Minutes

Thomas Minotti moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting and Regular Meeting of April 26, 2017; motion seconded by Kate Kutash and passed unanimously.

Communications to the Board

There were none.

Superintendent's Commentary/Instructional Update

Superintendent Clouet stated a notice was received from Mohegan School Principal Ellen Tuckner that she will be leaving the district at the end of this school year, which was followed by a round of applause in appreciation of Ellen's fine work.

Strategic Plan Update – Dr. Clouet said the work is ongoing, and the next board meeting will include a presentation of plans to implement some milestones next year that will be part of the first phase of execution.

College Acceptances – Kathy Riddle (K-12 School Counselor Curriculum Leader) gave a PowerPoint presentation listing specific colleges/universities to which some of the 380 students in the graduating class of 2017 have enrolled, as well as statistics for those who have chosen community colleges and technical schools, workforce, military or other plans. Mrs. Riddle also discussed preliminary SAT results.

Facilities Update – John Calhoun updated the board on assessment and possible renovation of athletic facilities and reviewed a written report on accomplishments of the Facilities Department. Mr. Calhoun addressed questions from the board.

(Note: Tape 1; Side B – 7:45 p.m.)

Superintendent Clouet talked about the SEEF fundraising events held in April (5K Run and Wiffleball Tournament) and announced the names of individual teachers and teams who were recently awarded mini-grants of \$250 for their winning project applications:

Desiree Conway, Stacey Reilly
Jennifer Keene, Heather Brown, Dan Ebert
Kari Yacawych, Kim Landona, Heidi Ferrigno
Brad Piccirillo, Christine McNamara
Rob Swercewski
Erica McNeil
Stacey Garrity
Melissa Fenstermaker, Courtney Dishian, Michele Piccolo,
Jamie-Lyn Drezek, Bryan Sharkey, Roberta Lengyel, Deb Tucker
Virginia Vancil, Carrie Frederick

The awards will be detailed in the upcoming issue of Grand Shelton Station.

Dr. Clouet provided board members with a Project Exc-EL brochure, a quality example of clear communications completely funded by the grant, explaining what the program is and how it is being expanded next year beyond its current space in Elizabeth Shelton and Long Hill. He stated work will continue with our community partners, Plumb Memorial Library and the Boys & Girls Club. He noted next month will conclude the first year of a five year grant.

Approved Field Trips

There were none.

Items Voted on

Win Oppel moved to approve a grant proposal for Valley Regional Adult Education – Workforce Readiness Project – ESL; motion seconded by Arlene Liscinsky and passed unanimously.

Thomas Minotti moved to accept on behalf of Sunnyside School a grant award of \$3,000 from CAS-CIAC Endowment and Flanagan Grant Program to expand existing programs in new and innovative ways, or develop other worthy programs or projects; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Win Oppel moved to approve continuing participation in Connecticut’s Healthy Food Certification for the school year 2017-2018, subject to the exceptions and exclusions in the agreement; motion seconded by Arlene Liscinsky and passed unanimously.

Faith Hack moved to accept on behalf of Sunnyside School a donation of \$5,106.40 from Sunnyside School PTO to purchase drapes and hardware for the stage area; motion seconded by Thomas Minotti and passed unanimously.

Thomas Minotti moved to accept on behalf of Shelton High School a grant award of \$1,500 from Valley Community Foundation to help fund the greenhouse purchase; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Arlene Liscinsky moved to accept on behalf of Elizabeth Shelton School a donation of \$3,911.36 from Elizabeth Shelton PTO to purchase additional 2 Tech Tubs; motion seconded by Kate Kutash and passed unanimously.

Win Oppel moved to appoint the Superintendent's recommended candidate, Edward Drapp, to Director of Finance and Business Services position; motion seconded by Thomas Minotti. Discussion. Motion passed with vote of 8-0-1 (abstention – David Gioiello). Mr. Drapp was congratulated and expressed appreciation to the board.

Chairman Holden commented that Dominic Barone has sought employment closer to home and will be leaving at the close of this school year. Dr. Clouet thanked Dominic for his service to the district.

Comments by the Board Chair

Chairman Holden discussed the citizenship ceremonies held at SIS; Robotics; transition from STEM to STEAM; Jazz Band; SIS and PHS concerts and art displays; LHS Mind Fest event. Mr. Holden stated all of our schools are doing terrific things in terms of the arts and humanities, as well as STEM. He said we make a lot of things happen with the resources we have, and it's because we traditionally hire the best people we can find for every job.

Reports of Standing Committees

Teaching & Learning – Thomas Minotti stated no meeting was held due to lack of quorum. Next meeting will be June 13 at 4 p.m. and will include discussion of ESS grade 3 and 4 departmentalization.

Finance Committee – Win Oppel said the committee met May 17 and reviewed the building substitute program and how it impacts the budget moving forward. There was also a presentation of window replacement project at ESS.

Policy Committee – Kate Kutash said the committee did not meet in May and is scheduled for June 13 at 5 p.m.

Reports of Special Committees

CES – Arlene Liscinsky said there will be a meeting next week for a report by the lobbyist. The last meeting included budget approval (6.10% decrease). She said due to cuts from the State to RESCs, the magnet school tuition, which has been stable for nine years, will be increasing next year.

CABE – Faith Hack stated there was nothing new to report.

Unfinished Business

There was nothing to discuss.

New Business

There was nothing to discuss.

For Your Information

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

Highlights

Faith Hack discussed the Naturalization Program at SIS, Mind Fest event at LHS, and the Hall of Fame. Kate Kutash commented that the list of inductees is impressive. Kathy Yolish talked about the professional performance of the SHS Drama Club's Bring it On! She commented on the Mohegan chorus and SIS music program and gave kudos to Dr. Smith and Kathy Riddle for the Books & Achievement Awards Ceremony where students were respectful and well presented. She also mentioned the Mind Fest event, PHS music program, and Work Experience Breakfast. She expressed appreciation to all in the system who work with our kids. David Gioiello expressed thanks to the head custodian and security officer who helped with setup at a recent forum held at SIS.

Mark Holden mentioned the CAS Awards Program where the final and biggest award was presented to Dr. Beth Smith. He said there are a number of retirees this year who will be recognized at an event at 2:30 p.m. on June 13 in the SIS atrium. Their names were read aloud:

Elaine Branca	Nancy Duffy	Clare Kilfoyle	Karen Oko
Mary Brotherton	Darlene Dunn	Linda LaReau	Rosemary Pagliaro
Barbara Clifford	Allegra Fitzgerald	Patricia Laskowski	Roseann Rich
David DeLucia	Michael Gambardella	Barbara Llewellyn	Diane Sobotka
Joann Desrochers	Geralyn Garrity	Mark Necio	Keron Taylor
Carla D'Orio	Terri Hillmann	Janet Nemetz	Nancy Tuttle

Chairman Holden adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Diane Luther

Secretary to Board of Education

May 31, 2017