Chairman Mark Holden called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:01 p.m.

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

Quorum 7 present; 2 absent

Board of Education Administration present:
Superintendent of Schools, Freeman Burr
Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Lorraine Rossner
Director of Finance & Business Services, Dominic Barone
Human Resources Director, Carole Pannozzo

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

NOTE: Partial poor quality due to background noise of air conditioner. Portion of meeting not recorded due to blown fuse in room (approximately 7:05 - 7:12).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda
Win Oppel moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Thomas Minotti; motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing
Judson Crawford, 8 Jordan Avenue, referenced the board’s request of approximately $200,000 for kindergarten furniture and technology and questioned whether the bid award of $54,817 would be sufficient to cover expenses.

Approval of Minutes
Arlene Liscinsky moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of June 18, 2014 and Special Meeting of July 9, 2014; seconded by Thomas Minotti; motion passed unanimously.
Communications to the Board
Freeman Burr acknowledged several notes of appreciation and a parent letter commending the staff at Perry Hill School for outstanding services to their son. Chairman Holden said he received a letter from a staff member commending Ken Saranich for his sensitivity in handling a personal situation.

Instructional Update/Superintendent’s Commentary
Freeman Burr stated the FF&E bid was awarded to W.B. Mason ($55,000); W.B. Mason has expressed concern about lead time for actual delivery. As a backup plan, Mr. Burr has contacted the Southern Fairfield County Superintendents’ Association for possible furniture loans in the interim. Superintendent Burr stated there seems to be confusion on the Board of Aldermen’s part over the FF+E versus the FF+E and Technology, noting the FF+E amount ($55,000) does not include technology (Promethean Boards and Chrome Books), which is estimated to be around $120,000. Mr. Burr said the BOE original FDK estimate and request of the BOA ($200,000), which was included in all of the FDK presentations and budget proposal to A+T and the BOA, will be realized, perhaps slightly under $200,000.

Freeman Burr discussed transportation arrangements for Long Hill School students attending the before school program at the Boys & Girls Club. He expressed appreciation of Lorraine Rossner and Kathy Bender for their work on Teacher Evaluation and Administrator Evaluation drafts, which were submitted to the State today. He said a waiver on TEVAL will not be required, and a decision is expected within the next week or two on ADEVAL. The teaching staff who have been working on K-12 curriculum writing this summer were commended, and Mr. Burr discussed the current budget and authorization for more funding to support staff who have committed to do curriculum work this summer. Superintendent Burr mentioned the reading consultants, administrators and Central Office staff who attended the writing unit training yesterday felt it was very worthwhile.

Approved Field Trip
Board members were apprised of approved field trip for Shelton High School history students to travel to England, Scotland and France, April 10-19, 2015.

Items Presented for a Vote
Thomas Minotti moved to approve the following requests to conduct fundraisers during the 2014-2015 school year:

- Long Hill School
- Booth Hill School
- Shelton High School Marching Gaels Parents Association
- Shelton High School Goal Club

The motion was seconded by Arlene Liscinsky; motion passed unanimously.
**Comments by the Board Chair**
Chairman Holden commented briefly on smooth transition of Dominic Barone and Kristen Santilli to their new positions. He said it appears that full day kindergarten will work out in the end, despite things getting a little more interesting than he would like.

**Reports of Standing Committees**

**Teaching and Learning** – Thomas Minotti stated there was no meeting due to lack of agenda items. Next meeting is scheduled for August 19 at 3:30 p.m.

**Policy** – Kathy Yolish said the committee did not meet and next meeting will be on August 19 at 4:30 p.m. She referred to two policies in the packet that will sit for review and will be presented for a vote at the next regular meeting of the board: #1212 – Community Relations, School Volunteers and #4118.24(a) – Personnel, Certified/Non-Certified Student/Staff Relationships.

**Finance** – Arlene Liscinsky noted the majority of discussion at the July 16 committee meeting concerned the issue of the medical postings and the account being over budget. She said that Allan Cameron and Dominic Barone have been working diligently to correct the postings, and there should be a full report at the next committee meeting.

Arlene Liscinsky moved to approve the proposed Non-Bargaining Unit Staff raises and insurance premium cost share increases for 2014-2015, as recommended by the Finance Committee at their July 16, 2014 meeting; seconded by Win Oppel; motion passed unanimously.

Arlene Liscinsky moved to approve the proposal to advise Non-Bargaining Unit Staff in January 2015 that effective July 1, 2015 the Board of Education intends to implement an insurance plan design: High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) with a Health Savings Account (HSA); seconded by Thomas Minotti; motion passed unanimously.

**Reports of Special Committees**

**CES** – Arlene Liscinsky gave a brief report noting the CES back to school convocation is August 20 based on first day of school September 4. CES is adding 36 preschool slots going to the Bridgeport system, making a total of 90 preschool slots at 40 Lindeman.

**CABE** – Kate Kutash referenced the newsletter in the packet and said the CABE Summer Leadership Conference was held on July 22. The CABE Convention is November 14-15 at Mystic Marriott; registration form should be completed and given to Diane Luther.
New Business
Kathy Yolish was interested in knowing status of kindergarten enrollment, which prompted brief discussion. Lorraine Rossner said this year was unusual in that there were a lot of early enrollments, due to the focus on full day kindergarten. Mark Holden commented that he had heard from a few families who needed to know the status of full day kindergarten in order to make decisions between public and private, and some of them chose private before the matter was settled. In response to Mrs. Yolish’s inquiry about possible site visits for the BOA along with BOE to see the classrooms in session, Mr. Burr said there are plans for the third or fourth week of school for Landmark to provide transportation for BOA, BOE, and community dignitaries.

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

Highlights
Win Oppel said it was announced today that according to creditdonkey.com, Shelton is the #1 city to live in Connecticut, and education was one of the criteria.

Kathy Yolish said she noticed on the SIS website that student-grown vegetables are being sold at Common Bond Market. Ken Saranich said the produce varies by season, and money is reinvested in seeds for upcoming year.

Chairman Holden adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Diane Luther
Diane Luther
Secretary to Board of Education
July 28, 2014