

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
Board of Education Administrative Offices  
382 Long Hill Avenue  
Board Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
August 23, 2017**

Chairman Mark Holden called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:04 p.m.

Roll Call:

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

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Approval of Agenda**

**Thomas Minotti moved to add the fundraising request of Booth Hill School to the agenda under Board Action Items VIII. A.1.; motion seconded by Kathy Yolish and passed unanimously.**

**Thomas Minotti moved to approve the agenda as amended; motion seconded by Win Oppel and passed unanimously.**

**Executive Session**

**Win Oppel moved to enter Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. for the purpose of discussing Attorney-Client Privilege information; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously. All board members physically present were in attendance. Invited to stay were Christopher Clouet, Lorraine Rossner and Edward Drapp. (Executive Session was held in Conference Room D.)**

**Win Oppel moved to leave Executive Session at 7:20 p.m.; motion seconded by Arlene Liscinsky and passed unanimously.**

**Presentations/Recognitions**

There were none.

**Public Hearing**

Lillian Bartomeli, 39 Ridgefield Terrace, and Karen Moriarty, 171 Roosevelt Drive, Seymour (cafeteria workers) discussed the union's upcoming negotiations with Whitsons and asked for the Board's support.

Judson Crawford, 8 Jordan Avenue, referenced the transfer of \$250,000 from the City to Board of Education account for Equipment, Books and Supplies and asked who will have authority for expenditure of the funds. He then referenced Governor Malloy's proposal to cut ECS funding and asked for clarification of impact to Shelton. Dr. Clouet explained that the \$250,000 was part of the budget process and our thanks have been expressed to the BOA. He stated principals and our Central Office team have assessed each school's needs, and most of the money has been expended so that books and materials are in the hands of the students when they arrive at school. Dr. Clouet said according to the Governor's proposal, Shelton would be included on the list to receive zero ECS funds; but, we are cautiously optimistic that there will be a legislative solution to this, and that will not be the final outcome.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Win Oppel moved to approve the minutes of the Special and Regular Meetings of July 26, 2017; motion seconded by Kate Kutash and passed unanimously.**

**Communications to the Board**

There were no communications.

**Superintendent's Commentary/Instructional Update**

Superintendent Clouet noted the Strategic Plan work continues with a focus on a series of milestones for the upcoming year, and the board will receive monthly progress reports. He stated this past week Shelton hosted a set of Project ExcEL workshops for helping teachers develop skills to work more effectively with EL students. Vicky White provided details of the grant and staff participation. Kathy Yolish requested notification to Board Members of future meeting dates.

**Presentation of EL Materials** – Vicky White and Maria Zampano demonstrated various resources purchased through Language Lizard. The technology tools will be beneficial for students, teachers and office staff as a means of communicating in numerous languages. Vickie White said materials have been purchased also for our two partners in the grant, Plumb Memorial Library and the Boys and Girls Club, for similar use in programs for parents being run in conjunction with us.

**Approved Field Trips**

None.

**Items Voted on**

**Win Oppel moved to approve the following requests to conduct fundraising activities during the 2017-2018 academic year:**

**Shelton High School Goal Club  
Elizabeth Shelton School  
Perry Hill School  
Booth Hill School PTO**

**Shelton Intermediate School PTO  
Shelton High School Girls Volleyball  
Shelton High School Marching Gaels  
Booth Hill School**

**Arlene Liscinsky seconded the motion and discussion followed. Consensus was to use a uniform format for financial information, which will be developed by Christopher Clouet and Edward Drapp. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Win Oppel moved to accept on behalf of Booth Hill School a donation of \$9,078 from Booth Hill School PTO for technology purchases. Discussion – Mr. Oppel stated the board was satisfied with information provided regarding equitable distribution of computers in the district. Motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.**

**Kate Kutash moved to accept on behalf of Perry Hill School a donation of \$1,000 from Target Corporation for the gardens at Perry Hill School; motion seconded by Thomas Minotti and passed unanimously.**

**Thomas Minotti moved to accept on behalf of Shelton Intermediate School a donation of \$2,600 from Smile Dental for the SIS Farmbot; motion seconded by Win Oppel and discussion followed with input from Ken Saranich. Motion passed unanimously.** Dr. Clouet said we are grateful that Smile Dental has taken a great interest in our district and in the School of Innovation in particular, and they have indicated they would like to provide further support going forward.

#### **Comments by the Board Chair**

Chairman Holden stated Superintendent Clouet and he attended a program in Wallingford on Modern Learning, and it appears we are ahead of many other districts in terms of moving in the direction of project-based learning. He said the Board met earlier to conduct the Superintendent's evaluation. He noted all candidates were invited to tomorrow's Board Retreat; however, only one is able to attend. He reminded everyone that Convocation is next Tuesday.

#### **Reports of Standing Committees**

**Teaching & Learning** – Thomas Minotti reviewed the topics covered at the meeting on August 8 including a presentation by Vicky White on cursive writing and discussion of the need for a course on Financial Literacy. Overview was given of Deeper Learning Summer Institute held in New Hampshire July 17-19 and ExcEL Summer Institute held in Shelton August 21-22. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 12 at 4 p.m.

**Finance Committee** – Win Oppel said the committee met on August 16 and Ed Drapp shared information about Whitsons' contract, which is pending signoff by the State. Mr. Drapp also gave the committee an update of Special Education transportation including successful rebid of portions and efforts to find savings by combining routes. Dr. Clouet shared information with the committee regarding the Athletic Complex renovation. John Calhoun reviewed facilities topics of Sunnyside School roof project; Fire Code Compliance project; energy costs; fuel cell at SHS, solar panels; STEAM Lab at SHS. The next meeting will be September 20.

***(Note: Recorder failure at this point.)***

**Policy Committee** – Kate Kutash said the committee met on August 8 to discuss banner guidelines, made revisions to some of the wording and document was sent back to John Niski. Discussion will continue at next meeting on September 12 at 5 p.m.

### **Reports of Special Committees**

**CES** – Arlene Liscinsky stated the next meeting will be in September.

**CABE** – Faith Hack mentioned early registration for CABE/CAPSS Convention in November.

### **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. Back to School Nights are listed on agenda and times will be sent to Board Members.

### **Highlights**

Arlene Liscinsky requested a Point of Personal Privilege and said the following:

It is with regret that effective 9/1/17, I will submit my resignation to the city clerk's office for my seat on the Shelton Board of Education. While I've held this seat for almost 16 years, my involvement began on my daughter's first day of Kindergarten at Booth Hill School.

As some of you may know, my reason is to deal with a pressing family health issue which requires almost all of my time at the moment. My husband has been diagnosed with rapid onset Alzheimer's Disease. As a result, my family and I felt it would be in the best interest of my husband to move to Massachusetts in order to be closer to my daughters and their families. As a result, we made the decision to put our house on the market and it sold much more quickly than we expected.

If I may, Mr. Chairman, I would like to not only reflect back but to thank all of you on this board and my board on CES. It's been a privilege and an honor. As you have all heard me say multiple times over the years, you all bring something different to the table, are tremendously talented, and I am honored to have worked with you in the best interest of our school system and the kids.

Rest assured that I will always champion the cause of supporting public education, no matter where I may reside.

Mrs. Liscinsky received a standing ovation, and members expressed appreciation of her many years of dedicated service to the district and students.

Faith Hack discussed the first Shelton High School Hall of Fame Inaugural Induction Ceremony on September 16. Anyone wishing to attend should submit their check by September 1.

Chairman Holden adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

***Diane Luther***

**Secretary to Board of Education**

**August 30, 2017**