Chairman Mark Holden called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:40 p.m.

Roll Call:
Mark Holden, Chairman
Thomas Minotti, Vice Chairman (excused)
Arlene Liscinsky, Secretary
Win Oppel
Kathleen Yolish

John Francino-Quinn (excused)
Faith Hack
Kate Kutash
Timothy Walsh (excused)

Quorum 6 present, 3 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
Win Oppel moved to approve the agenda with one change to move item VIII.A.1 to follow Approval of Agenda; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Appointments
Arlene Liscinsky moved to approve the recommended candidates to the positions of Principal of Booth Hill School and Principal of Mohegan School; motion seconded by Win Oppel. Discussion – Superintendent Burr discussed the interview process and named recommended candidates John Scalise as Principal of Booth Hill School and Ellen Tuckner as Principal of Mohegan School. Kathy Yolish expressed her strong belief in promoting from within; and, after being involved with the interview process, she now feels our internal candidates are lacking extra leadership experience as assistant principals. She commented if any extra money is found, she hopes our internal candidates can be offered the extra leadership skills they need. Having sat in on the interviews, Kate Kutash agreed and stated there are some viable internal candidates in need of that experience. Following brief comments by Freeman Burr and Arlene Liscinsky, a vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

Ellen Tuckner and John Scalise each thanked the board for the opportunity.

NOTE: A brief recess was called.
Public Hearing
Sandra White, 480 Long Hill Avenue, addressed the board concerning the lack of a voluntary retirement incentive offer for secretaries.

Approval of Minutes
Win Oppel moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 24, 2015; motion seconded by Kate Kutash and passed unanimously.

Communications to the Board
Chairman Holden acknowledged receipt of a photo and thank you for support and acknowledgement at graduation from the state champions Shelton High School Cheerleaders.

Instructional Update
Superintendent’s Commentary - Freeman Burr discussed TEVAL; professional learning calendar; summer curriculum; opening of schools calendar; school operation hours; School Security Grant, second round; summer student registration. Win Oppel asked about the $125,000 additional budget allocation from the City, and Superintendent Burr said he will brief the board shortly. Kathy Yolish asked about enrollment numbers for kindergarten, and there was discussion regarding the potential for an additional kindergarten classroom at Sunnyside.

Items Presented for a Vote
Win Oppel moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 24, 2015; motion seconded by Kate Kutash and passed unanimously.

Win Oppel moved to approve the following requests to conduct fundraising activities during the 2015-16 school year:
- Booth Hill School
- Elizabeth Shelton School
- Shelton High School Swim Parents Club
- Shelton High School Girls’ Cross Country Parents Club

and to table the following requests for further information:
- Shelton High School Marching Gaels Parents Association
- Shelton High School Goal Club (Boys Soccer Program)

Motion was seconded by Arlene Liscinsky and passed unanimously.

Comments by the Board Chair
Chairman Holden discussed the superintendent search and leadership profile that resulted from approximately 300 surveys and participants in the focus groups (approximately 50% staff, 46% parent community, 4% students).
Reports of Standing Committees
Teaching and Learning – Lorraine Rossner said the committee met on June 26 where Dr. Smith gave a presentation of the Capstone Projects. A total of 396 graduates completed projects. Two new course proposals were discussed and approved for SIS. There is no August meeting scheduled, as there are no agenda items.

Policy – Kathy Yolish said the committee met on June 26 and discussed SHS dress code. Discussion will continue at the next meeting on July 28 at 9:00 a.m. Freeman Burr stated Vin Mustaro of CABE has begun work on the SBOE Policy Book and expects completion by August 15.

Finance – Arlene Liscinsky stated the committee met last week and the following motions are presented:

Arlene Liscinsky moved to amend the Teacher contract to include two new stipend positions, Junior Statesmen of America Advisor at Shelton High School and Robotics Advisors at Perry Hill and Shelton Intermediate Schools, as outlined by the schedule reviewed at the last Finance meeting; motion seconded by Win Oppel and passed unanimously.

Arlene Liscinsky moved to approve the recommended schedule of salary increases for the non-bargaining unit employees; motion seconded by Win Oppel and passed unanimously.

Arlene Liscinsky moved to authorize the Director of Finance and Superintendent of Schools to send a letter to Board of Aldermen President John Anglace and Mayor Lauretti requesting the agreed upon additional $125,000 be transferred to our budget by August 14; motion seconded by Faith Hack and passed unanimously.

Reports of Special Committees
CES – Arlene Liscinsky stated there are no meetings over the summer.

CABE – Kathy Yolish said the NSBA Annual Conference in Boston will be April 9-11, 2016.

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

Highlights
Faith Hack commended Jackie Jacobi for her work with the Superintendent’s Search Committee and focus groups. Kate Kutash commented that the internal candidates who took part in the principal interviews are readying themselves and are definitely going to advance. Kathy Yolish said her participation in the interview process gave her a different perspective, and she reiterated her previous statement about providing extra leadership skills for internal candidates. Mark Holden agreed but noted there has been no indication of support for assistant principal positions in terms of funding from the City.
Adjournment
Chairman Holden adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Diane Luther
Diane Luther
Secretary to Board of Education
July 28, 2015