

Note: Per C.G.S. 10 – 218, Board of Education meeting minutes are provided in a draft format within 48 hours of the date the meeting was held. With the exception of motions and votes recorded, these minutes are unofficial until they have been read and approved by a majority vote of the Board. Should edits be necessary, they will be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting, noted in the meeting minutes, and voted upon.

CHAPLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION
Chaplin, Connecticut
Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2015

Superintendent Ken Henrici called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present were Board members Stephanie Harrington, Stacy Foster, Jaclyn Chancy and Jamie Spalding. Administrators present were Principal Patricia King. Unable to attend was Board members John Bolduc, Will Hooper and Justin Rondash.

Motion to move Item #3 to Item #2 was made by Stacy Foster, seconded by Jaclyn Chancy and carried unanimously.

2. BOARD REORGANIZATION:

A. Election of Officers:

Stephanie Harrington nominated Stacy Foster for Board Chair, seconded by Jaclyn Chancy. The vote to elect Stacy Foster for Board Chair carried unanimously.

Jaclyn Chancy nominated Will Hooper for Board Vice-Chair, seconded by Stephanie Harrington. The vote to elect Will Hooper for Board Vice-Chair carried unanimously.

Condolences to Will Hooper who could not be at tonight's meeting due to a death in his family.

Jaclyn Chancy nominated Stephanie Harrington for Board Secretary, seconded by Stacy Foster. The vote to elect Stephanie Harrington for Board Secretary carried unanimously.

B. Committee Appointments:

Policy Committee: Justin Rondash, Jaclyn Chancy

Negotiations Committee: Stacy Foster, John Bolduc, Stephanie Harrington

Central Office Committee: Stephanie Harrington, Stacy Foster

Bylaws Review Special Committee: John Bolduc, Justin Rondash

Motion to approve Committee Appointments as stated above, was made by Stephanie Harrington, seconded by Jaclyn Chancy and carried unanimously.

C. Establishment of Regular Meeting Date/Place/Time:

Motion for the Chaplin Board of Education to meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM in the Chaplin Elementary School Library, was made by Jaclyn Chancy, seconded by Stephanie Harrington and carried unanimously.

3. AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS:

Chaplin First Selectman Matt Cunningham presented the following concerns that were brought to his attention:

- Lack of a School Readiness Council
- No lead teacher when the Administrator is absent
- No Reading teacher

- School Psychologist not meeting with students to the degree necessary or required and position not approved by the Board
- Technology needs are not being met (some smartboards have not been working for a long time)

Chairperson Stacy Foster requested the concerns be presented in writing to the Administration.

4. PRESENTATION OF CAPSS STUDENT LEADER AWARDS – MARY SMITH, GRACIE DEVENY:

Superintendent Henrici, Principal King and Chair Stacy Foster presented plaques to CAPSS Student Leaders Mary Smith and Gracie Deveny who were previously honored at RHAM High School for their academic prowess, student leadership in school and community service.

5. UPDATE ON WELL STATION; POTENTIAL UPGRADES – VICTOR NIGRO, AQUA PUMP:

President Victor Nigro presented update and options for the well. The system is tested quarterly and Chaplin Elementary tested positive once for coliform that is common in drought conditions. It is an indicator to bacteria in the water (samples were clean). It is standard practice to test the water then chlorinate and he is in contact with the health department on a regular basis. Mr. Nigro does not recommend any further action at this time.

Jaime Spalding recommended testing the water in July to address any issues before school starts.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

A. Approval of Minutes – November 9, 2015:

Motion to approve the minutes of November 9, 2015, was made by Jaclyn Chancy, seconded by Stacy Foster and carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Financial Statement:

Motion to approve the Financial Statement from July to November 2015, was made by Stephanie Harrington, seconded by Jaclyn Chancy and carried unanimously.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

A. Monthly Report:

- PreK is working on a December theme of Hanukah, Kwanza and Christmas with food, books and crafts. Kindergarten students will make latkes for the annual family potluck on December 18th.
- 1st graders are reading the “Gingerbread Boy” and will make gingerbread cookies from scratch. They will write a class how to book to make gingerbread houses.
- 6th graders are wrapping up their time with Mr. Swanson who will be leaving. Activities include: working on statistics in math, traveling down the Nile River in Reading, learning about where food comes from and the food chain, and writing a major research project on Ancient Egypt. Students held a very successful Breakfast with Santa. The 6th grade Silent Auction/Spaghetti Dinner/Basket Raffle will be held on February 27th.

Shari Smith congratulated Stacy Foster on achieving her black belt in karate.

B. Principal’s Report:

- Enrollment is at 174 students.
- Professional Development and Training includes: SRBI Symposium, Emergency Operation Plan Training, Physical Management Training and Rebuilding a Climate of Connectedness.

- The Standards-Based Report Cards went out and received positive feedback.
- The Beagary Charitable Trust was awarded and will be used for iPads and training.
- The administration is working with a truancy officer on the Attendance Plan and with the Social Worker in response to the Safe School Climate Survey.

C. Superintendent's Report:

1. CABE/CAPSS Convention; Pullman and Comley, LLC Labor Law Seminar:
The CABE Convention focused on new education laws with a record number passed. The Labor Law Seminar focused on what is appropriate in social media and the impact to students.
2. Paraprofessional/Custodian Negotiations-December 17-State Health Plan Presentation; mediation to follow:
A new health plan will be presented and state mediators hope to finalize negotiations.
3. FY 16-17 Budget Timeline; FY 16-17 Budget Meetings with Principals/Administrators:
Public input on the budget will be held in January. A preliminary budget will be presented in February with a final budget presented for Board approval in March. The budget will be presented to the town in May at the annual town meeting. The town is very supportive of education.
4. FY 15-16 Budget Update-Minimum Budget Requirement:
Will be discussed later on the agenda.
5. Financial Impact of Magnet Tuition/Unanticipated Magnet Enrollment:
There are 6-7 unanticipated Magnet School students (total of 19) at a cost of \$4,600 per student. This is a serious impact to the budget and Superintendent Henrici asked the Board to consider establishing a contingency fund for Fiscal Year 16-17 to address this issue.
6. Central Office Committee-Assessment Percentage Split Between Region #11/Chaplin Elementary School:
A subcommittee was established to review the split that is currently 75/25. Options will be presented to the Central Office Committee and must be approved by both Boards.
7. Well Station and Well Water Update: Covered already
8. New Educational Laws-Policies to Conform with Laws:
Policies are needed to conform to new laws.

The School Security Committee will visit Griswold High School on January 6th.

8. BUSINESS CARRIED OVER FROM LAST MEETING (OLD BUSINESS):

A. Tri-Town Education Update – Four Boards of Education and Subcommittee meetings:

The Shared Services Subcommittee generated a list of the following items and will gather information for potential cost savings: attorney fees, oil, transportation, equipment maintenance, Special Education Director, Superintendent and payroll services. Stacy Foster expressed concerns with Legal Services and conflict of interest. Superintendent Henrici expressed concerns with oil that is difficult to manage to lock in the best price. First Selectman Matt Cunningham suggested adding technology to the list. The Survey Subcommittee discussed the purpose of the survey and how it would be funded. The survey would provide more information to inform residents on the proposed options. The next meeting of the Four Boards of Education will be held on December 17th at Parish Hill from 7-9pm.

B. Discussion of Tri-Town Advisory Poll: Was discussed at the last meeting

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Final Approval of Policy #5113-Attendance-Excuses-Dismissal:

Motion to approve Policy #5113 Attendance/Excuses/Dismissal, was made by Jaime Spalding, seconded by Jaclyn Chancy and carried unanimously.

B. Discussion of 2015-2016 Minimum Budget Requirement:

Chaplin Elementary has a budget deficit of \$126,630 due primarily to unanticipated expenses for two special education students and unanticipated magnet school tuition and will present a request for supplemental funding to the Board of Finance.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Committees May Report Information to the Board):

A. Policy Committee: No Report

B. Negotiations Committee:

A mediation session will be held on January 5th.

C. Central Office Committee:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 15th.

D. By-Laws Review Special Committee: No Report

11. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- Tri-Town Education Update – Four Boards of Education and Subcommittee meetings
- Public input on the Budget
- CABE Training (5:30 PM)

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION – DISCUSSION AND UPDATE ON PARAPROFESSIONAL NEGOTIATIONS: None

13. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn (8:35 PM) was made by Jaclyn Chancy, seconded by Stacy Foster and carried unanimously.

*Respectfully Submitted by Kathleen Scott
Recording Secretary*