

Regional School District 12  
Board of Education  
Education Committee Meeting Minutes  
Shepaug Valley School  
June 15, 2015

The meeting of the Education Committee of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m., on Monday, June 15, 2015, by Chairman James Hirschfield. Present were Board members: Valerie Andersen (arrived at 7:02 p.m.), Tony Bedini, Alan Brown, Gregory Cava, Michelle Gorra, Jennifer Pote, Susan Stumpf, and Peter Tagley. Absent were: Emily Hibbard, Kelly Lott and Michael Sinatra. Patricia Cosentino, Ed.D., Superintendent was also present.

Also present were: Cathy Colella, Principal, Booth Free and Burnham Schools; Teresa DeBrito, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Karen Fildes, Instructional Technology Specialist; Kim Gallo, Principal, Shepaug Valley School; Sheila Gambino, Technology Teacher, Shepaug Valley School; Emily Judd, Principal, Washington Primary School; Don O'Leary, Director of Building and Grounds.

The meeting began with the presentation of awards to parent volunteers: Bill King, Washington Primary School and Erin Elovecky, Burnham School (not present). Wilson King, Grade 8, received the CABA Leadership Award. The Superintendent's Student Awards were given to Wyatt King, Grade 5, WPS; Mason Gsell, Grade 8, SVS; and Riley Guilbeault, Grade 5, BFS.

Board of Education members not returning in July were recognized and presented with a gift by Chairman James Hirschfield. Receiving gifts were Susan Stumpf and Tony Bedini. Kelly Lott was not present but was also recognized. Chairman Hirschfield and Dr. Cosentino thanked Susan Stumpf, Tony Bedini and Kelly Lott (absent) for their time and dedication to the Region. Dr. Cosentino introduced new Board members Rebecca Devine from Bridgewater and Anthony Amato from Washington who were present in the audience. Their terms will begin July 1, 2015.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public Comment.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

*Approval of minutes:* Business Meeting, June 1, 2015

### **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Chairman Hirschfield remarked on Shepaug's graduation on Saturday. He expressed that it was a pleasure and honor to attend. Chairman Hirschfield remarked how Doug Winkel had been chosen by the students as the faculty speaker. Greg Cava commented on how nice the grounds looked and thanked Don O'Leary and his staff. Chairman Hirschfield stated that the Eighth Grade Promotion Night will be this coming Thursday at 7 p.m. and all Board members are invited to attend.

Chairman Hirschfield mentioned that Samantha Moravsky earned a silver medal All New England Honors at the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual New England Track and Field event in Maine and Marc Salles-Goula who is the Class S State Tennis Boys Singles Champion.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Cosentino shared that the Mobile App Design Class won two awards at the Connecticut Expo sweeping the category. Dr. Cosentino also said that the After School Program will not take place due to the fact that there was not enough interest to make it happen. Dr. Cosentino thanked Kim Gallo and Jenn Pote for attending the Washington Community Days, representing the school in regard to the agriscience STEM program. Dr. Cosentino said that she will be at the upcoming Washington Fair and the Roxbury 41st Annual Pickin' n' Fiddlin' Contest. Dr. Cosentino gave a brief review of where we stand with the program stating that the Region is still awaiting approval.

Dr. Cosentino reported on the appointments of Jennifer Carnes, SVS Special Educator Teacher, Theresa Gallagher, Speech and Language Pathologist, Jill Horan, WPS REACH Special Education Teacher (.5 FTE), and Lynne Longo, School Psychologist. Also mentioned were the transfers of Rebecca Bottari WPS Grade 1 Teacher to WPS Math Interventionist, Susan Ubaldi WPS Special Education Teacher to WPS Reading Interventionist and Karen Fildes to Director of Technology Integration, Communication & Community Outreach. Also noted was the recall of Amy Kivela, Grade 5 Teacher at Booth Free School.

**MOTION:** made by Greg Cava, seconded by Michelle Gorra to approve the request by Kaitlin Clark for a leave of absence for the school year 2015-2016.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

### **EDUCATION**

*State of the Schools* – Presentation of an iMovie (made by Jacqui Collentine from BS) and reports regarding the State of the Schools was given by Principals Cathy Colella, Emily Judd and Kim Gallo. Mrs. Judd introduced Becky Bottari and BJ Hosking, teachers at WPS involved with the Invention Convention. Paris Afiouni, a student at WPS who won the WPS Invention Convention and went to the state level, shared his invention and spoke about his experience. Questions and answers followed.

*Superintendent's Goals* – Dr. Cosentino reviewed her goals for the Board.

*Agriscience Update* was given by Kim Gallo. A handout was also given to Board members that corresponded to her update.

*Teacher of the Year* – Dr. Cosentino reported that the Teacher of the Year for Region 12 will be held off until the next school year. This will give more time for nominating and to complete the proper paperwork.

### **POLICIES**

*Second Reading – Policy 4112.2 – Certification:* Michelle Gorra reviewed the policy stating no changes had been made.

**MOTION:** made by Greg Cava, seconded by Valerie Andersen to approve policy 4112.2 – Certification as a second reading.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

*Second Reading – Policy 4112.5 – Security Check/Fingerprinting:* Michelle Gorra reviewed the policy stating no changes had been made.

**MOTION:** made by Valerie Andersen, seconded by Greg Cava to approve policy 4112.5 – Security Check/Fingerprinting as a second reading.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM HOUSATONIC VALLEY ASSOCIATION**

**MOTION:** made by Valerie Andersen, seconded by Michelle Gorra to approve the request for the Housatonic Valley Association to use Washington Primary School on November 22, 2015 for their 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction waiving the policy prohibiting alcoholic beverages with the provision, alcohol must not be served while students are on the campus and insurance be provided.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**CONSIDER AND APPROVE ED SPECS FOR SHEPAUG VALLEY REGIONAL AGRISCIENCE STEM ACADEMY**

**MOTION:** made by Valerie Andersen, seconded by Greg Cava to approve Ed Specs for Shepaug Valley Regional Agriscience STEM Academy as recommended by the Facility Committee.

Discussion followed. Greg Cava and Kim Gallo both spoke about the program.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** made by Valerie Andersen, seconded by Michelle Gorra to go into Executive Session for the purpose of the Superintendent's end-of-year evaluation and to review non-certified staff 2015/2016 salaries at 8:39 p.m.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

Chairman Hirschfield gave a 5 minute recess before going into Executive Session.

**ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS**

The Board returned to regular session at 9:54 p.m.

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**MOTION:** made by Gregory Cava, seconded by Valerie Andersen to accept the Superintendent's recommended schedule for Central Office staff for the first eight (8) employees listed including an amended recommendation for Barbara Alenckis to 3.5%.

**VOTE:** unanimous.

**MOTION:** made by Alan Brown, seconded by Michelle Gorra to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for the Facilities Director's compensation.

**VOTE:** unanimous.

**MOTION:** made by Gregory Cava, seconded by Valerie Andersen to accept the Superintendent's recommendation for the Business Manager's compensation.

**VOTE:** unanimous.

**MOTION:** made by Gregory Cava, seconded by Valerie Andersen to accept the Superintendent's carryover of three (3) vacation days, increase base compensation by 3%, increase car allowance by \$600 and the move to the high deductible insurance plan.

**VOTE:** In favor: Valerie Andersen, Tony Bedini, Gregory Cava, Michelle Gorra, James Hirschfield, Jennifer Pote, Susan Stumpf, and Peter Tagley.

Abstained: Alan Brown.

(8 – 0 – 1) Motion passed.

**MOTION:** made by Valerie Andersen, seconded by Jennifer Pote to extend the Superintendent's contract an additional year to the legal maximum of three (3) years.

**VOTE:** unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 p.m.