

Regional School District 12  
Board of Education  
Business Meeting Minutes  
Shepaug Valley School  
April 6, 2016

The Business Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:45 p.m., on Wednesday, April 6, 2016, by Chairman Hirschfield. Present were Board members: Anthony Amato, Valerie Andersen, Alan Brown, Rebecca Devine, Jennifer Pote, and Peter Tagley. Gregory Cava, Michelle Gorra, Emily Hibbard, Michael Sinatra and Sydney Worobel were absent. Dr. Patricia Cosentino, Superintendent, was also present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ed Wainwright, Bridgewater – spoke about the cost for a bus to go from BFS to BS and combining classes between the two schools. Valerie Andersen explained the Regional Plan will not allow it.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Approval of minutes: Special Meeting – March 21, 2016  
Education Meeting – March 21, 2016

Field Trips: Phantom of the Opera, New York, NY on May 7, 2016 (Grades 11-12)  
Bronx Zoo, Bronx, NY on May 15, 2016 (Grades 6-11)  
Bronx Zoo, Bronx, NY on June 8, 2016 (Grade 6)

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Dr. Cosentino announced that Marianne Maher was nominated by her colleagues as Teacher of the Year for Region 12 today. Dr. Cosentino passed around the CAFE Journal which featured two Shepaug students who attended CAFE Day on the Hill with Kim Gallo, Karen Fildes and Michelle Gorra. Fran Beilinson took a group of students to a debate at Wilton High School. Bridget Snyder and Wilson King placed fourth in the novice division, Bianca Getzel ranked seventh in the varsity debater out of 96 finalists who made it to states. Dr. Cosentino shared that she went to WestConn with math students who put on “Who Wants to be a Mathematician”. Emily Taylor represented Shepaug and did very well.

Jennifer Pote left the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Dr. Cosentino shared that today was Walk to School Day and she walked with Booth Free School. Washington Primary School will be having their Invention Convention tonight. Shepaug will have their Science Fair tomorrow night. This weekend will be the final weekend for Seussical.

*Field Trip:* Silver Lake Conference Center, Sharon, CT on May 6-7, 2016 (Grades 6-8)

**MOTION:** made by Valerie Andersen, seconded by Aan Brown, to approve the field trip for Grades 6-8 to go to Silver Lake Conference Center in Sharon, CT on May 6-7, 2016.

**VOTE:** unanimous.

### **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Chairman Hirschfield congratulated all the winter athletes for their very successful season and recognized Colin Decker for his accomplishments in swimming.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Agriscience Steering:* No report.

*Education:* No report.

*Education Connection:* No report.

*Facilities:* No report.

*Finance:* Mrs. Andersen reported that recommendations to allocate funds as outlined on the agenda will be done later in the meeting.

*Long Range Plan:* Mr. Brown reported on the meeting the committee had two weeks ago. They discussed replacing the Strategic Plan from four years ago which will be ongoing. They also discussed International Baccalaureate, a curricular addition to the schools. Also on the agenda was to research multiage, multi-grade classrooms and Region 12 inter-school population distribution.

Jennifer Pote returned to the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

*Negotiations:* No report.

*Policy:* No report.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

*Approve the 2016-2017 Board Meeting Schedule:*

**MOTION:** made by Jennifer Pote, seconded by Valerie Andersen, to accept the 2016-2017 Board Meeting Schedule.

**VOTE:** unanimous.

*Approve the revision to the 2015-2016 School Calendar:* Dr. Cosentino explained the purpose was to make June 10, 2016 a half day of school for students only.

**MOTION:** made by Anthony Amato, seconded by Valerie Andersen, to approve the revision to the 2015-2016 School Calendar by making June 10, 2016, a half day of school for students only.

**VOTE:** unanimous.

*Consider transfer up to 1% or \$215,615 from the approved fiscal year 2015/16 budget appropriations into the Reserve Fund for Capital and Non-recurring Expenditures:*

**MOTION:** made by Valerie Andersen, seconded by Alan Brown, to transfer \$215,615 from the approved fiscal year 2015/16 budget appropriations into the Reserve Fund for Capital and Non-recurring Expenditures as recommended by the Finance Committee at their March 7, 2016 meeting.

**VOTE:** unanimous.

*Consider authorizing an expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$91,000 from the 1% Capital Reserve Fund for Capital Improvements as recommended by the Finance Committee:*

<b>Location</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Shepaug	Replace Window Wall-Cafeteria	\$13,000
	Upgrade Exterior Lighting	23,500
	Replace Interior Vestibule Doors	12,000
	Add Variable Frequency Drive Motors	5,000
District wide	Primus Security Lock Cylinders	15,000
	Water Cannon – Field Irrigation	7,500
	Ground Care Utility Vehicle	15,000
Total		\$91,000

**MOTION:** made by Alan Brown, seconded by Valerie Andersen to authorize an expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$91,000 from the 1% Capital Reserve Fund for Capital Improvements as recommended by the Finance Committee as detailed above.

**VOTE:** unanimous.

*Consider authorizing an expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$99,500 from the Elementary Capital Non-recurring Fund (lease) as detailed below.*

<b>Location</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Booth Free	Replacement of second Boiler	\$25,000
	Electric Water Heater	5,500
	Heat Trace Gutters & Downspouts	16,000
	Ladder/Hatch – Attic Access	3,000
	Architectural Blocks for Grounds	12,500
Burnham	Heat Trace Gutter	24,000
	Ladder/Hatch – Attic Access	3,000
Washington Primary	Front Gym Entrance Canopy Update	6,500
	Paddle Fans – Upper Classrooms	4,000
Total		\$99,500

**MOTION:** made by Valerie Andersen, seconded by Alan Brown, to authorize an expenditure in the amount not to exceed \$99,500 from the Elementary Capital Non-recurring Fund (lease) as detailed above.

**VOTE:** unanimous.

*First Reading – Policy 4118.5 Personnel – Rights, Responsibilities, Duties:* Mr. Brown spoke about the need to update the policy due to statutory changes.

**MOTION:** made by Valerie Andersen, seconded by Jennifer Pote, to approve Policy 4118.5 Personnel – Rights, Responsibilities, Duties for a first reading.

Discussion followed.

**VOTE:** unanimous.

*First Reading – Policy 4118.11 Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified:* Mr. Brown spoke about the need to update the policy due to statutory changes.

**MOTION:** made by Valerie Andersen, seconded by Anthony Amato, to approve Policy 4118.11 Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified for a first reading.

**VOTE:** unanimous.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.