

**WALLINGFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL
SOUTH MAIN STREET, WALLINGFORD
MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2014**

Mission: To inspire, educate and support all students as they discover and pursue their personal best.

Vision: Wallingford Public Schools, with families and community, will distinguish itself with innovative teaching and learning experiences in a safe and supportive environment. Our goal is to ignite passion for learning and excellence in every student so that each becomes a life-long contributor to the local and global communities.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Roxane McKay called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE

Mrs. McKay welcomed the two new Board members, Karen Hlavac and Chris Shortell.

ROLL CALL

The Clerk of the Board, Elizabeth Napolitano, called the roll.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

BROODER, CASTELLI, HLAVAC, MARRONE, MILLER, SHORTELL, MCKAY

ABSENT: VOTTO, CEI

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

MENZO, PARKHURST, MCNAMARA, BACKUS, DEPTULA, MANCUSI, WINTERS, WONG, NAPOLITANO

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

Kaitlyn Marunda, Student Board representatives from Lyman Hall High School, came before the Board to give her report as listed below.

- This month has been a relatively busy one for students at Lyman Hall.
- The student run Unified Theater organization of about 40 students presented a successful production of "Dream" on January 15th.
- On January 16th Lyman Hall's Student Council organized another successful blood drive which generated 55 units of blood and saving 3 lives per unit.
- To honor Martin Luther King, Jr. on January 20th at the Town Hall, students read essays they wrote about his involvement in the Civil Rights Movement.
- Soon Lyman Hall will host the eighth grade parent's night which will kick off our course selection process for next school year.
- Lastly, students at Lyman Hall are in the process of taking their midterms this week and studying hard.
- The new semester will begin on Friday.

Mackenzie Mendygral, Student Board representative from Mark T. Sheehan High School, was not available to give a report.

Mrs. McKay stated she appreciated the Sheehan and Lyman Hall students being represented at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration. She reported that all the students did an excellent job.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Recognition of Lou Golden, President of Junior Achievement

Dr. Menzo explained Lou Golden is the President of Junior Achievement. He said Mr. Golden is working with our students on a project with students from Shanghai, China.

Mr. Golden came before the Board and welcomed the students and parents. He announced that this summer when the students go to China this would be the culmination of the program. He explained that last summer twenty students from Wallingford joined the students from China at the Yale University Campus, Lyman Orchards, ESPN, the New York Stock Exchange and Lake Compounce and worked on putting a business together. He presented a short video of what the students did last summer. He stated that this has been a great partnership and he was happy to be able to work with teachers, Kim Moore and Kristin DePodesta. The trip to China will take place from July 30 to August 9, 2014. He thanked the parents for being so supportive of their children to make this project happen.

Recognition of Students in the Junior Achievement Program with Shanghai, China

Dr. Menzo called the twenty students before the Board and presented them with certificates and a token of appreciation. Students who participated in the program are: Maisha Azam, Alvee Azmaeen, Kevin Carnale, Naha Chowdhury, Andrew Gilmore, Samantha Lopez, Joelle MarkAnthony, Ian Mayne, Philippe Recault, Joyce Yang, Emily Bau, Victor Jacome, Alyssa McCann, Leah McKeehan, Logan Metzger, Tyler O'Grady, Rebecca Orsini, Erika Ringstrom, Kate Sabo, and Daniel Woronick.

Recognition of Students Who Achieved Advanced Level on all of the CAPT Subtests

Dr. Menzo called Mrs. Duthie before the Board to present the students with certificates of excellence. She explained that these students reached all four levels on the CAPT in reading, writing, math and science. She called the students names: Amanda Barbieri, Kevin Carnale, Krithika Chagan, Charles Crilly, Monica Daddona, Charles Dippold, Joshua Glynn, Ashley Haskell, Samantha Lopez, Kaitlin Reed and Matthew Vacco.

Dr. Menzo called the Lyman Hall students to present them with certificates of excellence also. They were: Henry Abbott, Amber Albe, Carlo Arellano, Stephanie Arevalo, Emily Bau, Emily Blanchard, James Burnham, Nicholas Fiorillo, Alanna Gado, Steven Grassira, Stephen Grammatico, Hayley Hergott, Dylan Koval, Amberly Lao, Alexander May, Stephen Musial, Deanna Rackie, Keatyn Rish, Daniel Russell, Quinn Shields, Sabrina Sholtes, Zachary Sola, and Daniel Woronick.

Dr. Menzo said it is an honor as a superintendent to have when so many students earn the Advance Level on the CAPT in Wallingford. He said this is a very special award and small number of students can receive this award. He said it's all about the hard work the students put in and their skills and knowledge.

Mrs. McKay congratulated all the students also and said the parents should be proud of their students.

Recognition of English/Language Arts Management Team

Dr. Menzo called Greg Dirkson and Carrie Laudadio before the Board to give a brief overview of what the English/Language Arts Management Team has done so far and what their plans are for the future. They then called the team to the stage to present them with certificates. They were: Sashi Govin, Wendy Baker, Natalie Bohlman, Nick Brophy, Denise Cannata, Grace Candido, Donna Curtis, Kenneth Daly, Leigh DelBuono, Susan Duda, Lori Farkash, Jamie Hocking-Ferrone, Jim Genova, Aimee Giangrave, Chris Gilbert, Susan Gomes, Carolyn Hall, Jessica Harris, Ruby Hsu, Christine Lang, Carrie LaTorre, Lori Parisi, Winnie Peeler, Stacey Roberts, Stephanie Rubin, Robin Stegos, and Peter Wiesen.

Recognition of Staff Member of the Month

Dr. Menzo called Sashi Govin, Principal and Nick DaPonte, Assistant Principal of Dag Hammarskjold Middle School before the Board to present the Staff Member of the Month award. Mrs. Govin said that Marie is the glue that sticks the Dag Community together and with so many changes in staff changes, Marie is the one person who keeps everyone together. She said Marie is also a lifelong learner and finds a way to make things work. She has a smile and dedication for every staff member at Dag. Marie Krista came before the Board and was presented with a certificate, flowers and a token of appreciation.

Presentation of CABA Award to Highland School

Dr. Menzo called Patrice McCarthy, President of CABA and Vicky Reed, Principal at Highland Elementary School to the stage to receive the CABA Communication Award of Excellence. The Open House video was put together by Vicky Reed, Donna Wolther and Beth Devaney. She said this video was so impressive that it received the highest honor from CABA. Ms. McCarthy presented Ms. Reed with a plaque and read "CABA 2013 Award of Excellence presented to Wallingford Public Schools for their Open House Video".

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

There were no questions brought before the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: MARRONE, SECOND BY BROODER

VOTE: Unanimous approval to remove item 7.1 - Approval to Accept BOE Minutes dated December 16, 2013

MOTION: MARRONE, SECOND BY HLAVAC

VOTE: Unanimous approval to accept items 7.2 - 7.20 on the Consent Agenda

Approval to Accept Special BOE **Minutes** dated January 6, 2014

Approval to Accept **Cafeteria Financial Report** for December 2013

Approval to Accept **Board of Education Financial Report** for December 2013

Approval to Accept **GIFT** of 1 Xylo, 1 Vibes, 2 Snares/Harness and 1 Tenor/Harness to Dag Hammarskjold Music Department from Mark Allen, Wallingford \$2,000

Approval to Accept **GIFT** of \$10,000 from Steve Zion – Toyota of Wallingford to E.C. Stevens Elementary School Technology \$10,000

Approval to Accept **GIFT** of \$750 to Mark T. Sheehan High School Athletic Teams from Verizon Foundation in recognition of the volunteer efforts of Keira Merrill \$750

Approval to Accept **Transfer** from Account #100B-Contingency to Account 730B-Replace Instructional Equipment in the Amount of \$39,316
Approval to Accept **Transfer** from Account #111B-Certified Salaries to Account #112C- Noncertified Salaries in the Amount of \$50,000
Approval to Accept **Transfer** from Account #330A-Professional/Technical Services – Medical to Account #611A-Instructional Supplies in the Amount of \$3,854
Approval to Accept **Transfer** from Account #324B-Field Trips-Admissions for \$653, Account #611A-Instructional Supplies for \$1,540, Account #890I-Other Expenses-Instructional for \$200 to Account #730A-New Instructional Equipment for \$2,393
Approval of Community Revitalization Efforts of Wallingford (CREW) Trip to Oklahoma – April 13th to April 19, 2014
Approval of Lyman Hall French Club Trip to Quebec, Canada – April 30th to May 3, 2014
Approval of Proposed Deletion of H.S. Course – Latin 4
Approval of Proposed Addition of H.S. Course – Advanced Placement Latin 4
Approval of Proposed Deletion of H.S. Course – Business Mathematics
Approval of Proposed Deletion of H.S. Course – Advanced Placement Calculus
Approval of Proposed Addition of H.S. Course – Advanced Placement Calculus 1
Approval of Proposed Addition of H.S. Course – Advanced Placement Calculus 2
Approval of Proposed Granting of Credit for Middle School World Language

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: MARRONE, SECOND BY HLAVAC

VOTE: APPROVAL TO ACCEPT BOE MINUTES DATED DECEMBER 16, 2013

AFFIRMATIVE: BROODER, MARRONE, MILLER, MCKAY

ABSTAINED: HLAVAC, SHORTELL, CASTELLI

Motion passed

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Marrone thanked Mr. Mark Allen for the instruments donated to Dag Hammarskjold, Steve Zion from Toyota of Wallingford for \$10,000 donated toward the Technology Budget at Stevens School and the Verizon Foundation for their check of \$750 to Sheehan High School Athletic Teams.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A.C.E.S. Representative

Mrs. Castelli reported that there was discussion about the Common Calendar. She reported it is being driven by economics, not education. She explained what the benefits would be for a Common Calendar. It would include benefits for parents who have students in two different schools, shared online courses, and shared staff. She stated that originally the Common Calendar was to be for all districts in the state but thinking that since there are six RESCs in Connecticut it would be divided that way. She read the Guidelines for RESCs into the minutes "The following are guidelines for each RESC to use within their respective regions to create a regional calendar that assures a minimum of 180 student days, 2 common professional development days, a common start date, and 3 vacation periods (one of which must fall during the summer). Invite all schools (public and non-public) to participate in the planning/creation of the regional calendar. Gather student enrollment information for Vo-tech and other schools to assess the cross-over of students from one region to

another for maximum efficiencies. Agree on a common start date for students within the region; the common start date shall be the last Wednesday of August with a three day +/- flexible window. Each regions must identify 3 vacations: If a school district participates in Extended or Expanded School Year opportunities, at least one week during the period between July 1 and the last week of August must be identified as student vacation time, at least 5 days during the 4th or 5th week of December (and can be extended to coincide with New Year's Day), at least 5 days during the 2nd or 3rd week of April. Election Day in November shall be a Professional Development Day with no students attending school. Within a region have one common Professional Development Day that does not interfere with statewide student assessments (in consultation with the Connecticut State Department of Education). Work toward common agreement on student and non-student days for Holidays such as Veterans' Day, Columbus Day, and other single day holidays (keep in mind that cultural and religious observances drive individual town calendars based on community need; regions and districts will need flexibility); within a region discuss a February break and work toward common agreement on the number of days identified as vacation. Allow for flexible days for individual district needs."

She said this is holding up our school calendar for next year.

Wintergreen Magnet School

Mr. Parkhurst reported that a meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 29th.

School to Career Representative/BusinessThink Tank

Mr. Miller reported the next meeting is Thursday, February 13th.

Report from Roof Project Committee Representative

Mr. Marrone reported all the construction work is complete and the projects are in the process of being closed out.

PTAC Update

Dr. Menzo reported the next meeting is at 6:00 P.M. on February 10th. He stated that this Thursday there will be a reunion of the Parent SEE group.

Lyman Hall Athletic Complex Improvement Committee

Mr. Deptula reported the Worrell Grant has been processed and sent out. He said that money will be paid at the end of the project.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was brought before the Board.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMITTEE

APPROVAL OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR LISA MILLER BE APPROVED, WITHOUT PAY AND BENEFITS

MOTION: SHORTELL, SECOND BY MILLER

VOTE: Unanimous approval that a leave of absence for Lisa Miller from January 30, 2014 through the end of the current school year, be approved, without pay and benefits, and in accordance with the provisions of the current teachers' contract.

The leave is personal and confidential. (Lisa Miller is on a leave of absence until January 29, 2014, and has requested a leave of absence from January 30, 2014, through the end of the current school year.)

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION, WITH REGRET, OF REBECCA MORRIS, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 10, 2014

MOTION: SHORTELL, SECOND BY MILLER

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Rebecca Morris, effective January 10, 2014.

Rebecca Morris has been a special education teacher at Lyman Hall High School since January 2, 2014.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT, WITH REGRET, OF RANDALL BACKUS, EFFECTIVE MARCH 15, 2014

MOTION: SHORTELL, SECOND BY HLAVAC

VOTE: Unanimous approval that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of Randall Backus, effective March 15, 2014.

Randall Backus has been the Director of Information Technology Services since January 2003, for a total of eleven years of service in the Wallingford Public Schools.

Dr. Menzo and Board members said a few kind words about Mr. Backus.

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED ADOPTION OF REVISED POLICY: GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS – 6146 (IKF)

Mr. Parkhurst reported the one change there begins with the class of 2017 to include one credit for the Capstone experience. Students will take one half year of the class and then follow that up with their Capstone work and presentation.

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED ADOPTION OF REVISED REGULATION: GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS – 6146A(IKF-R)

Mr. Parkhurst said because CAPT will only be given in Science, the regulation change is that the math and writing portion that was require for graduation was eliminated.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Report on Operations Committee Meeting

Mr. Brooder reported that Operations Committee met on January 13, 2014 and again this past Saturday with the main focus on the budget. There is another meeting scheduled for January 28th. During the January 13th meeting there was discussion about the Board financial report, the Cafeteria financial report and a few transfers that were approved on the Consent Agenda tonight.

ADMINISTRATION

Administrative Report

Dr. Menzo gave his report as listed below.

- He recognized the hard work of the students who participated in the MLK Celebration at the Town Hall. He also said the chorus from Sheehan High School sang African songs and were incredible. He also stated that the students who read essays from Lyman Hall did a great job.
- Announced the Hubcap will be opening on February 20, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. He explained this is the Community/Business partnership. He said that over \$100,000 was donated to renovate the space in furniture, equipment and money.
- At the last Board meeting some donations were accepted but they were not recognized because of the shortened meeting. Dr. Menzo recognized them at this meeting.
John Zito from Yale Law School for the iPad donated to Stevens School, Westfield Meriden- Lou Grillo for shelving units and glass displays for the HUBCAP project, BYK USA for their monetary donation of \$10,000 for the Innovation Team and the PCR Thermal Cycler a \$900 value from Dr. Mark Driscoll from Life Sciences Corporation to Lyman Hall High School.
- He announced that Sharlene Wong was recognized by the Alliance for K-12 Nutrition Innovations saying that she has been a member since 2008 and has made a great contribution to the organization. He congratulated Sharlene for the many things that she does.
- Our students from Sheehan High School participating in the STEM Sikorsky Challenge are moving on to the fourth module which is the final module. It is due April 4th and if they are in the top three teams will move on to a competition on May 17th.
- There are two teams, one from Yalesville and one from Moran, participating in the Lit Bowl at Central Connecticut University this Friday night.
- We have continued to have conversations and monthly meetings with the Pre-School Committee. There will be a meeting in February at the Vo-Ag Community room for the Early Childhood program
- There was a meeting today with our TV Production team for our Pre-School TV show that we are trying to produce. We are trying to get a format finalized and work on having the show produced in March or April. This will be a pilot and hope that this will be of value to community members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. McKay announced that the Wallingford Education Foundation is holding its annual Spelling Bee at Moran Middle School on February 21st.

Tuesday, 01/28/14	Budget Workshop	6:00 p.m. – Lyman Hall Vo-Ag
Monday, 02/03/14	Instructional Committee	7:00 p.m. – Board Conference Room
Tuesday, 02/18/14	Operations Committee	7:00 p.m. – Lyman Hal Vo-Ag

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 02/24/14	Board of Education	7:00 p.m. Town Council Chambers
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ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. McKay adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Secretary

Mike Votto