

WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT
February 23, 2005

BOARD PRESENT: Chair Mr. Folan, Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall, Mr. Adamo, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Doyle,
Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Haney, Mr. Clements

BOARD ABSENT: Mr. Diaz

ADMINISTRATION

PRESENT: Superintendent Mr. Perzanoski, Directors Mrs. Banks and Mr. Nelson

REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENT: Student Council – No one
Columbia – No one

OTHERS PRESENT: General public and news media

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mr. Folan called the February 23, 2005, Board of Education meeting to order at 7:35 P.M., in conference room one, 2nd floor, Kramer School.

MINUTES (Ref. 1)

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the February 9, 2005, regular Board of Education meeting, Reference 1. Mrs. Haney noted that under Action Items; Mission-Goals-Objectives (Ref. 4), “PTO” and “PTA” have been reversed. Motion to accept the minutes includes this correction.

On the motion: Aye: Chair Mr. Folan, Mr. Adamo, Mrs. Collins, Mr. Doyle, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Clements, Mrs. Haney

Nay: No one

Abstained: Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall

The motion passes: 7-0-1

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Haney thanked the high school students who recently visited St. Joseph Living Center and participated in various activities with the residents. Mr. Adamo received an e-mail from Paulette Haines and she wished the Board good luck with the budget.

STUDENT COUNCIL

There was no report.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

Scott Johnson, Hampton, spoke in support of the revised policy regarding tuition for students of Windham town employees.

SUMMARY ACTION

Personnel Action (Ref. 2)

Motion of Mr. Clements, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve Reference 2.

Resignations:

- Angela Mitchell, Even Start Early Childhood staff, effective February 25, 2005.

- Margaro Peña, special education educational assistant, effective February 28, 2005.

Appointments:

- Susan Suvak, educational assistant at Windham Center Elementary School, effective February 11, 2005. Hourly rate is \$10.62. Replaces Nanette Adesso who resigned.
- Caril Rush, special education educational assistant at Windham Center Elementary School, effective February 10, 2005. Hourly rate is \$11.26. Grant funded position.
- Rosa Figueroa, educational assistant at Windham Academy, effective February 3, 2005. Hourly rate is \$11.26. Replaces Wilson Ramos who transferred to Windham Middle School.

Co-extracurricular appointments:

- Jaime Valentin, assistant girls' spring track coach at Windham High School, stipend is \$2,898.
- Daniel Levine, boys' tennis coach at Windham High School, stipend is \$2,254. Contingent upon receipt of certification.

Leaves of Absence:

- Arlene Burgos, secretary II-10 months at Windham Middle School, medical leave of absence from February 4, 2005, to approximately March 28, 2005.
- Amy Finsmith, grade 4 Compañeros at North Windham Elementary School, childrearing leave of absence from August 30, 2004, to June 30, 2005.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous.

Windham High School Field Trip (Ref. 3)

Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the Board of Education approve the trip request for Windham High School students to attend Camp Harkness in Waterford, Connecticut, from April 8, 2005, to April 9, 2005, in accordance with Board Policy 6110 P. There was no discussion.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous.

Windham Swim Club Donation (Ref. 4)

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve, with deep appreciation, acceptance of the donation of a semi-automatic IST electronic timing system and printer from the Windham Swim Club to Windham High School for use in its swim programs. Mr. Folan thanked the Windham Swim Club coach, Mr. Sykes, and members of the club for annually donating to Windham High School for the betterment of its swim programs.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous.

ACTION ITEMSWindham High School's School Improvement Plan (Ref. 5)

Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education accept the School Improvement Plan for Windham High School. This plan was presented and reviewed by the Board in subcommittee, as well as at the February 9, 2005, Board of Education meeting. There was no discussion.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous.

Tuition Rate for 2005-2006 (Ref. 6)

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education establish the 2005-2006 tuition rate for the Columbia Public Schools at \$8,142 per student. This was reviewed at the February Budget and Finance committee meeting. There was no discussion.

On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous.

Tuition for students of Windham Town Employees Policy (Ref. 7)

Motion of Mrs. Collins, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approved the proposed

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revised Tuition for Students of Windham Town Employees policy (3123P). This policy was reviewed at the February 9, 2005, Board of Education meeting and has been brought back to the Board for final action tonight with revisions made as noted at the first reading.

On the motion: Aye: Chair Mr. Folan, Mr. Adamo, Mrs. Collins, Mr. Doyle, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Clements, Mrs. Haney
Nay: Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall
Abstained: No one
The motion passes: 7-1-0

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent's Reports

Preliminary 2005-2006 Budget Presentation (Ref. 8)

Mr. Perzanoski said that Mr. Nelson has made some adjustments to the budget since the last Budget and Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Nelson said that he reviewed positions paid by grants and consolidated a number of accounts bringing the budget increase to 8% for 2005-2006 which is needed to maintain status quo. Mr. Perzanoski explained that there has only been one year in the last several years when budget allocations have gone above the cost of living adjustment. Dr. Switchenko said that seventy-seven positions have been eliminated over the past three years and Windham doesn't want to lose any more positions. Mr. Doyle said that this is a preliminary budget and planning for next year will be difficult. Mr. Folan said that the Board will do the best it can for the students and staff knowing that it has a responsibility to the taxpayers as well.

District Improvement Plan Mandates (Ref. 9)

Mr. Perzanoski explained that even though scores have improved, Windham has not made Adequate Yearly Progress and as a result must develop a District Improvement Plan. The plan, which is due to the state by May 10, 2005, must be implemented by the beginning of next year. Mr. Perzanoski said that this is a short time table and budget considerations will have to be met. He will keep the Board posted throughout the process.

Announcements/Information (Ref. 10)

There were no comments.

Board of Education

Subcommittee Reports

Budget/Finance: Mr. Doyle said that it will be difficult to plan for next year because of additional requirements mandated by NCLB legislation.

Program Development/Evaluation: Mr. Adamo reported that a number of parents attended. Curriculum revision for science and math updates were provided by high school staff. Dr. Anderberg briefed the committee on dual language programming.

Superintendent's Advisory: Mr. Perzanoski reported that the committee continued to discuss the professional code of conduct and has received feedback from the staff. The committee also discussed putting together a districtwide newspaper to be published three to four times a year.

School Readiness: Mrs. Collins has been attending these meetings regularly.

EASTCONN: Mr. Adamo reported that the executive director's report was given on NCLB mandates; various reports were presented by department heads; and Cindy Torrence reported on the upcoming review of the Head Start program.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

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CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

No citizens/delegations spoke.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Adamo, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board adjourn its meeting at 8:00 P.M.
On the motion: Aye, 8-0; unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

John Adamo, Secretary