

WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT  
February 9, 2005

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

BOARD ABSENT: Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall, Mr. Diaz

ADMINISTRATION

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

REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENT: Student Council – Matthew Liskom, Javi Lessner  
Columbia – No one

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrators, general public and news media

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mr. Folan called the February 9, 2005, Board of Education meeting to order at 7:35 P.M., in the Windham High School Library Media Center.

MINUTES

January 12, 2005, Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes (Ref. 1)

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Clements, that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the January 12, 2005, regular Board of Education meeting, Reference 1.

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

Nay: No one

Abstained: Mrs. Haney

The motion passes: 6-0-1

January 19, 2005, Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes (Ref. 1A)

Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the January 19, 2005, special Board of Education meeting, Reference 1A.

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

Nay: No one

Abstained: Mr. Doyle, Dr. Switchenko

The motion passes: 5-0-2

PRESENTATIONS

Eastern Connecticut Football Officials Association Sportsmanship Award

Athletic Director, Mr. Haddad, announced that the Windham High School football team has received the Eastern Connecticut Football Officials Association Sportsmanship Award this year for the fourth time since 1992. He introduced Tim Maclure, one of the football coaches, and senior football captains, Brian Phillips and Peter Sutton, and explained that this award is given to a team based on how the athletes have played during the season and how the coaches and parents have reacted to calls made by the officials.

George W. Ritchie Sportsmanship Award

The Windham High School boys' soccer team is this year's recipient of the George W. Ritchie Sportsmanship Award. Coach, Sebby Randazzo, explained that this is a statewide award and is a true indication of what the boys' soccer program accomplished this year. He introduced team co-captains, Josh Curry and Anthony Welden, who were present at the meeting. Due to other commitments, co-captains, Curtis Strout and Austin Roeser, were unable to attend tonight's meeting.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Folan congratulated the student athletes, coaches and Mr. Haddad and thanked them all for attending tonight's meeting.

Following these presentations, the Board received a surprise visit from team mascots, Captain Windham and Waldo.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Folan congratulated the Windham High School girls indoor track team for winning the championship for the first time. Mrs. Collins said that the pasta supper for the Diaz family is planned for March 11<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM, at Windham High School. Tickets may be purchased at the door, the Windham High School bank, the superintendent's office, at some schools or at Windham Hospital.

## STUDENT COUNCIL

Matthew Liskom and Javi Lessner reported the following: a book drive is being organized; a constitution committee has been formed; the data match fundraiser has just taken place; and work continues on planning the annual leadership conference which will be held in April at Eastern Connecticut State University. Student Council also voted to send a letter to the administration and department heads regarding passing time and hallway pass policies.

Board members received the yearbook advertising form and it was decided that the cost for a full-page advertisement would be split among the members. Payment should be given to Mrs. Lewis.

## CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

No one spoke.

## SUMMARY ACTION

### Personnel Action (Ref. 2)

Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve Reference 2.

### **Resignation:**

- Rebecca Mulrooney, Head Start teacher at Windham Heights, effective February 11, 2005.

### **Appointments:**

- John Brannigan, special education teacher at Windham High School, effective February 14, 2005. Salary is MA/12 \$54,641 prorated. New position.
- Mary Gelezunas, .40 FTE English teacher at Windham High School, effective January 25, 2005. Salary is MA/5 \$37,800 prorated. New position.

### **Co-extracurricular appointments:**

- Brian Crudden, boys' head spring track coach at Windham High School, stipend is \$5,313.
- Robert Haddad, .50 FTE boy's assistant spring track coach at Windham High School, stipend is \$2,093.
- Michael Jason Gonzalez, .50 FTE boys' assistant spring track coach at Windham High School, stipend is \$1,690.60. Contingent upon receipt of certification.
- Mark Gildea, cross country, head coach at Windham Middle School, stipend is \$1,127.
- Kenneth Phillips, assistant boys' swimming coach at Windham High School, stipend is \$3,864.
- Sarah Jones, .50 FTE music theater assistant at Windham Middle School, stipend is \$644.

### **Leaves of Absence:**

- Jessica Buchanan, physical education teacher at Windham Middle School, childbearing leave of

absence from March 31, 2005, to May 26, 2005.

- Leslie Campbell-Belisto, grade one teacher at Sweeney Elementary School, childbearing leave of absence from February 28, 2005, to April 29, 2005.
- Kathleen Sypher, health teacher at Windham Middle School, personal leave of absence from February 10, 2005, to April 1, 2005.

On the motion: Aye, 7-0; unanimous.

#### Windham High School Field Trip (Ref. 3)

Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Board of Education approve the trip request for Windham High School students to attend Mystic Seaport in Mystic, Connecticut, from March 3, 2005, to March 4, 2005, in accordance with Board Policy 6110 P. There was no discussion.

On the motion: Aye, 7-0; unanimous.

### ACTION ITEMS

#### Mission-Goals-Objectives (Ref. 4)

Motion of Mrs. Collins, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve the proposed Board of Education Mission-Goals-Objectives, Series 0000. No changes have been made since the first reading at the January 12, 2005, Board meeting. Mrs. Haney asked about the compliance officer. She also pointed out that "PTA" should be changed to "PTO". This will be corrected.

On the motion: Aye, 7-0; unanimous.

#### Region #19 Vocational Agriculture Consulting Committee (Ref. 5)

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve the appointment of Mr. Lance Ladd to represent the Town of Windham on the Region #19 Vocational Agriculture Consulting Committee. There was no discussion.

On the motion: Aye, 7-0; unanimous.

#### February 23, 2005, Board of Education Meeting (Ref. 6)

Mr. Perzanoski said that this meeting is scheduled during the week of winter recess. Mr. Folan said that a decision will be made whether or not to hold this meeting after the Budget and Finance Committee meets next week.

### REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### Superintendent's Reports

##### NCLB Reports for 2002-03 (Ref. 7)

Mr. Perzanoski reviewed the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) district and school reports received from the state for the 2002-03 school year and explained the results at each level. He said that each school is working on school improvement plans. Tonight the Board will be presented with the high school's plan. In the spring, the middle school will present its school improvement plan, and in the fall, the elementary schools will present their plans. Mr. Perzanoski answered questions from the Board.

##### Windham High School's School Improvement Plan (Ref. 8)

Mr. Blain reviewed all aspects of the School Improvement Plan for Windham High School for 2004-2005 and 2005-2006. He said that the high school's mission statement is aligned with the district's statement and that the middle school and elementary schools will also be aligned with the high school's plan providing a consolidated effort to move forward and make progress. Mr. Blain and Dr. Mulqueen answered questions. Mr. Blain was thanked for his report.

##### Financial Statement (1/31/05) (Ref. 9)

Mr. Nelson reviewed some aspects of the financial statement and answered questions from the Board. He said that transfers will be coming through in the next couple of months. Mr. Doyle asked that these listings be part of the information provided at upcoming Budget and Finance Committee meetings. Mr. Folan thanked Mr. Nelson for his report.

#### Announcements/Information (Ref. 10)

There were no comments.

#### Board of Education

##### Tuition for Students of Windham Town Employees Policy (Ref. 11)

Mrs. Collins said the Student Services Committee met and discussed revisions to this policy. The Policy and Planning Committee then reviewed the policy and is bringing forth two options to the full Board. There was some discussion regarding taxpayers and business owners and investment property owners. Board members agreed with Option A; however, noting that transportation is the responsibility of the parent. This policy with clarification will be brought back to the Board for approval at the next Board meeting.

##### **CHANGE TO AGENDA:** Addition of Early-release day to 2004-2005 School Calendar (Ref. 12A)

Mr. Perzanoski asked that a revision be made to the 2004-2005 school calendar changing Wednesday, April 27, 2005, to an early-release day for professional development to make up for canceled professional development day activities on January 5, 2005, due to inclement weather that afternoon.

Motion by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Clements, that the Board of Education add to the agenda the recommended approval of making April 27, 2005, an early-release day for professional development.

On the motion: 7-0; unanimous.

Motion by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Clements, that the Board of Education approve the change of Wednesday, April 27, 2005, from a regular day of school to an early-release day for the make-up of professional development activities that were canceled on January 5, 2005.

On the motion: 7-0; unanimous.

##### 2005-2006 Proposed School Calendar (Ref. 12)

This is the first reading of the 2005-2006 proposed school calendar with the calendar coming back to the Board for approval at the first meeting in March following the staff survey. There was discussion regarding having early dismissal on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. It was decided to make December 23<sup>rd</sup> a regular school day.

#### Subcommittee Reports

*Budget/Finance:* Mr. Doyle reported that the 2005-2006 budget format was reviewed, as well as the status of this year's budget. Mr. Perzanoski and Mr. Doyle will be guests on an upcoming segment of *Hometown* to speak about the budget.

*Student Services:* Mrs. Collins reported that the tuition policy on tonight's agenda was reviewed and transportation issues were discussed.

*Head Start:* Mrs. Collins asked Mr. Perzanoski and Mr. Folan to sign a standard form as required by federal regulations for the Head Start program.

*Superintendent's Advisory:* Mr. Perzanoski reported that information is still being gathered from staff regarding the professional code of conduct. Mrs. Haney apologized for being unable to attend some of these meetings due to her work schedule.

*Districtwide PTO:* Mrs. Haney said that Mrs. Grunwald gave a report on the results of the school nutrition survey sent out to families. The majority of people were content with the nutrition and physical activity of students. Schools gave their activity reports. There will be a movie night sponsored by PTO at WMS in February. Mrs. Haney said that she would like to provide PTO with more information about what

the Board is doing.

*Program Development/Evaluation:* Mr. Adamo reported that the committee was updated on the curriculum revision process with reports from the high school and middle school staff. Mr. Blain presented the high school's improvement plan and a report on the dual language program was provided.

*Policy/Planning:* The tuition policy reviewed earlier on tonight's agenda was discussed.

*Personnel:* Dr. Switchenko reported that a request for an additional stipend position was reviewed and will be brought forth in executive session. Substitute feedback sheets were reviewed, as well as stipend positions overall.

*EASTCONN:* Mr. Adamo reported that the first meeting of the year under the directorship of Paula Colen was held. There was a Head Start report, a financial report and an update on the Arts Magnet School, as well as a report on the work done by lobbyists in Hartford for the Regional Education Service Centers.

*Universal Preschool:* Mrs. Collins reported that meetings have been held to review funding and other possibilities that may be available. She said that letters written in support of Universal Preschool would be helpful and would make a difference.

Mrs. Collins reported that she and Mrs. Haney attended the recent legislative breakfast at RHAM; however, only two legislators were present.

#### FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mrs. Collins asked for information regarding the expense of offering free lunch. She would also like a presentation on the reading program, possibly through the Program Development and Evaluation Committee, with parents invited as well. There was some discussion regarding the process of the implementation of this program and getting the information to parents.

#### CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

No citizens/delegations spoke.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion of Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Adamo, that the Board enter into executive session at 9:26 P.M. for the discussion of exempt documents pertaining to personnel matters.

On the motion: Aye, 7-0; unanimous.

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

BOARD ABSENT: Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall, Mr. Diaz

#### ADMINISTRATION

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

Mr. Folan reconvened regular session at 9:34 P.M.

Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board add the recommended approval of a stipend for the advisor of the National Junior Honor Society at Windham Middle School and that Mary Blain be appointed the advisor in the amount of \$1288.

On the motion: Aye, 7-0; unanimous.

Motion of Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Board approve a stipend for the advisor of the National Junior Honor Society at Windham Middle School, and that Mary Blain be appointed the advisor in the amount of \$1288 for the 2004-05 year.

On the motion: Aye, 7-0; unanimous.

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Collins, that the Board adjourn its meeting at 9:35 P.M.

On the motion: Aye, 7-0; unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

John Adamo, Secretary

