

**WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT
August 24, 2005**

BOARD PRESENT: Chair Mr. Folan, Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall, Mr. Adamo, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Doyle, Mr. Clements, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Haney, Mr. Diaz (arrived at 7:38 PM)

BOARD ABSENT: No one

ADMINISTRATION

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

REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENT: Student Council – No one
Columbia – Nelson Petrone

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrators, news media

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mr. Folan called the August 24, 2005, Board of Education meeting to order at 7:30 P.M., in conference room one (room 223), 2nd floor, Kramer School.

June 23, 2005, Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes (Ref. 1)

Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Board of Education approve the June 23, 2005, special Board of Education meeting (held in place of the regular June 22, 2005, Board meeting) minutes, Reference 1.

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

Nay: No one

Abstained: Mr. Clements

The motion passes: 7-0-1

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Rayhall informed the Board that members of the Willimantic Rotary Club will distribute new dictionaries to third graders at each elementary school in November. She will let everyone know the date at a later time. Mr. Folan said that as a senior class fundraiser, members of the class and parents worked at the concession stand during a Norwich Navigators game this summer. He and Dr. Switchenko, who both participated in the fundraiser, presented Mr. Perzanoski with a memento from the evening which was *Don King Night*.

STUDENT COUNCIL

There was no report.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

There were no comments.

SUMMARY ACTION

Personnel Action (Ref. 2)

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

Resignations:

- Kimberly Kelley, grade 5 teacher at Windham Middle School, effective August 1, 2005.
- David Jones, grade 8 social studies teacher at Windham Middle School, effective August 4, 2005.
- Bridget Corcoran, grade 8 L/A teacher at Windham Middle School, effective August 9, 2005.
- Consuela Luft, grade 5 Compañeros teacher at Windham Middle School, effective August 3, 2005.
- John Green, math teacher at Windham High School, effective August 1, 2005.
- Pamela Handfield, special education educational assistant at Windham High School, effective August 29, 2005.
- Lori Koplin, grade 1 teacher at Natchaug Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005.
- Kylie Hirst, grade 4 teacher at Windham Center Elementary School, effective July 14, 2005.
- Susan Newcombe, kindergarten teacher at Sweeney Elementary School, effective July 18, 2005.
- Margaret Stickel, nurse at Sweeney Elementary School, effective August 5, 2005.
- Suheil Laracuente, bilingual special education educational assistant at Sweeney Elementary School, effective June 23, 2005.
- Carol Records, kindergarten teacher at North Windham Elementary School, effective July 26, 2005.
- Nicole Corcoran, special education educational assistant at North Windham Elementary School, effective August 9, 2005.
- Neng Kounmany, Head Start cooperating teacher at Windham Heights, effective July 22, 2005.
- Sarah Robinson, Head Start family advocate at Columbia, effective September 8, 2005.
- JoAnne Hokanson, speech and language pathologist at Preschool Program, effective July 8, 2005.
- James Peludat, custodian at central office, effective August 1, 2005.
- Adrian Jones, special education educational assistant at ERA, effective August 16, 2005.
- Marie Mulkern, cafeteria worker at Windham Middle School, effective August 29, 2005.
- Judd Ayer, tutor at ERA, effective August 18, 2005.

Appointments:

- Amanda Doyle, grade 3 teacher at Sweeney Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is MA/7 \$40,771. Replaces Susan Rubb who resigned.
- Maria Bray, kindergarten teacher at Sweeney Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is MA/1 \$34,406. Replaces Susan Newcombe who resigned.
- Annemarie Miller, kindergarten teacher at Sweeney Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is BA+30/4 \$37,526. Replaces Felicia O'Brien who transferred.
- Roman Pope, physical education teacher at Windham Center Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is MA+15/6 \$41,019. Replaces Melanie McIlmail who resigned.
- Carrie Goguen Kelly, grade 1 teacher at Windham Center Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is MA/6 \$39,773. Replaces Cyd Weldon who transferred.
- Mark Katibian, grade 3 teacher at Windham Center Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is MA/1 \$34,406. Replaces Kylie Hirst who resigned.
- Tara Seltsam, special education teacher at Windham Center Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is BA+15/8 \$40,645. Replaces Bridgette Gordon-Hickey who transferred.
- Bridgette Gordon-Hickey, instructional consultant at Windham Center Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is BA+30/9 \$44,015. Replaces Katherine Croft who transferred.
- Joshua Metell, grade 1 teacher at Natchaug Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is BA+30/1 \$34,406. Replaces Kimberly Gallagher who resigned.
- Theresa Trombetta, .40 FTE teacher at Natchaug Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is MA/13 \$63,909 prorated. Replaces Dawn Fabik who became 1.0 FTE at St. Mary's.
- Jessica Millot, grade 1 teacher at Natchaug Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is BA/1 \$32,659. Replaces Lori Koplin who resigned.
- Angela Grillo, grade 2 Compañeros teacher at North Windham Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is MA/8 \$41,894. Replaces Glenda Carrion who resigned.

- Michael Spottiswoode, grade 4 Compañeros teacher at North Windham Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is MA/5 \$38,651. Replaces Amy Finsmith who transferred to Windham Center School.
- Faith Papadopoulos, kindergarten teacher at North Windham Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is MA/6 \$39,773. Replaces Carol Records who resigned.
- Jocelyn Short, math teacher at Windham High School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is BA/1 \$32,659. Replaces John Green who resigned.
- Andrew Liefeld, math teacher at Windham High School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is BA/8 \$39,773. Replaces Michael Jason Gonzalez who resigned.
- Lorrie Harvey, reading teacher at Windham High School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is BA+30/4 \$37,526. New position.
- David Gruber, physical education and health teacher at Windham High School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is BA/4 \$35,528. Replaces James Thompson who terminated.
- Robert Kallajian, grade 7 L/A teacher at Windham Middle School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is BA+30/1 \$34,406. Replaces Christine Koning who transferred. Note-Erin Corso who originally replaced Christine Koning transferred to replace Mark Thresher.
- Heather Siegel, grade 8 social studies teacher at Windham Middle School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is BA+30/1 \$34,406. Replaces David Jones who resigned.
- Janet Platt, grade 7 math teacher at Windham Middle School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is MA/13 \$63,909. Replaces Sydney Gilbey who transferred.
- Margaret Lettieri, .55 FTE preschool teacher at Prospect Street, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is MA/9 \$44,015 prorated. One-year appointment for Moira Allen who transferred.
- Moira Allen, .83 FTE preschool teacher at Prospect Street, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is MA/2 \$35,405 prorated. Transfer to one-year appointment for Teresa Surprenant who is on a leave of absence.
- Ruth Enid Rivera, secretary I-10 month at preschool Prospect Street, effective August 16, 2005. Hourly rate is \$10.32. Replaces Myriam Rivera who resigned.
- Sheila Koch, cafeteria manager at Windham Center Elementary School, effective August 26, 2005. Hourly rate is \$12.97. Replaces Kay Hemingway.
- Susan Wood, assistant cafeteria manager at Windham Center Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Hourly rate is \$10.62. Replaces Sheila Koch.
- Elsie Maldonado, Family Resource Center Coordinator at North Windham School, effective August 24, 2005. Salary is \$36,000. Replaces Susan Churchill who resigned.

Schedule A-2 appointment:

- Bridgette Gordon-Hickey, instructional consultant at Windham Center Elementary School, stipend is \$2,664.

Leaves of Absence:

- Gail Provost, reduced from 1.0 to .50 FTE leave of absence for medical reasons from June 27, 2005, to approximately August 27, 2005.
- Christopher Ekstrom, special education teacher at Windham High School, military leave of absence from August 29, 2005, to June 30, 2006.
- Ernest Pinckney, custodian at Windham Middle School, leave of absence for medical reasons from July 13, 2005, to August 5, 2005.
- Joann Dupont, Head Start aide at Columbia, leave of absence for medical reasons from July 5, 2005, to approximately July 27, 2005.
- Maria Nieves, Head Start family advocate at Prospect Street, childbearing leave of absence from approximately September 22, 2005, to December 15, 2005.
- Michelle Dupuis, .4 FTE math teacher at Windham Center Elementary School, childbearing/rearing leave of absence from approximately September 19, 2005, to June 30, 2006.

- Mario Montes, bilingual grade 2 Compañeros teacher at North Windham Elementary School, leave of absence for medical reasons for the 2005/06 school year.

Mr. Adamo said that Robert Kallajian will do a wonderful job at the middle school.

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

Windham High School Field Trip (Ref. 3)

Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the Board of Education approve the field trip for Windham High school students to attend the Citizenship Education Program in Washington, D.C., from Sunday, January 29, 2006, to Thursday, February 2, 2006, in accordance with Board Policy 6110 P. There was no discussion.

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

(Mr. Diaz arrived.)

ACTION ITEMS

State Consolidated Grant (Ref. 4)

Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Board of Education approve the submission of the State Consolidated grant application for FY 2006. There was no discussion.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0, unanimous.

State Bilingual Grant (Ref. 5)

Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Mr. Adamo, that the Board of Education approve the submission of the State Bilingual grant application. Mr. Perzanoski responded to a question from Mr. Clements regarding administrative costs.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0, unanimous.

Kindergarten Enrollment (Ref. 6)

Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Board of Education open discussion regarding kindergarten enrollment.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0, unanimous.

Mr. Perzanoski explained that kindergarten class sizes are at capacity with walk-in registrations still occurring. He recommended that a sixteenth section be opened and housed at Windham Center School. Mr. Perzanoski answered Board members' questions concerning transportation, funding, and students in the Compañeros program. Mrs. Kiss said that Sweeney School historically receives at least five or six new kindergarten students during the first two weeks of school.

Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the Board of Education open a sixteenth kindergarten section located at Windham Center School.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0, unanimous.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent's Reports

Staff Recognition (Ref. 7)

Mr. Perzanoski announced that a proposal submitted by Lee Ann Packer to the National Alternative Education Association has been chosen for presentation at the twelfth Annual Alternatives to Expulsion, Suspension and Dropping Out of School Conference in February. The Board of Education and Mr. Perzanoski commended Ms. Packer for her fine work and wished her well at the conference.

Mr. Perzanoski also announced that Gene Blain is this year's recipient of the distinguished Connecticut Reading Association's Nicholas Criscuolo Administrator Award. The Board of Education and Mr. Perzanoski congratulated Mr. Blain for his statewide recognition as an outstanding administrator in education.

Financial Statements: Months ending June 30, 2005 (Ref. 8) and July 31, 2005 (Ref. 8A)

Mr. Nelson reported that all resources were utilized last year.

Announcements/Information (Ref. 9)

Mr. Folan acknowledged Mr. Popeleski's letter and thanked him for donating his services to teach the classroom portion of the Drivers' Education program. He also thanked Champagne Motors for donating a vehicle for use in the program.

Board of Education

Subcommittee Reports

EASTCONN Advisory: Mr. Adamo reported that updates were given for all services provided by EASTCONN. It was also reported that EASTCONN ended the year with a surplus; two directors, Mary Shinoski and Cindy Torrence, would be leaving; and resolution of the problem with TVCCA may take another month or so.

Head Start: Mrs. Collins has attended Head Start meetings.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Meeting dates were reviewed for discussion and public input regarding the magnet school concept. It was decided that the Board would meet on August 29, 2005, at 7:00 PM, to work on the operational plan which is due to the state by October 1, 2005. The date for the public forum was tentatively set for September 15, 2005.

Mrs. Collins said that additional School Readiness funds have been received and a classroom has been added to the Valley Street facility.

Mr. Adamo asked about the summer school report. Mr. Perzanoski said that an update on summer school is planned for the second meeting in September.

Mr. Folan said that he would like to recognize the generosity of Mr. Ossen at an upcoming Board meeting. He asked that the Student Services Committee discuss the possibility of holding future high school graduations on Fridays or Saturdays.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

No citizens/delegations spoke.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was not necessary to hold an executive session as listed on the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board adjourn its meeting at 7:55 P.M.

On the motion: Aye, 9-0; unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

John Adamo, Secretary