

WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT
June 8, 2005

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

BOARD ABSENT: No one

ADMINISTRATION

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

REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENT: Student Council – Avi Lessner
Columbia – No one

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrators

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mr. Folan called the June 8, 2005, Board of Education meeting to order at 7:40 P.M., in conference room one, 2nd floor, Kramer School.

MINUTES

May 25, 2005, Regular Board of Education Meeting (Ref. 1)

Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Mrs. Collins, that the Board of Education approve the revised minutes distributed at tonight's meeting of the May 25, 2005, regular Board of Education meeting, Reference 1.

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

Nay: No one

Abstained: Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall

The motion passes: 8-0-1

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Mr. Folan shared a thank-you note with Board members from Nusie Halpine. Mr. Folan expressed appreciation and thanked the Windham Federation of Teachers, fellow Board members, PTO's and the community for everyone's support of the 2005-06 budget which was approved at Tuesday's referendum.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Avi Lessner reported that the recent leadership conference was a success and was attended by high school and middle school students. This year's theme was leadership in sports and the keynote speaker was Mr. Lawrence, a long-time coach from Columbia. He reported that elections for class officers and student council will take place next week. He also said that the constitution should be ready to be put in place in the fall.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

There were no comments.

SUMMARY ACTION

Personnel Action (Ref. 2)

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

Resignations:

- Dawn Werneck, social worker at ERA Partial Day Program, effective June 23, 2005.

Appointments:

- Marian Giovannini, grade 1 teacher at Natchaug Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is BA+30/2 \$35,405. Replaces Jamie Webber who resigned.
- Catherine Aillon Pomo, grade 2 Compañeros teacher at North Windham Elementary School, effective August 29, 2005. Salary is MA/1 \$34,406. Replaces Alicia Perez-Rodriguez.

Leaves of Absence:

- Martha Krug, preschool teacher at Columbia, medical leave of absence from May 17, 2005, to August 28, 2005.
- Susan Gamache, special education educational assistant at Natchaug Elementary School, family medical leave of absence from May 18, 2005, to approximately June 23, 2005.
- Haydee Ramos, educational assistant at Preschool Program, medical leave of absence from May 24, 2005, to June 23, 2005.
- Maria Aponte, bilingual educational assistant at Natchaug Elementary School, medical leave of absence from May 18, 2005, to June 23, 2005.

There was no discussion.

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

ACTION ITEMS

Even Start Family Literacy Grant (Ref. 3)

Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Mrs. Collins, that the Board of Education approve submission of the Even Start Family Literacy grant application. There was no discussion.

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

School Readiness and Child Daycare Grant (Ref. 4)

Motion by Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Board of Education approve submission of the School Readiness and Child Daycare grant application. Ms. Crotty responded to a Board member's question saying that this grant would not allow for increased student enrollment.

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

New Positions (Ref. 5)

Motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approving the following new positions: instructional tutors for autistic students; special education teacher at Windham Middle School for students with intellectual and multiple disabilities; school resource officer at the Eastern Regional Academy; and .5 athletic trainer. Dr. Switchenko said that these positions were reviewed and approved by the Personnel Committee. He said that as a result of good planning by Mr. Forman, these positions will not cost the district any money.

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

Series 2000 - Administration (Ref. 6)

Motion by Mrs. Haney, seconded by Mr. Clements, that the Board of Education approved the proposed Board of Education Series 2000 Administration policies and regulations. No changes have been made since the first reading of these policies and regulations at the May 25, 2005, Board of Education meeting. There was a question about the annual report. Mr. Perzanoski said that this report is done by his office.

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

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent's Reports

Staff and Student Recognition (Ref. 7)

Mr. Perzanoski announced that the Willimantic Student Activity Book and 2005 Desk Calendar projects created by students of Donna and Bruce Young at Windham Middle School for the Windham Textile & History Museum have received Awards of Merit sponsored by the Connecticut League of History Organizations. These projects were done in conjunction with the EASTCONN program led by Donna Drasch. The Board of Education and Mr. Perzanoski congratulated them for receiving this prestigious recognition for these successful educational projects which will be used to promote local history.

Financial Statement (May 2005) (Ref. 8)

There was no discussion.

Announcements/Information (Ref. 9)

There was no discussion.

Board of Education

Subcommittee Reports

Personnel: Dr. Switchenko said that the new positions on tonight's agenda were reviewed.

Policy/Planning: Mrs. Collins reported that the committee did not meet. She has been reviewing the policies at home and then meeting with Dr. Anderberg. She said that unless Board members object, she will continue with this procedure.

Student Services: Mrs. Collins reviewed items that have been purchased with grant money received for the abstinence portion of the contraception program.

Superintendent's Latino Advisory: Mr. Perzanoski reported that work on the survey, which will eventually be distributed to staff, parents and students, has been completed. The survey will be reviewed by the Student Services Committee in September before distribution.

Young Parents' Program: Mrs. Haney reported that there is now a new procedure book to help students understand their commitment to the program and the resources that are available to them. She especially thanked Jane Diaz for her work to get this project underway. Mrs. Haney also reported that the recent inspection of the program was extremely successful. She said that there are many positive things happening and gave special accolades to the YPP instructor and Daycare staff.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

An update on the eighth grade exit survey and information on WHS graduates were requested. Mr. Perzanoski said that these items will be on the next agenda. A review of the Welcoming Center was also requested.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

No citizens/delegations spoke.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion of Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mr. Clements that the Board enter into executive session at 8:01 PM, for the discussion of exempt documents pertaining to bargaining unit negotiations and personnel matters.

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

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BOARD ABSENT: No one

ADMINISTRATION

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

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENES

Chair Mr. Folan reconvened regular session at 8:50 P.M.

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education add the tentative agreement between the Windham Board of Education and the Windham Federation of Educational Personnel and the 2005-06 salary increases and benefit changes for nonaffiliated personnel to the agenda.

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

Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Board of Education approve the ratification of the tentative agreement between the Windham Board of Education and the Windham Federation of Educational Personnel.

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

Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Board of Education approve the following 2005-06 salary increases and benefit changes for nonaffiliated personnel as recommended by the Personnel Committee: 3.5% for the Personnel Director and the Business Manager; and 3% for the cafeteria director, building and grounds director, security officer, data specialist, technology manager/network administrator, administrative assistants in personnel, executive secretary to the superintendent, assistant network administrator, information systems technicians, and software/data specialist; as well as one floating holiday for the three central office confidential secretaries; increase from 6% to 6.5% for single insurance co-pay rates for nonaffiliated personnel other than the confidential secretaries and exempt administrators who pay the same co-pays as union personnel in these categories; \$491 increase in the TSA of the Personnel Director; and increases for all other nonaffiliated positions as determined by the following: same increase as the bargaining unit which is similar or 3% increase for positions that do not align with a union group or 3% or a lesser percentage for certain grant-funded positions depending on what the grant can support.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mr. Clements, that the Board adjourn its meeting at 9:00 P.M.

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

Respectfully submitted,

John Adamo, Secretary