

**WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES
December 7, 2005**

BOARD PRESENT: Chair Mr. Folan, Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall, Mr. Adamo, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Doyle, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Haney, Mr. Diaz (arrived at 7:43 P.M.), Mr. Clements

BOARD ABSENT: No One

ADMINISTRATION

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

REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENT: Student Council – Avi Lessner
Columbia – No One

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrators, general public and news media

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Perzanoski called the December 7, 2005, Board of Education meeting to order at 7:42 P.M., in conference room one (room 223), 2nd floor, Kramer School, and served as moderator for the election of officers.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Secretary

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that Mr. Adamo be nominated as Secretary of the Windham Board of Education.

(Mr. Diaz arrived.)

Mrs. Collins requested that the Democrats caucus. Mrs. Rayhall, Mrs. Haney, Mrs. Collins, Mr. Clements and Mr. Diaz left the meeting at 7:44 P.M. and returned at 7:47 P.M.

The meeting was called back to order by Mr. Perzanoski.

Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Mrs. Collins, that Mr. Clements be nominated as Secretary of the Windham Board of Education.

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Adamo, that nominations for Secretary of the Windham Board of Education be closed.

On the motion that nominations for the Secretary of the Windham Board of Education be closed:

Aye, 9-0; unanimous.

On the motion nominating Mr. Adamo as Secretary:

Aye: Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Doyle, Mr. Adamo, Mr. Folan, Mrs. Rayhall

Mr. Adamo is Secretary of the Windham Board of Education.

Vice-Chair

Motion of Mrs. Haney, seconded by Mrs. Collins, that Mr. Diaz be nominated as Vice-Chair of the Windham Board of Education.

Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that Mrs. Rayhall be nominated as Vice-Chair of the Windham Board of Education.

Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that nominations for Vice-Chair of the Windham Board of Education be closed.

On the motion that nominations for the Vice-Chair of the Windham Board of Education be closed:
Aye, 9-0; unanimous.

On the motion nominating Mr. Diaz as Vice-Chair:

Aye: Mrs. Haney, Mrs. Collins, Mr. Clements, Mr. Diaz

On the motion nominating Mrs. Rayhall as Vice-Chair:

Aye: Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Doyle, Mr. Adamo, Mr. Folan, Mrs. Rayhall

Mrs. Rayhall is Vice-Chair of the Windham Board of Education.

Chair

Motion of Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Diaz, that Mrs. Haney be nominated as Chair of the Windham Board of Education.

Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that Mr. Folan be nominated as Chair of the Windham Board of Education.

On the motion nominating Mrs. Haney as Chair:

Aye: Mrs. Haney, Mrs. Collins, Mr. Clements, Mr. Diaz

On the motion nominating Mr. Folan as Chair:

Aye: Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Doyle, Mr. Adamo, Mr. Folan, Mrs. Rayhall

Mr. Folan is Chair of the Windham Board of Education.

Chair Mr. Folan thanked everyone and said that the Board will continue to work as advocates for students and staff.

MINUTES

November 9, 2005, Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes (Ref. 1)

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education approve the November 9, 2005, regular Board of Education meeting minutes, Reference 1.

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

Nay: No one

Abstained: Mrs. Rayhall

The motion passes: 8-0-1

November 14, 2005, Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes (Ref. 1A)

Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve the November 14, 2005, special Board of Education meeting minutes, Reference 1A.

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

Nay: No one

Abstained: Mrs. Rayhall, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Diaz, Mr. Doyle

The motion passes: 5-0-4

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Adamo received an e-mail message from former Board of Education member, Paulette Haines, congratulating Board members on their re-election and wishing everyone happy holidays.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Avi Lessner reported that members are communicating with students and brainstorming on ideas for the annual leadership conference in the spring. Students participated in the Walk for Warmth fundraiser and assisted during recent parent conferences at the high school. Avi said that he has information from

meetings with other students in the state regarding having a Student Council representative on the Board of Education as a voting member. Mr. Folan said that this item would be put on the Student Services Committee agenda for discussion.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

Mr. Victor Rayhall, North Windham, said that the Willimantic Rotary Club has distributed dictionaries to over 300 third graders in Windham. Board members commented that this was a wonderful idea and is greatly appreciated.

Mr. Jim Barton, Windham, asked about having citizen representation in a non-voting capacity on the Board to report back to parent teacher organizations. He said that after looking into it, he found that the bilingual magnet school concept is not used in most places. He said that property in Windham that the town has put a binder on should be looked at for use by students for agricultural opportunities.

SUMMARY ACTION

Personnel Action (Ref. 2)

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Diaz, that the Board of Education approve Reference 2.

Resignations:

- David McCrory, special education teacher at Natchaug Elementary School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2006.
- Jacqueline Mercado, educational assistant at North Windham Elementary School, effective October 11, 2005.

Appointments:

- Erika Zuniga, before/after school program coordinator at Windham Center Elementary School, effective November 7, 2005. Salary is \$26,732.08 prorated. Replaces Kristin Fortier who resigned.
- Jill Luberto, tutor at Windham High School, effective October 31, 2005. Hourly rate is \$15.00. Replaces Martin Ariola who resigned.
- Eloise Beesley, educational assistant at North Windham Elementary School, effective November 2, 2005. Hourly rate is \$10.30. Replaces Jacqueline Mercado who resigned.
- Jennifer Stegman, part-time reading tutor at Sweeney Elementary School, effective November 1, 2005. Hourly rate is \$15.00. New grant funded position.
- Joy Emerson, reading teacher at Windham Center Elementary School, effective November 9, 2005. Salary is MA/10 \$47,134 prorated. Replaces Anne Rowe who resigned. One-year appointment.
- Shanna Coakley, .50 Athletic Trainer at Windham High School, effective January 3, 2006. Hourly rate is \$20.00 per hour. Replaces Nicole Tanguay who resigned.
- Susan Slater, part-time data entry clerk at information systems, effective November 28, 2005. Hourly rate is \$12.00. New position.
- James Thompson, physical education teacher at Windham High School, effective October 31, 2005. Salary is BA/1 \$32,659 prorated from October 31, 2005, to December 15, 2005, and BA/4 \$35,528 prorated from December 16, 2005, to June 30, 2006. Replaces Patrick Risley. One-year appointment.

Schedule A-2 appointment:

- Patrick Risley, interim athletic director, effective October 31, 2005. Stipend is \$10,864 prorated.

Co/extra curricular appointments:

- Cassandra Busque, head gymnastics coach at Windham High School, stipend is \$4,175. Contingent upon receipt of certification.
- Erin Corso, freshmen girls' basketball coach at Windham High School, stipend is \$2,505.

Leaves of absence:

- Barbara Hood, coordinator for family resource center at Natchaug Elementary School, leave of absence for personal reasons from November 30, 2005, to December 14, 2005.

- Carol Wright-Sweeney, special education teacher at Windham Center School, extending medical leave of absence from November 7, 2005, to November 30, 2005. Unpaid leave of absence for personal reasons from December 1, 2005, to January 2, 2006.

There was no discussion.

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

Donation of *Crazy Quilt Frog* to Windham Center Elementary School (Ref. 3)

Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education accept with gratitude the donation from Windham Center residents of the *Crazy Quilt Frog*, painted by Windham Center artist, Annie Wandell. Board of Education members acknowledged the generosity of the Windham Center residents who gave pledges towards its purchase and said they were pleased to have it displayed at Windham Center School.

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

ACTION ITEMS

Board of Education Meeting Dates for 2006 (Ref. 4)

Motion of Mr. Diaz, seconded by Mrs. Haney, that the Board of Education approve the proposed Board of Education meeting dates for January through December 2006. Mr. Perzanoski explained that based on discussion at the first reading of these dates at the November 9, 2005, Board meeting, the meeting date in August was moved to earlier in the month and a second meeting was added in December. There was no discussion.

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

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent's Reports

Forty-five Day Review of District Improvement Plan (Ref. 5)

Mr. Perzanoski explained that a formal forty-five day review of the District Improvement Plan, which was presented to the Board last spring, is required by NCLB. Another update will take place in February with a formal review in June. Mr. Perzanoski reviewed the plans for Windham High School and Windham Middle School and answered questions from the Board throughout his presentation. Dr. Anderberg reported on the Reading First Roll-Out initiative at the elementary-school level and also answered questions. Mrs. Kiss and Mr. Giordano were present and commented on the program. Dr. Summa spoke about professional development in the district as it relates to curriculum and instruction and answered questions throughout her presentation. There was discussion regarding grouping and Mr. Folan and Mr. Perzanoski said that this topic would be brought to committee for discussion. Mr. Stover reported on the Before and After School Program and parental involvement portions of the review. He also answered questions.

Staff Recognition (Ref. 6)

Mr. Perzanoski recognized Windham High School math teacher, Christine Maclure, for her nomination by a student to apply for the Disney Teacher Awards. The Board and Mr. Perzanoski congratulated her and wished her well throughout the rigorous application process.

Financial Statement (11/30/05) (Ref. 7)

Mr. Nelson reported that the oil price is still below the projection and consumption is down compared to last year.

Announcements/Information (Ref. 8)

There was no discussion.

Board of Education
Subcommittee Reports

Budget/Finance: Mr. Doyle reported that the committee continued to review A2 positions and said the cost of fuel is still being monitored.

Program Development/Evaluation: Mr. Adamo reported that Dr. Summa gave the committee minutes of the PGR meeting at the high school and provided an update on professional development activities. She also provided a proposal on placement of ninth grade students in math when they enter high school.

EASTCONN: Mr. Adamo reported that an update was given by the new director of the EASTCONN Head Start program. An overview of the interdistrict programs for 05-06 and 06-07 was given. There was an update on TVCCA. Mr. Adamo also shared an article in the EASTCONN publication, *Connections*, about the Flexible Credit Diploma Program, an EASTCONN/Windham Public Schools' initiative.

Student Services: Mrs. Collins said the committee discussed ways to get the magnet school survey out to the community.

Districtwide PTO: Mr. Perzanoski reported that he reviewed Board committees, their functions and meeting schedules. Members reported on school activities during round table.

Personnel: Dr. Switchenko reported that the committee reviewed the NCLB requirements for paraprofessionals and salaries for substitutes, and also discussed two issues in executive session.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Doyle asked for a review of the music program.

CITIZENS/DELEGATIONS

There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, seconded by Mr. Diaz, that the Board enter into executive session at 9:50 PM, for the discussion of exempt documents pertaining to bargaining unit negotiations.

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

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

ADMINISTRATION

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

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENES

Chair Mr. Folan reconvened regular session at 9:55 P.M.

Motion by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board of Education add to the agenda the ratification of the tentative agreement between the Windham Board of Education and the Windham Association of Educational Secretaries and also add to the agenda a pay adjustment for the three non-bargaining unit secretaries.

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

Motion of Mrs. Rayhall, 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 Association of Educational Secretaries.

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

Motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mrs. Rayhall, that the Board of Education approve a pay adjustment equivalent to the union secretaries for the three non-bargaining unit secretaries retroactive to July 1, 2005.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Adamo, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Board adjourn its meeting at 9:56 P.M.

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

Respectfully submitted,

John Adamo, Secretary