

WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
June 13, 2005

BOARD PRESENT: Chair Mr. Folan, Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall, Mr. Adamo, Mrs. Collins, Mr. Clements, Dr. Switchenko, Mr. Doyle (arrived at 7:20 PM), Mrs. Haney (arrived at 7:25 PM)
BOARD ABSENT: Mr. Diaz
ALSO: Superintendent Mr. Perzanoski, Administrators, general public

Chair Mr. Folan called the June 13, 2005, special meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:05 P.M. in conference room one, 2nd floor, Kramer School.

Action Item: Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Motion of Dr. Switchenko, seconded by Vice-chair Mrs. Rayhall, that the Board appoint Dr. Diane T. Summa as the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, at a salary of \$113,000, with a starting date of July 8, 2005.

On the motion: Aye, 6-0 unanimous.

Informational: Magnet Schools

Bill Magnotta, from the State Department of Education, provided the Board with information concerning magnet schools in Connecticut. He answered questions throughout his presentation. He said that by this fall, there will be fifty magnet schools in the state. Because of a new formula developed for funding magnet schools, it is now more cost effective for local districts rather than RESCs to fund them. At this time, the state is looking at host magnet schools which are operated by districts in which the majority of students that attend are from that district. He explained that the state pays 95% of construction costs, while local funds pay the remaining 5%. To qualify for a state grant, the law which takes effect on July 1, 2005, states that a minimum of 25% of the students must come from out-of-district for the magnet school to qualify for the state grant. If the number falls below this figure, the Commissioner will grant a waiver for one year so that eligibility for this funding is not lost. Approval for the opening of a magnet school, which includes a plan of operation, must occur at least one year in advance of the school's opening. (Mr. Doyle arrived.)

At the conclusion of Mr. Magnotta's presentation, he continued to answer questions pertaining to annual funding, transportation, proximity of districts for attending students, schools funded by host districts as compared to those funded by RESCs, and getting information out to the public to ensure student enrollment.

(Mrs. Haney arrived.)

He explained that an operation plan that is submitted by a district will be reviewed and necessary changes made before it is accepted. Magnet schools are governed by a governance board usually consisting of six to twelve members. The membership, duties and responsibilities of this board are outlined in the operational plan. Letters of support from districts interested in participating will also be part of the operation plan. The Board and Mr. Perzanoski thanked Mr. Magnotta for his presentation.

CITIZENS AND DELEGATIONS

No one spoke at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion of Mr. Adamo, seconded by Dr. Switchenko, that the Board adjourn its meeting at 7:35 P.M.
On the motion: Aye, 8-0 unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

John Adamo, Secretary