

Pending BOE Approval

**Watertown Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: July 25, 2013
Meeting Time: 7:30 p.m.
Meeting Place: Lecture Hall, Watertown High School

Members Present: Mr. Guy Buzzannco, Chairman
Mr. Tom Lambert, Vice Chair
Mr. Eric Berthel, Secretary
Ms. Susan McCabe
Ms. Mary Colangelo
Mr. Ray Nardella
Mr. David Guerrero

Members Absent: Mr. Richard Beland
Atty. Sean Butterly

Others Present: Dr. Gail Gilmore, Superintendent of Schools

A. Convene Regular Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

B. Salute to the Flag – Mr. Buzzannco

C. Watertown Public Schools' Mission Statement – Ms. Colangelo

- The mission of the Watertown School District, with determination to be a world-class educational leader and a centerpiece of a dynamic and growing community, is to meet the diverse needs of each student – academic, artistic, athletic, emotional, ethical, social, and technological – to develop members of our community who embrace life-long learning and are caring and responsible citizens.

Mr. Buzzannco - Thank you very much, Ms. Colangelo. Before we move on with this evening's agenda, we have two corrections to make in the agenda. On page 4, item 2Q and 2R, where both of these items relate to teaching positions, the names of those positions were left out, these are teaching positions. On page 5, item 2U, there is a position indicated for a stipend to be paid for and in school suspension monitor, that is a position, as I understand, that does not

receive a contractual stipend, so that appointment will be struck from the agenda tonight as a correction. We will now move on to item D, recognition.

D. Award Recognition

Mr. Buzzannco –Can I ask you, Dr. Gilmore, to join me at the podium?

Dr. Gilmore – I would be honored.

Mr. Buzzannco – The Watertown Board of Education wishes to recognize Dr. Gilmore, Superintendent of the Watertown Public Schools. Dr. Gilmore announced her retirement from the district at a special board meeting on July 11 of this year. She will begin a leave of absence on August 15 and she will be officially leaving our district on October 31, 2013. Dr. Gilmore, we just wanted opportunity to tell you what a pleasure it has been. To work with you, to know you, to have you in our district and to tell you how much we appreciate your dedication to our students, to our parents, to our entire school community, and to our town. And then to wish you nothing but the best in your future and wonderful retirement for you, and Tom, and your family. So please join me in congratulating Dr. Gilmore. (Applause)

Dr. Gilmore - Thank you so very much. This district means so very much to me. I began my teaching career here in Watertown, the students are amazing, and I truly appreciate the teachers and staff who work in our schools for the best interest of each and every child. I have had the opportunity to work with each and every one of you in this room. You are talented and gifted. I have worked with wonderful teachers, staff, parents, and administrators who give of themselves each and every day for our students. How fortunate I have been to lead a team of exceptional adults who love children the way I do. We are very passionate about our children. I thank, of course, the Board of Education members for volunteering tirelessly for the betterment of this town. And I personally thank each and every one of you for your support, especially at this time. I also want to thank the Town Council, and Mr. Frigon, for working side-by-side with me to help me leave this community. It truly has been a pleasure building that capacity with the town. Leadership is all about relationship building, trust, integrity, and vision. It is about accountability and providing what is best for children, teaching and learning. And as superintendent, I have the honor to make a difference in the lives of our children. And that to me is the most rewarding and precious vocation one can inspire to be. Thank you each and every one of you. (Applause)

Mr. Buzzannco – With any board members like to add any comments at this time?

Mr. Berthel - Dr. Gilmore, I will repeat what I said last week when we met to begin the formal process of your retirement and I personally, would like to thank you for your service, and I wish

you and Tom, the very best of your retirement. I have the highest respect for you with what you need to do right now, in terms of ensuring that both you and he have a wonderful retirement.

Mr. Lambert - Dr. Gilmore, I would like to say thank you doing what you have done in the district, since you have been here, we know where your heart is. We also know you have issues that you have to take care of, and good luck to you in that respect, and I hope that you and Tom have a good retirement.

Ms. McCabe - Gail, I would like to say thank you, as a fellow educator, I appreciate your dedication. You have been very supportive, you write beautiful notes, and we will miss you.

Mr. Nardella – I think Eric said it very nicely last, or a few weeks ago, we will miss you, and your smiling face at this meeting every week. And I would really like to thank you for your service, Dr. Gilmore, as a fellow CCSU alum, it really was an honor to work with you, and I hope I can work with you in the future in other capacities, thank you.

Ms. Colangelo - Gail, I just was a thank you for your service, and you have such caring for the students that you displayed, and I wish you and Tom the very best in your retirement.

Mr. Guerrero - Dr. Gilmore, it was a pleasure working with you. I think from the very beginning you took my ideas and took my feedback and valued my opinion. Being a young board member, like Ray, there are a lot of things we have to learn, but there are a lot of things that we bring to the board, like having fresh ideas, and you took those ideas and listened to us. And, I think the last two years, you put your job as first priority and now I think it is time to put your family as a priority. I was very amazed at how you could handle both and I give you credit for doing that and I wish you the best of luck. Family comes first at the end of the day and I hope everything is okay. Thank you, Gail.

Dr. Gilmore – Thank you.

E. Public Participation

Mr. Buzzannc – We will continue on to item E, our first Public Participation tonight. Is there anyone tonight that wishes to address the board this evening?

Pete Santoro – Watertown - I've been living in Watertown for about 40 years now and I have an issue that I've been trying to resolve for the last six years. And that is, people who have been coming into the Watertown school system who do not live in Watertown. I have called principals, I have called vice principals, I have talked to the superintendent's office, not you personally, but other people in your office, and they have tried. I have to admit that, but they haven't succeeded because it has been going on for almost 7 years now. The last time I have talked to an individual at the superintendent's office was last August and he told me what he

was going to do, it was his first day on the job, and I will not mention any names. I will give the names of any people who are coming into the system, I won't give you their names but I have them here, so you can see them and know who I am talking about. It needs to be stopped. It irritates me that these people are very flippant with their attitude and they go around bragging about it. They stay my mother's house, they stay at my grandmother's house, you know, we can do it. I put pressure on them, I have had arguments with these people and you just cannot do it. You are stealing from the town and you should pay. I would like something done about it, I think it needs to be investigated, and I have no idea how many children are coming to Watertown schools who are from other schools like Waterbury, or other towns or whatever, but it's not right and it's not simple. For seven years, I have been diligent, I have been boisterous, and still I got nothing. And still people are still going and I told the guy when I talked to him in May, I said, are these people going to end up graduating from Watertown High School? Are they going to here for 12 years? And what if these other people still have more children? Are they going to say grandma's house? What is going to happen? Are my tax dollars and everybody else's tax dollars.. they don't want to go to these outsiders, I'm sorry. That's all I have say on the issue I will give this piece of paper to anyone who wants to know the names and addresses and so on and so forth.

Mr. Buzzannco – Thank you, Mr. Santoro, is there anyone else who wishes to address the Board this evening? Is there anyone else who wishes to address the Board this evening? If not, we will close our first round of public participation and move on to our committee reports.

F. Committee Reports

Curriculum and Instruction Committee, Mr. Eric Berthel, Chair-No

Policy and Labor Committee, Mr. Eric Berthel, Chair-No

Budget and Finance Committee, Mr. Tom Lambert, Chair-No

Facilities/PBC/Operations Committee, Mr. Tom Lambert, Chair-No

No report other than there is ongoing repair work being done on Judson floors and there is upcoming work on the Polk playscape being resurfaced.

Governance and Community Engagement Committee, Mr. Ray Nardella, Chair-No

G. Communications – Secretary – Mr. Berthel

No report

H. Minutes

Mr. Buzzannco – We will move on to item H, minutes, first of the Board of Education regular meeting of June 24th, 2013. Are there any corrections to these minutes? Hearing none is there a motion to approve the minutes as submitted?

Agenda Item Number: H.1a
Subject: Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting – June 10, 2013

Motion Presented By: Mr. Berthel
Motion Seconded By: Ms. Colangelo

Text of the Motion: Mr. Chairman, I moved that we approve the minutes of the regular Board of Education meeting of June 24th, 2013, as submitted.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None
Abstained: None
Vote: Motion Passes

Mr. Buzzannco – We will move onto our second set of minutes for the evening, the minutes of the special Board of Education meeting of June 24th, 2013. Are there any corrections to these minutes?

Ms. Colangelo – I have a few corrections. Myself and Eric Berthel attended this meeting via teleconference, it is not noted. The Superintendent of Schools was in attendance of this meeting, it's not noted. Board members not present should be noted and Mr. Guerrero was not present and that should be noted.

Mr. Buzzannco – Thank you for the corrections, Ms. Colangelo, I would note that Superintendent Gilmore was not participating in the executive session...

Ms. Colangelo – But she was at the meeting and was quoted as, on the discussion on page 2.

Mr. Buzzannco – This is referring to the Monday, June 24th special Board of Education meeting? Or July 24th, I'm sorry. No, it is June 24th.

Ms. Colangelo – I'm sorry, I am looking at the wrong one.

Mr. Buzzannco – So the June 24th minutes?

Ms. Colangelo – No, there are no corrections to that one. I was looking at July 11th.

Mr. Buzzannco – Alright, thank you. So no corrections to the June 24th special Board of Education meeting minutes. Any further corrections?

Ms. Colangelo – No, I don't have any.

Mr. Buzzannco – Thank you, Ms. Colangelo. If not, can I have a motion to approve the minutes as submitted?

Agenda Item Number: H.2a
Subject: Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting – June 24, 2013

Motion Presented By: Mr. Berthel
Motion Seconded By: Ms. Colangelo

Text of the Motion: Mr. Chairman, I moved that we approve the minutes of the special Board of Education meeting of June 24th, 2013, as submitted.

Discussion: Mr. Guerrera – For this specific meeting, I was unable to attend. Going forward, I would appreciate a little more advanced notice before these meetings are scheduled. We all have busy schedules throughout the week, and I believe the time frame for this meeting was within 24 hours or 48 hours, giving me very little time to make these meetings. I would appreciate it, if going forward, we would have a little more advanced notice.

Mr. Buzzannco – There was 48 hours notice for this one, but I appreciate and note your comments.

Ms. Colangelo – Excuse me, Mr. Chair? Is Mr. Guerrera is being noted as present at this meeting on the 24th?

Mr. Buzzannco – David, I think you were at this meeting on the 24th, it was the meeting on July 11th that you could not attend via teleconference.

Mr. Guerrera – July 24th? June 24th? I apologize I mean July 11th, I take that back. Mary and I are both confused on that one. Sorry about that. Summer is going by too fast.

Mr. Buzzannco – It is have fun with your Board Chairman night at this meeting. So, we have a motion before us by Mr. Bethel, seconded by Ms. Colangelo.

Opposed: None
Abstained: None
Vote: Motion Passes

Mr. Buzzannco – I have never had so much drama with minutes before. We will move on to item 3, minutes of the special Board of Education meeting of July 11th, 2013. Are there any corrections to these minutes, Ms. Colangelo?

Ms. Colangelo – As I stated before, Mr. Berthel and myself attended via teleconference, the Superintendent of Schools was also in attendance on July 11th. Right? Oh, ok, I wrote right over that one, I didn't see it.

Mr. Berthel – Mr. Chairman, in the copy that was provided in the packet that was delivered earlier today, it does have the attendees listed correctly and with the manner in which they participated.

Ms. Colangelo – Ok, the Superintendent of Schools is not listed as being in attendance.

Mr. Berthel – With the exception of the Superintendent of Schools not being listed. I don't think she was present during that meeting,

Ms. Colangelo – She is listed as part of the discussion on the second page.

Mr. Buzzannco – Yes, indeed, I think I see the issue here. The Superintendent was not present for the executive session. We went into regular session for item 3 and she was part of the members of the public were at that point.

Ms. Colangelo – But she was part of the meeting.

Mr. Buzzannco – So, we can include her, because this is a special meeting, will the clerk correct this to indicate Superintendent Gail Gilmore was present at the meeting and the executive session minutes are correct. Ok? Understood?

Ms. Colangelo – And the absent board members should be noted as well.

Mr. Buzzannco – Mary, what did you add to that please?

Ms. Colangelo – The absent board members, Mr. Guerrero was not there.

Mr. Buzzannco – Ok, alright, we will correct the minutes of July 11th to indicate in two ways: one, that you (Dr. Gilmore) were present at the meeting and secondly, that David Guerrero was not present at the meeting. I believe there are no further corrections to the minutes of July 11th, is that right? If none, is there a motion to approve these minutes?

Agenda Item Number: H.3a
Subject: Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting – July 11th, 2013

Motion Presented By: Mr. Berthel
Motion Seconded By: Ms. Colangelo

Text of the Motion:	Mr. Chairman, I moved that we approve the minutes of the special Board of Education meeting of July 11 th , 2013 with the corrections as noted.
Discussion:	Mr. Guerrero – I will echo my previous comments, there was 48 hours advance notice . Mr. Buzzannco – Correct. Mr. Guerrero – I would appreciate it if there was a little more advanced notice for meetings since we all have busy schedules throughout the week. Mr. Buzzannco – Understood and thank you. Any further discussion?
Opposed:	None
Abstained:	Mr. Guerrero
Vote:	Motion Passes

I. Superintendent's Recommendation and Report

Dr. Gilmore –Thank You, Mr. Buzzannco. And, of course, good evening to the Board of Education members and to our community this evening. I was delighted to visit both the elementary and high school summer school programs to see our students engaged with great teaching and learning. Tonight, on behalf of the board and myself, we would like to thank our teachers and our staff who participated in our summer school programs. These programs do enrich and accelerate the learning for all students and we do appreciate the work that all of our teachers and staff do for our students to help them reach their potential, so thank you all. I also want to acknowledge the excellent service and years of dedication to Mrs. Greenwood, grade 5 teacher at Judson School, and Ms. Brown, grade 7 English Language Arts teacher at Swift Middle School and wish them well on the retirement and that they will be missed. A very special thank you to Mr. Smith, a part-time physical education teacher at both Polk School and John Trumbull Primary School and to Ms. Dreher, Food Services Director, for their dedication and excellent service to our children and school district. And we wish them both the very, very best. I would like to acknowledge the excellent English language arts and math summer curriculum writing with our team of teachers from Swift Middle School. A very special thank you to Ms. Peck, for her leadership, and thank you to Elisha Gesseck, Margaret Germain, Danielle O'Leary, Mary Beth Gallo, Carole Weaver, and Alyssa Buzzelli. Also, to Colleen Hammerlin, Fran Palmer, who is in the audience this evening, and Robyn Troisi, thank you very much for your work with common core state standards and embedding this in our effective teaching and learning focus. We are also

very pleased to announce this evening Kate Weingarthner as our supervisor of special education and she is in the audience this evening with her director of student services. Kate received her bachelor of arts in communication disorders from the University of Connecticut, her teaching certification and masters of science from Southern Connecticut State University, and her certification in education and leadership from Southern Connecticut State University. So, Kate, welcome to the leadership team in Watertown and if you would like to address the board? Welcome again. (Applause)

Kate speaks, but it is not picked up on the microphones.

The board did receive a detailed matrix correspondence packet last Friday regarding the teachers retirement salary differential for 2012 - 2013 and I did provide another copy for you this evening. The matrix provides eight teacher retirements and their salary for 2012 – 2013, their severance impact for 2013 – 2014, and an estimated replacement figure that was prepared by our business manager who regrets not attending the board meeting tonight due to a prior family schedule. It is important for the board to please keep in mind that the funding balance for the net savings that you see, is really for projected in anticipated needs, or we may want to call them areas of risk. Such as, the reduction of the following grants: please keep in mind the IDEA grant, if reduced by 10%, would be minus \$67,864. Title 1, 2 & 3, if a 10% reduction, that would be \$29,336 dollar loss. As well as the Excess Cause Grant, if we received a 10% reduction, that would be \$75,655 less. Another projection need may be out of district placement for special education students. Due to past history, DCF may place a child in our care so we do need a placeholder account. So two placements could be an estimate of \$84,136. And in addition, we could encumber costs for special education funding for possible litigation and additional needs to meet the IEP process for up to \$30,000. So I want to remind the board that this projected grant total forecast could deplete this present funding balance. Also, it is important for the board to remember that we continue working with the town and the continued health-care expense. And contribute, when possible, in good faith. So, as you know, our management team will continue to be vigilant and provide cost-effective savings whenever possible. So, at this time, we are here to answer any questions that you may have about this particular matrix.

Mr. Guerrero – Gail, what is the logic behind the 10% reduction in grants?

Dr. Gilmore – Well, as you know, the state funding has been very unclear and has not been definite and Gov. Malloy is still contemplating on many of our grants so we have not received the final reduction. But it's very important for us to have an account, a reserve so to speak, for these grants to further our teaching and learning opportunities for all of our students.

Mr. Guerrero - If I can just put this in laymen's terms, the way I see it, we've had quite a number of retirements recently and usually retirees are teachers that have been in the district for a very long time and are on the higher level of the pay scale, so we are assuming is that we are going to replace some of those positions, some we won't, most of them we will, with teachers who are at the lower end or just starting out, graduates or people who just been teaching a few years, they

are on a much lower salary scale. The difference between those two are these savings. And right now I see over a quarter of a million in savings that we are going to have in our budget. But what I don't understand is, of that quarter of a million or more is, or why we are assuming that grants can go down by 10%, we're going to get a DCF child, when we just reduced staff with paraprofessionals in the district, and we could've saved their jobs with this quarter of a million dollars. This is one example why I have voted no for the budget. Because there are cost-savings in the district, and this is one prime example, and instead of taking this money and saving paraprofessionals, we are assuming the grants are going to go down by 10% or we are going to have a DCF child in our care. Things could happen, things may not happen, and I don't understand why we are making assumptions while we are laying off paraprofessionals.

Dr. Gilmore – Well, as you know we have been working with the Dr. Prada report regarding enrollment figures, Mr. Guerrero, and you know that we have close to 67 students, 67 students less coming into the high school and 40 students less coming into Swift middle school. So all of our recommendations to the Board of Education have been data based and statistically based and we are meeting the needs of the particular district by keeping the percentage of our needs low.

Mr. Guerrero – I could appreciate that Gail, but the reason why everyone in town believes that we reduced paraprofessionals is because we had to reduce the budget. And what I'm hearing now is that we reduced paraprofessionals because enrollment was down so it was either one of the two either enrollment was down and we don't need as many paraprofessionals or the budget is too low and we need to cut paraprofessionals. It's more of an open-ended question that I would like to think about going forward but this is one of the major examples that we should be calling into question. Where are the savings? How many more other savings do we have? At the end of the day, are we really reducing paraprofessionals because of the budget because of enrollment? I mean, a quarter of a million, \$250,000 or really \$258,000, is a lot of money to just say we may have a 10% reduction in grants.

Dr. Gilmore – Well, unfortunately, there are a lot of unknowns and is really critical for us to have that reserve, so to speak, and to have an account for those places that we are responsible for we need to be fiscally responsible for these particular areas that are brought to your attention, projected use of balance, and is a pattern of time.

Mr. Guerrero – And I can appreciate that Gail, but I don't want to have reserve accounts by reducing staff. Thank you.

Mr. Buzzannc – Dr. Gilmore, what I would recommend is, that because this report that you shared with us tonight, anticipates overruns of \$286,991 and that represents approximately 7% of our budget for 2013 – 2014. Anticipating that much potential overage this early in the school year should be a source of concern for the board. I would like you to ask Mr. Buccitelli to please give us a report in the August meeting what the basis of these anticipated overruns are. And taking the overruns, I'm sorry, the underfunding of our grants by 10%, I think the board would

benefit from knowing what the basis of that estimate was. Similar, with the basis or likelihood of the roughly 115,000 expenses for outplacements, litigation, IEP efforts for the year. So, I think it would help the board tremendously at the next meeting tap Mr. Buccitelli to give us a sense of what the degree of risk of incurring these additional expenses would be.

Dr. Gilmore - Absolutely, thank you.

Mr. Nardella – Dr. Gilmore, I could be mistaken, but are we statutorily obligated, with regard to Dave’s point, to the DCF child possibility?

Dr. Gilmore – When DCF places a student in our district, we are obligated to service that child. Absolutely.

Mr. Nardella – Right, but does the statute say that we actually need a reserve account for that?

Dr. Gilmore – My understanding is that we, as management, have that reserve, yes. It is in our best interest, in the board’s best interest, to absolutely have that reserve, yes.

Mr. Nardella – Thank you.

2. Appointments – (Information Only)

a) Mr. Warren Campbell to the position of Career Education Department Coordinator at Watertown High School, effective for the 2013-2014 school year, being paid the contractual stipend as represented in the MOU with the WEA of \$2,723.00.

b) Ms. Jessica D’Addona to the position of Category 2, Paraprofessional at Polk School, effective June 26, 2013, for 27.5 hours per week with 0.5 unpaid lunch at an hourly rate of \$12.85.

c) Ms. Mary Hathaway to the position of Science Department Coordinator at Watertown High School, effective for the 2013-2014 school year, being paid the contractual stipend as represented in the MOU with the WEA of \$2,723.00.

d) Ms. Leigh Hopper to the position of Accounting Clerk/Assist the Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent for the Watertown Board of Education, Central Office, effective July 22, 2013 at a rate of \$18.77 per hour.

e) Mr. Kristian Kuegler to the position of English Department Coordinator at Watertown High School, effective for the 2013-2014 school year, being paid the contractual stipend as represented in the MOU with the WEA of \$2,723.00.

f) Ms. Marylou Kuegler to the position of Social Studies Department Coordinator at Watertown High School, effective for the 2013-2014 school year, being paid the contractual stipend as represented in the MOU with the WEA of \$2,723.00.

g) Ms. Jennifer Larkin to the position of Guidance Department Coordinator at Watertown High School, effective for the 2013-2014 school year, being paid the contractual stipend as represented in the MOU with the WEA of \$2,723.00.

h) Ms. Pam McGuire to the position of Special Education Department Coordinator at Watertown High School, effective for the 2013-2014 school year, being paid the contractual stipend as represented in the MOU with the WEA of \$2,723.00.

i) Ms. Kristi Ortiz to the position of Category 2, Paraprofessional at Polk School, effective June 26, 2013, for 30 hours per week with 0.5 unpaid lunch, at an hourly rate of \$16.00.

j) Mr. Roberto Rinaldi to the position of Math Department Coordinator at Watertown High School, effective for the 2013-2014 school year, being paid the contractual stipend as represented in the MOU with the WEA of \$2,723.00.

k) Ms. Kathryn Weingarthner to the position of Supervisor of Special Education for the Watertown Board of Education, Central Office, effective July 22, 2013 for an annual salary of \$100,490.

l) The following people have been appointed to teaching positions in the summer school, session one program. The program will run three hours daily at a rate of \$35.00 per hour, effective July 1, 2013-July 25, 2013. (Except for July 4, 2013)

Valerie Sassu
Pauline Lagasse
Annette Pietro
Abby Momtambault
Susan Petrok
Heather Murphy
Meghan McDermott

m) The following person has been appointed to the nursing position in the summer school, session one program. The program will run three hours daily at a rate of \$35.00 per hour, effective July 1, 2013-July 25, 2013. (Except for July 4, 2013)

Lynn Kelly

n) The following people have been appointed to paraprofessional positions in the summer school, session one program. The program will run three hours daily per contract step, effective July 1, 2013-July 25, 2013. (Except for July 4, 2013)

Kim Hailstones
Camille Santopietro
Kathy Lopes
Kristi Ortiz
Diane DiMauro
Sharon Amos
Yvonne Walsh
Denise Suvoski
Kathy Hanover
Michelle Yerger
Sandra Ramponi
Lori Birtwistle
Marisa Sinopoli
Colleen Ferrucci
Karen Carlotto

o) The following people have been appointed interns for the summer school, session one program. The program will run three hours daily at a rate of \$9.50 per hour, effective July 1, 2013-July 25, 2013. (Except for July 4, 2013)

Lauren Scully
Erin Murphy
Tyler Troisi

p) The following people have been appointed Speech and Language Pathologist for the summer school, session one program at a rate of \$68.00 per hour, effective July 1, 2013-July 25, 2013. (Except for July 4, 2013)

Sue Danaher
Lauren O'Brien
Lynn Rose
Beth Wolf
Caralyne Reinhardt

q) The following people have been appointed Summer ELA Curriculum Work at Swift Middle School, Teaching Positions, effective July 8, 2013-July 19, 2013 at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.

Elisha Gesseck
Margaret Germain
Danielle O'Leary
Mary Beth Gallo
Carole Weaver
Alyssa Buzzelli

r) The following people have been appointed Summer School Enrichment Program, Title 1, Teaching Position, effective July 1, 2013-July 25, 2013 at a rate of \$35.00 per hour.

Donna Cincogrono
Sarah Galpin
Robyn Troisi
Jenna Munson
Katie St. John
Linda Lee
Gail Lawson - substitute

s) The following people have been appointed to Team Leaders at Swift Middle School for the 2013-2014 school year at a contractual stipend of \$1,931.00.

Danielle O'Leary	Green Team Leader
Margaret Germain	Red Team Leader
Michelle Gorski	Blue Team Leader
Cynthia Murphy	Yellow Team Leader
Tom Hogrefe	Evergreen Team Leader
Carole Weaver	Crimson Team Leader

t) The following people have been appointed to School Coordinators at Swift Middle School for the 2013-2014 school year, at a contractual stipend of \$1,931.00.

Amanda Bragg	Math Coordinator
Tom Hogrefe	Science Coordinator
Paul Catuccio	Social Studies Coordinator
Elisha Gesseck and Marybeth Gallo	English Language Arts Coordinators

3. Resignations – Information only

a) Ms. Margaret Dreher, from the position of Food Service Director for the Watertown School District, effective July 23, 2013 for personal reasons.

b) Ms. Rosemary Brown, from the position of Grade Seven English/Language Arts Teacher at Swift Middle School, effective July 1, 2013 for the purpose of retirement.

c) Ms. Patricia Greenwood, from the position of Grade Five Teacher at Judson School, effective June 30, 2013 for the purpose of retirement.

J. Report from the Chairman

Mr. Buzzannco – For most of us involved in public educations, summer is a relaxing time, but tonight’s agenda, if you looked at it, reminds us of just how busy summer is for many of our staff. And, how important summer is, to many of the children in our district who are in need of enrichment and support. So, on behalf of the entire board, I want to thank the teachers, the psychologists, the speech pathologists, the nurses, paraprofessionals, the principles, interns, and everyone else who make our summer education program the success that they are. I also want to thank all year round employees in the district, particularly, those folks that work in non-air-conditioned spaces keeping the work of our district throughout the lazy, hazy, and sometimes crazy, days of summer. And, finally, I want to announce the initial interviews for the position of interim superintendent will take place next week. The board’s goal is to identify an experienced and accomplished former superintendent who will be able to continue leading and actively managing the work of the district, as this board conducts it’s search for a permanent superintendent. The entire board will act as the search committee for both the interim and permanent superintendent and will discuss the search and interview process for our permanent superintendent at our next regular Board of Education meeting. Until then, I wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable summer. Thank you, that concludes the report from the chairman this evening.

K. Action Items – Items to be Approved by Consent

Agenda Item Number: K.1

Subject: Consideration of the Approval of the Termination of Teaching Contract Because of a Reduction in Force

Motion Presented By: Mr. Berthel

Motion Seconded By: Mr. Lambert

Text of the Motion: Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board approve of the termination of contract staff member Bryan Smith, .5 FTE, Physical Education Teacher, John Trumbull Primary School and Polk School, because of a Reduction in Force due to budget constraints for the 2013 -2014 school year and a letter to be sent to the staff member notifying them of the termination of their contract effective June 30, 2013.

Discussion: Mr. Berthel – Mr. Chairman, I would just like to note, for the record, that there is a great deal of thought and difficulty having to come to a decision, or the Superintendent to have to come to a decision, to eliminate staff within our district. You know, I do know, that is never an easy thing for any superintendent to have to eliminate a position in

their district, so I appreciate the effort to have to get to that point so, thank you.

Opposed: Mr. Guerrero
Abstained: None
Vote: Motion Passes

Agenda Item Number: K.2
Subject: Consideration of the Approval of Acceptance of Gifts

Motion Presented By: Mr. Nardella
Motion Seconded By: Ms. Colangelo

Text of the Motion: Mr. Chairman, I move that the board gratefully accept a donation in the amount of \$400.00, from Western Connecticut H.O.G, Inc. to Watertown High School, for the Wayne Twerian Academic Award.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None
Abstained: None
Vote: Motion Passes

Agenda Item Number: K.3
Subject: Consideration of the Approval of Acceptance of Gifts

Motion Presented By: Mr. Nardella
Motion Seconded By: Ms. Colangelo

Text of the Motion: Mr. Chairman, I move that the board gratefully accept a donation in the amount of \$50.00, from Bushka Lumber & Millwork to Watertown High School for Café Delights.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None
Abstained: None
Vote: Motion Passes

Agenda Item Number: K.4
Subject: Consideration of the Approval of Acceptance of Gifts

Motion Presented By: Mr. Nardella
Motion Seconded By: Ms. Colangelo

Text of the Motion: Mr. Chairman, I move that the board gratefully accept a donation of a Selmer Clarinet, valued at \$450.00, from Ms. Kelly to the Watertown High School Music Department.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None
Abstained: None
Vote: Motion Passes

L. Future Agenda Items and Board Members' Comments

Mr. Buzzannco – Does any member have any suggested agenda items or comments this evening?

Mr. Guerrero - Yes, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Santoro thank you for coming out tonight. I think the public and the Board of Ed is due an update on the issue of students from out of our town and district attending schools locally. I think it's a question that has been asked before by myself, other board members, Town Council members, residents of the public, and we still have no update. I know that the Board of Ed is taking action on that and that there has been some progress, but this is all hearsay. So I would like to know what is going on, what are the results, and what is the plan going forward in a future meeting, and hopefully the sooner the better. This is a question that has been going on a while. If you take the amount of money we spend on a student in this town and multiply it by the out of district students and you will come up with a figure on how much money we are overcharging our tax payers. So I would like to have an update thank you Mr. Santoro, for coming out and keeping going with that, but I'll make sure that we get that to you.

Mr. Buzzannco – Do any other members have any other comments or future agenda items?

Mr. Lambert – Mr. Chairman, I didn't address this before tonight, but Bryan Smith is a wonderful physical education teacher. I saw him work at Polk, he is very very compassionate, and caring individual. I know he was just part-time, we really should remember this name in case of need if we have to bring someone in. I think he had an excellent track record at Polk where I saw him, and he is a very compassionate young man with the children, and someone like that is very very hard to find and we should remember that name.

Mr. Buzzannco – Thank you Mr. Lambert, and agreed. Any other comments or suggestions on future items from the board members?

M. Public Participation

Mr. Buzzannco – Is there anyone tonight that wishes to address the board? Is there anyone tonight that wishes to address the board? If not, we will close our second round of public participation for the evening and the board will entertain a motion to go into executive session.

N. Executive Session

Agenda Item Number: N.1
Subject: Executive Session

Motion Presented By: Mr. Lambert
Motion Seconded By: Mr. Berthel

Time of the Motion: 8:09 p.m.

Text of the Motion: Mr. Chairman, I move that we enter into executive session for the purpose of reviewing the tentative agreement between the Watertown Board of Education in the Watertown Federation of Paraprofessionals. Attending the executive session will be David Guerrero, Susan McCabe, Guy Buzzannco, Eric Berthel, Ray Nardella, Mary Colangelo, and myself, Tom Lambert and Superintendent Dr. Gail Gilmore.

Opposed: None
Abstained: None
Vote: Motion Passes

O. Possible Ratification of the Watertown Federation of Paraprofessionals Contract

Agenda Item Number: O.1
Subject: Ratification of the Watertown Federation of Paraprofessionals Contract

Motion Presented By: Mr. Lambert
Motion Seconded By: Mr. Berthel

Text of the Motion: Mr. Chairman, I move that the board approve the proposed working agreement between the Watertown Board of Education and the Watertown Federation of Paraprofessionals, Local #2960, AFT, AFT-CIO, effective September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2016.

Mr. Buzzannco – Just as a note of clarification, the Local number is 3960. Maybe I put it in wrong. (Spoke away from the mic) Ok then, I am not sure which one is right then. So then, let's just say, the Watertown Federation of Paraprofessionals Local #3960.

Opposed: None
Abstained: Mr. Guerrero
Vote: Motion Passes

P. Adjournment

Agenda Item Number: P.1
Subject: Adjournment

Motion Presented By: Mr. Berthel
Motion Seconded By: Mr. Nardella

Time of the Motion: 8:21 p.m.

Text of the Motion: So moved.

Opposed: None
Abstained: None
Vote: Motion Passes

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Eric Berthel
Secretary of the Board of Education

Mindi Davidson
Recording Secretary