

Pending BOE Approval**Watertown Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: August 28, 2017
Meeting Time: 7:30 p.m.
Meeting Place: Lecture Hall, Watertown High School

Members Present: Ms. Leslie Crotty, Chairman
Mr. Tom Lambert, Vice Chairman
Ms. Janelle Wilk, Secretary
Mr. Robert Makowski
Ms. Cathie Rinaldi
Mr. Victor Vicenzi
Mr. Jim Gambardella
Ms. Cheryl Albino

Members Absent: Ms. Josephine Cavallo-Rosa

Others Present: Dr. Bridget Carnemolla – Superintendent of Schools
Jill Browne – Business Manager

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

Ms. Crotty – On July 29th, 2017 this community lost one of our own- Vincent Cammarata, in a tragic automobile accident. On Thursday of this week, Vincent would have celebrated his 18th birthday, and in his honor, tonight we remember him. The son of Michael Cammarata and Kristine McGrath Cammarata, Vincent was born in Waterbury before moving to Watertown. He attended John Trumbull Primary School, Judson Elementary School, Swift Middle School, and Watertown High School, before becoming part of the Class of 2017 at Cedarhurst School in Hamden. He was enrolled in an entrepreneurship program at Albertus Magnus College, was an avid gamer, and loved all things music. Our thoughts are with his sister Victoria, his loving grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and his girlfriend, Nicolette. His engaging personality and enthusiasm will be sorely missed by all who knew him, and all those who have since come to know his story. Please join me in observing a moment of silence in Vincent’s memory. While the tragic loss and circumstances of Vincent’s death stunned our school community, our school counselors, school psychologists, and administrators from all five schools, responded

immediately to help our students and community, while they themselves were mourning the loss. Our staff members held a crisis team meeting on a Saturday, planned community responses and interventions, attended wake and funeral services with the students, and facilitated a counseling session at the high school for staff and students. In addition, as is often the case, they have gone above and beyond, particularly in checking in on the family and students affected, throughout the remainder of the summer. They recognize how important it is that the students and staff know they have a place to find comfort amongst their peers and get the resources they may need. On behalf of the Board of Education, I want to share our deepest appreciation for all that our Administrators and staff have done since the news of Vinny's passing became public. There were many difficult moments since then, for all of us, but amidst the sorrow there were remarkable ones, too. It is difficult to put into words the incredible poise and compassion showcased by our team at Vincent's wake, as students collapsed in their arms in both anguish and relief. There were students sometimes twice their size, crumbling in grief at the sight of the outstretched arms of our staff. The administrators and staff's ability to be there for all students, not just Watertown's, was remarkable. I will never forget their composure, nor their compassion, at a time when it was needed most. Under their leadership, I am thankful and comforted to know that with administrators and staff like that leading the way, Watertown Public Schools will continue to provide compassionate assistance to our students, and to each other, throughout upcoming school year.

B. Salute to the Flag

C. Roll Call – Ms. Davidson

Ms. Crotty – Before we move forward in the agenda, I would like to add a new business item to tonight's agenda. As a matter of process, this can be done if 2/3 of the board's members agree to the new item. I would like to make a motion to add State Budget Update as a new agenda item this evening. May I have a second?

Agenda Item:	C.1
Subject:	Addition to the Agenda
Motion Presented By:	Ms. Crotty
Motion Seconded By:	Mr. Makowski
Text of the Motion:	see above
Discussion:	None
Opposed:	None
Abstained:	None
Vote:	Motion Passes

The new agenda item will become “E” and all other items will now follow that alphabetically.

D. Minutes

Agenda Item:	D.1
Subject:	Minutes of the July 24, 2017 Regular Board of Education Meeting
Motion Presented By:	Mr. Lambert
Motion Seconded By:	Mr. Makowski
Text of the Motion:	So moved.
Discussion:	I appreciate the updated change adding in Ms. Janelle Wilk.
Opposed:	None
Abstained:	Ms. Wilk
Vote:	Motion Passes

E. State Agenda Update

Ms. Crotty - Throughout the summer this board has been working hard to stay closely informed on the state’s plans for school and municipal funding as it relates to Watertown, and to make sure that Watertown’s students, taxpayers, and employees are constantly on the minds of Hartford decision makers. July 1st marked the beginning of our new fiscal year, and this week marks the official beginning of Watertown’s 2017/18 school year. Sending hundreds of employees into the halls, classrooms and offices of our schools with a high level of funding uncertainty is not an ideal way for any school year to begin. Regardless of the unprecedented circumstances that put us here, it is not an effective way for any Board of Education in the state to function. No matter how the state aid ends up being sliced, we are the largest part of this town’s budget and we have a responsibility to be ready. We will not wait to find out the actual number- we will be ready for every scenario. The Board of Education Budget and Finance Chair Tom Lambert and I met with Dr. Carnemolla and Business Manager Jill Browne to discuss potential strategies for a variety of state aid outcomes. As always, Dr. Carnemolla will continue to do the important work behind the scenes, looking at every budget line item, and every possible scenario with the least amount of impact. The possibility of millions of dollars in cuts brings us into unprecedented territory. We don’t want to make cuts all over an already lean budget, painful cuts that could potentially impact every department, and every single student. Too much progress has been made in this district to let this situation rip the legs out from underneath us. Our Watertown Public Schools team has done an incredible job of saving,

while moving this district forward with a budget that, before health insurance increases, had a zero percent increase. Thousands of collective hours have been spent by our administrators, department heads, and faculty to take the education we provide to the next level- to instill in everyone who works and learns here that they are moving forward with us. The Watertown Board of Education will continue to urge our legislators to develop and approve a budget that supports the education of our students. In the meantime, we will remain diligent in all financial matters, strategize on likely scenarios, and stay current on the state's budget status. With that in mind, I am pleased to welcome Senator Berthel to provide us with a state budget update.

Sen. Eric Berthel – Gave an update regarding the lack of a budget and how it will affect towns and schools. For his presentation, please visit <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/watertown-ct-board-of-education-meetings>.

F. Superintendent's Recommendations and Report

1. Appointments – (Information Only)

Ms. Paulina Auclair to the position of Link Crew Lead Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA stipend amount of \$2,086.00.

Ms. Michelle Baim to the position of SSP for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA stipend amount of \$2,500.00.

Ms. Sarah Baker to the position of World Language Coordinator for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA stipend amount of \$2,812.00.

Ms. Leah Bellemare to the position of Student Council Co-Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, at half the WEA contractual stipend of \$1,063.00.

Ms. Leah Bellemare to the position of Junior Class Co-Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid half the WEA contractual stipend of \$532.50.

Ms. Leah Bellemare to the position of 9th Grade Team Co-Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid half the WEA contractual stipend of \$997.50.

Ms. Chryll Beliveau to the position of Grade Level Leader at Judson Elementary School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid the WEA contractual stipend of \$506.00.

Ms. Krisl Beres to the position of Robotics Team Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA contractual stipend of \$1,873.00.

Ms. Alyssa Buzzelli to the position of Evergreen Team Leader for Swift Middle School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, at the WEA contractual stipend of \$1,994.00.

Ms. Jessica Cagno to the position of Green Team Leader for Swift Middle School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, at the WEA contractual stipend of \$1,994.00.

Mr. Warren Campbell to the position of D.E.C.A. Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA contractual stipend of \$1,403.00.

Mr. Warren Campbell to the position of Career Education Coordinator for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA contractual stipend of \$2,812.00.

Mr. Warren Campbell to the position of Webmaster for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA contractual stipend of \$2,278.00.

Ms. Sylvia Carey to the position of Sophomore Class Co-Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid half the WEA contractual stipend of \$532.50

Mr. Michael Cerrato to the position of Interact Club Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, at the WEA contractual stipend of \$2,278.00.

Ms. Patricia Chipko to the position of Grade Level Leader at Judson Elementary School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid the WEA contractual stipend of \$506.00.

Ms. Megan Chunis to the position of Guidance Department Coordinator for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, at the WEA contractual stipend of \$2,812.00.

Ms. Lisa Ciampi to the position of Link Crew Coordinator for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, at the WEA contractual stipend of \$1,043.00.

Ms. Erika Daley to the position of Long-Term Substitute Teacher Grade 2 at John Trumbull Primary School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid \$75.00 per day for the first ten days and then the rate will change to Step 3, \$46,209.00, per the Watertown Education Association.

Ms. Nicole Edmond to the position of After-School Detention Monitor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, at an hourly rate of \$19.83.

Ms. Rhoda Emmanouil to the position of Junior Class Co-Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid half the WEA contractual stipend of \$532.50.

Mr. Kyle Fellows to the position of Computer Applications Teacher at Swift Middle School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being hired on an annual contractual salary of \$49,009.00, Step 3, MA degree, per the Watertown Education Association Contract.

Ms. Sofia Flamengo to the position of District Social Worker for Watertown Public Schools, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being hired on an annual contractual salary of \$56,013.00, Step 5, MA degree, per the Watertown Education Association Contract.

Mr. David Foulds was re-appointed to the position of Director of Food Services, effective July 1, 2017 at an annual rate of \$55,470.00.

Ms. Mary Gallo to the position of Yellow Team Leader for Swift Middle School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, at the WEA contractual stipend of \$1,994.00.

Ms. Elisha Gesseck to the position of Red Team Co-Team Leader for Swift Middle School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid half the contractual stipend of \$997.00, per the WEA contract.

Ms. Michelle Goldfarb to the position of Senior Class Co-Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid half the WEA stipend amount of \$936.50

Ms. Michelle Goldfarb to the position of Yearbook Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA contractual stipend amount of \$2,232.00.

Ms. Michelle Gorski to the position of Blue Team Leader for Swift Middle School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, at the WEA contractual stipend of \$1,994.00.

Ms. Chelsie Guerrero to the position of Sophomore Class Co-Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid half the WEA stipend amount of \$532.50.

Mr. Joseph Hahn to the position of Band Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA contractual stipend amount of \$2,509.00.

Ms. Emily Hardt to the position of Tutor at Judson Elementary School, effective September 5th and continue through the 2017-2018 school year, being paid an hourly rate of \$16.00.

Ms. Mary Hathaway to the position of Science Coordinator for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA contractual stipend amount of \$2,812.00.

Ms. Sarah Jackson to the position of Special Education Teacher at Judson Elementary School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being hired on an annual contractual salary of \$46,209.00, Step 3, BA degree, per the Watertown Education Association Contract.

Ms. Kateri Kenney to the position of Honor Society Co-Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid half the WEA stipend amount of \$936.50.

Ms. Marylou Kuegler to the position of Honors Cohort Team Leader for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA contractual stipend amount of \$1,995.00.

Ms. Marylou Kuegler to the position of Social Studies Coordinator for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA contractual stipend amount of \$2,812.00.

Mr. Brian LaFontaine to the position of In-School Suspension Monitor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid an amount of \$138.10 daily

Ms. Jessica Veneziano-Lemos to the position of Special Education Teacher at Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being hired on an annual contractual salary of \$92,276.00, Step 15, MA, 6th year degree, per the Watertown Education Association Contract.

Mr. Michael Lewis to the position of English Coordinator for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA contractual stipend amount of \$2,812.00.

Mr. Michael Lewis to the position of 9th Grade Team Co-Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid half the WEA contractual stipend amount of \$997.50.

Ms. Nicole Lewis to the position of SSP for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA contractual stipend amount of \$2,500.00.

Ms. Nicole Lewis to the position of Delta Club Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA contractual stipend amount of \$1,519.00.

Ms. Elizabeth Loughlin to the position of Student Council Co-Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid half the WEA stipend amount of \$1,063.00.

Ms. Elizabeth Loughlin to the position of Link Crew Coordinator for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA stipend amount of \$1,043.00.

Ms. Elizabeth Loughlin to the position of CARE Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA stipend amount of \$2,278.00.

Mr. Eric Lozaw to the position of Senior Class Co-Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid half the WEA stipend amount of \$936.50.

Mr. Keith Marceski to the position of Chemical Hygiene Officer for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA stipend amount of \$3,384.00.

Ms. Cassandra Mineo to the position of First Grade Teacher at John Trumbull Primary School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being hired on an annual contractual salary of \$49,009.00, Step 3, MA degree, per the Watertown Education Association Contract.

Ms. Amy Mordarski to the position of Title I Tutor at Polk Elementary School, effective September 5th and continue through the 2017-2018 school year, being paid an hourly rate of \$16.00.

Ms. Christina Moher to the position of World Language Honor Society Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid the WEA contractual stipend amount of \$2,306.00.

Ms. Donna Poliquin to the position of Tri-M Music Honor Society/CMEA/CT Northern Region for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA stipend amount of \$2,278.00.

Ms. Lynn Raczkowski to the position of After-School Detention Monitor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, at an hourly rate of \$19.83.

Ms. Rachel Reiter to the position of Grade Level Leader at Judson Elementary School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid the WEA contractual stipend of \$506.00.

Mr. Roberto Rinaldi to the position of Mathematics Coordinator for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the stipend amount of \$2,812.00.

Ms. Christine Sales to the position of Honor Society Co-Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid half the WEA stipend amount of \$936.50.

Ms. Kathleen Sklanka to the position of Crimson Team Leader for Swift Middle School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, at the WEA contractual stipend of \$1,994.00.

Ms. Melissa Snow to the position of Tutor at Judson Elementary School, effective September 5th and continue through the 2017-2018 school year, being paid an hourly rate of \$16.00.

Ms. Sarah Soropoulos to the position of Special Education Teacher at John Trumbull

Primary School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being hired on an annual contractual salary of \$49,009.00, Step 3, MA degree, per the Watertown Education Association Contract.

Ms. Debra Stokes to the position of School Nurse at John Trumbull Primary School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid a salary of \$46,368.00 as published in the Watertown Nurses Agreement.

Ms. Janet Sweetland to the position of Red Team Co-Leader for Swift Middle School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid half the WEA contractual stipend of \$997.00.

Ms. Maria Teixeira to the position of Special Education Teacher at Swift Middle School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being hired on an annual contractual salary of \$46,209.00, Step 3, BA degree, per the Watertown Education Association Contract.

Ms. Diane Thomas to the position of Central Office Secretary/Payroll Officer at Central Office, effective September 5, 2017 working thirty-five hours per week, at the contractual rate of \$21.79 hourly, Step 1 of the Secretaries Contract.

Mr. Tyler Troisi to the position of K-12 English Language Learners (ELL) for Watertown Public Schools, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, at the rate of \$20.00 per hour.

Ms. Gretchen Uryase to the position of District Wide Art Coordinator for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, to be paid the WEA stipend amount of \$2,812.00.

Mr. Bryan Wosczyzna to the position of After School Detention Monitor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid an hourly rate of \$19.83.

Mr. Jack Zaino to the position of Music Teacher at Swift Middle School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being hired on an annual contractual salary of \$49,009.00, Step 3, MA degree, per the Watertown Education Association Contract.

Ms. Joan Zimmerman to the position of F.B.L.A Advisor for Watertown High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year, being paid a contractual stipend amount of \$2,391.00 per the WEA contract.

2. Transfers – (Information Only)

Mr. Michael Cole from the position of Custodian Area C at Watertown High School, to Custodian Area B at Watertown High School, effective July 25, 2017.

Mr. Scott Sturges from the position of Custodian at Polk Elementary School, to General Maintenance, effective July 31, 2017.

3. Resignations – (Information Only)

Ms. Sarah Krasnovsky from the position of first grade teacher at John Trumbull Primary School, Schools, effective July 24, 2017 for personal reasons.

Ms. Lorraine Barker from the position of Payroll Officer at Central Office, effective September 30, 2017 for the purpose of retirement.

4. **Superintendent's Report**

Thank you. As you know, we have had faculty and staff return today, where today was the first of three days of staff and faculty training and that will come together on Wednesday at convocation which we are honoring attrition that we had begun last year with having convocation on the last of the training days instead of on the first day. Part of that philosophy is that we have we put into effect the people come in and have time be ready for students and before we come together and talk about what plans we have for the year and then that way they are more ready to go in and be more settled in to go to convocation. I also think that is pretty powerful of the last thing we do in training is come together and be together and have conversations and what the year will bring. Convocation is Wednesday, August 30, where we have registration at 7:30 in the morning and we will begin the program promptly at 8:15. Our goal this year is to maintain a 45 minute convocation and as you know, we also recognize our teacher of the year at the convocation and that is very nice part of it.

I sent a district welcome letter to families over the weekend, and in addition to the letter I sent out to faculty and staff, and as I've done that, one of the things I was struck by was this is my fourth year and this is the fourth time that I have done this. I think I have said before their times are it feels like I have just started and times are I feel like I have just done nothing else. It certainly depends on the day that you ask me, but I think every year we have come a little bit closer to getting this opening to be what we refer to as the ideal. We have dealt with a number of issues and concerns, like busing and those types of things, as we do almost every year, but this year it's been a little bit better. When things we worked very hard at, and I will think Mrs. Browne for this, is having an iron transportation and trying to be more accommodating to parents in neighborhoods and to what is always best for students, and because of that we have made a number of changes to the bus routes and bus stops and those sorts of things. Her parents often have very good ideas about the way things could be a little different and we have done the best we can with all that. What I will say, on the flip side, is that after not doing it for this long, we are stretched very thin with our buses and the routes in the stops, because what we have hope for has happened, more students are riding the buses. So, for every good thing you do, there is little bit of a challenge along the way and moving forward, we are looking at our next busing contract as we will have some different ideas in mind as we move forward for some additions and changes that aren't really possible with where we currently are. That is the future, but it is something that has come up this summer as we have doubtless some of these issues and on the best that we can.

I also sent out a blackboard connect call, as I have done for the last few years, and it's not just the same welcome back and to remind people that we are starting, but the test out the system because, as we all know, we don't know when and how early we would need it, with watching the flooding and so on down in Texas is an example where there have been school years where our start has been impacted by weather or other emergencies, so I take this opportunity again to ask publicly to all of our families to log into Powerschool and update their information, because that is the first place we go to for information. Especially the primary phone number that we can reach individuals with. If there are any issues that folks are having logging in, along with changing any information, they can reach out their respective schools than when all else fails, I may have to reach out to Mr. Turner. I think we are in a really good place this year with our Powerschool rollover.

To the budget issue, as we are both awaiting the news and investigating all possibilities, we have had to juggle two stances as an administration. One, that we make sure that our schools have everything that they need to open and to bring students in and move forward with what we started, and then on the other hand, pump up the proverbial brakes and go to a holding pattern to some degree so that we can finish sorting out these budgetary issues. Again, we have hopes that we are not talking about anywhere near 9.5 million, as is apparent that it is fairly ludicrous for the town and the board to actually consider. We are certainly going to continue to operate, so in the meantime, we do have a few openings that have not been filled and we have, just for the time being, put them aside, but I must say, we cannot continue in that fashion. As an example, we have a custodian position open that is already a split position between two of our smaller schools, where we only have a total of three custodians, and one is the floater back and forth. We can't maintain buildings without that position, but for the time being, once the shock came with the Governor's directive, we said let's just hold where we are right now, and then we will look at everything. I am going to have to move forward with filling that in some of the other positions that are still outstanding but we will deal with them as they come and we will entertain all possibilities. So, as I have said more than once, if it was able to be removed from this budget, it has happened already. We are left between a rock and a hard place whether they want to cut us \$10 or 9.5 million that is the place we are in Watertown. Unfortunately, some of that is because we are so fiscally responsible as we have tried to be.

We had "popsicles on the playground", the first of three, today at John Trumbull. It was very well attended, and you set up so that all students from pre-K – 2 are able to meet their teachers and I think we had about 150 2nd grade families they are today. Our initial expectations were about 500 families over the three days, but being at nearly seeing every second grade family today, we may come closer to 80% of the families over at John Trumbull coming, so that is fantastic and I think their parents and families are coming and I want to thank all the teachers and staff and custodians for making this happen. Likewise, we had Swift's sixth grade orientation on Friday which was also very well done and very well attended, so our normal pieces are already in place and we are just moving forward and I think I speak for all of us when I say we are all looking forward to what, I call, the normalcy of the hustle and bustle of the school year. This is like the

waiting behind the scenes with the curtain down and waiting for the production to actually begin. We are really excited for our students return.

Most of the appointments that you see on the agenda tonight were actually done at the end of the school year and since the last board meeting and the majority of them are the advisor positions and so on, that are governed by the teachers contracts. We had a few teachers that we still have not gotten to here, I have two positions that are still not solidified, and therefore are not here. We just, at the 11th hour, found a long-term sub position for the math teacher for Swift middle school, for example, as it was a very difficult position to fill, as math and science often are. We've had some changes with the custodians and we are sorry to see the retirement of our payroll officer, Lorraine Barker. Lorraine is retiring for the next chapter in her life and she was a very difficult person to replace. As you know, a payroll officer in a school district is an incredibly complex job dealing with all of the different contracts, retirements, and so on and it takes a strong and knowledgeable person to be able to manage all of those tasks, tax liabilities and so on. Luckily, we have found a replacement for Lorraine and we will be transitioning, and we will be very faithful to Lorraine for staying on with us to train and transition the person, who has a very strong payroll background, although has never done it in a public school. So there will be some pieces to learn and Lorraine will transition her. We will of course think her in person, but I wanted to thank her publicly here and to Mrs. Browne for all the work she did in making that happen.

I also want to thank our building administrators who have kicked off another school year as smoothly as possible and I have been in three out of five buildings today and I will get into the other two tomorrow, and everything is running like a well-oiled machine. That is due to their hard work primarily in it's also consistency that we now have together as a team because we have all done this before and it's our fourth time together.

G. Discussion Regarding the Board of Education Meeting Date Changes

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Dr. Carnemolla is being awarded the University of Connecticut NEAG School of Education's 2017 Executive Leadership Program's Distinguished Alumni Award. NEAG, recognized as one of the top 20 public graduate schools of education in the nation, will present this honor to Dr. Carnemolla during a ceremony that takes place on October 23rd, 2017. Diane Ulman, the Senior Director of the District Management Group said "As I think about Dr. Carnemolla's time in Watertown, and all that she has accomplished, it's easy to see why she deserves this honor. Generations of superintendents have failed to bring cohesion to the school district and raise the esteem of the school system in the eyes of the community. When I nominated her, I was thinking of her courage, her unbelievable hard work and attention to detail, and her connection to the people. I am thrilled to be able to introduce Dr. Carnemolla at the ceremony."

H. Public Participation (Please state name, address and topic of discussion)

None

I. Committee Reports:

**Curriculum and Instruction Committee, Ms. Cathie Rinaldi, Chair – No
Policy and Labor Committee, Mr. Victor Vicenzi, Chair – No
Budget and Finance Committee, Mr. Thomas Lambert, Chair – No
Facilities/PBC/Operations Committee, Mr. Thomas Lambert, Chair – No
Governance and Community Engagement Committee, Mr. Robert Makowski, Chair – No**

J. Communications – Secretary

None

K. Report from the Board Chair

Ms. Crotty – No additional report.

L. Action Items – Adoption of Items to be Approved by Consent

Agenda Item: L.1
Subject: Consideration to Approve a Change to a Board of Education Meeting Date

Motion Presented By: Ms. Rinaldi
Motion Seconded By: Mr. Lambert

Text of the Motion: Madame Chair, I move that the Board of Education change the October 23, 2017 Regular Meeting date to a Special Meeting date of Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Vote: Motion Passes

Agenda Item: L.2
Subject: Consideration of the Approval of a leave of Absence

Motion Presented By: Mr. Vicenzi
Motion Seconded By: Mr. Makowski

Text of the Motion:	Madame Chair, I move that the Board approve of the request for a long-term leave of absence for Ms. Cyr, from August 28, 2017 to approximately July 1, 2018.
Discussion:	None
Opposed:	None
Abstained:	None
Vote:	Motion Passes

M. Future Agenda Items and Board Members' Comments

Dr. Carnemolla - One other thing that I wanted to bring up, and that it is a precursor to an entire conversation, I wanted to let the board noted that Mr. Jones, Dr. Parlato and I worked on a grant for the state Department of Education for career and technical education. This is something that we do every year and we put it towards the career and technical education at the high school, for example, toward some of our woodworking classes or computer classes, and so forth. Mr. Jones and I have also talked about the possibility introducing a culinary program into the high school, but of course you know that is not something that we've been able to do because of our budgetary process, as we were able to put Health Tech back in, but not add in any other programs at this point. Mr. Jones has submitted the grant and we will see what happens. It is not something to have an entire conversation about it, because lots of school district have applied for grant money under this program, and we may or may not be a recipient.

N. Public Participation (Please state name, address and topic of discussion)

None

O. Executive Session

Agenda Item:	O.1
Subject:	To go into Executive Session
Motion Presented By:	Mr. Lambert
Motion Seconded By:	Mr. Makowski
Text of the Motion:	Madame Chair, I move that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion regarding security strategies. Attending the Executive Session will be Leslie Crotty, Bridget Carnemolla, Vic Vicenzi, Jim

Gambardella, Cheryl Albino, Jill Browne, Rob Makowski, Cathie Rinaldi, Janelle Wilk, and myself, Tom Lambert.

Discussion: None
Opposed: None
Abstained: None
Vote: Motion Passes

P. Regular Session

No Action Taken

Q. Adjournment

Agenda Item: Q.1
Subject: To adjourn the meeting

Motion Presented By: Mr. Makowski
Motion Seconded By: Ms. Rinaldi

Text of the Motion: Madame Chair, I move that we adjourn

Discussion: None

Opposed: None
Abstained: None
Vote: Motion Passes

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mindi Davidson
Recording Secretary

Janelle Wilk
Secretary of the Board