

Pending BOE Approval

**Watertown Board of Education  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Date:** November 12, 2019  
**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  
Ms. Diane Bristol  
Ms. Cindy Eastman  
Ms. Josephine Cavallo-Rosa  
Mr. Jason Malagutti

**Members Absent:** Ms. Cathie Rinaldi

**Others Present:** Dr. Rydell Harrison –Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Tom DiStasio – Business Manager  
Jordan Arnold – Student Council Representative

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

**B. Moment of Silence – In remembrance of Dr. Philip Pelosi**

**Dr. Harrison –** Tonight we take a moment to remember Dr. Philip Pelosi. Watertown Public Schools mourns the loss of long time educator, Dr. Philip A. Pelosi, who passed away October 31<sup>st</sup> after a brief illness. His career in Watertown spanned nearly four decades, from 1972 until his retirement in 2008. He served as a teacher of Mathematics at Watertown High School, as assistant superintendent, and as interim superintendent. Dr. Pelosi was a strong supporter of and advocate of arts and culture in education and Watertown High School's fine arts classrooms were dedicated to him in 2008. Recently he was described and honored for his 36 years of distinguished service, characterized by an unparalleled work ethic, and an unyielding commitment to Watertown students and families, and a finely honed dedication to excellence that he applied to each and every endeavor that he undertook. He demonstrated a spirit of

innovation and continuous improvement in all of his efforts. Dr. Pelosi led state of the art initiatives in Watertown such as the creation of improvement teams at each school; the development of vertical teams by subject area; the use of protocols to analyze student work and performance data; the establishment of a clear curriculum revision cycle; and the initiation of grade-to-grade looping and extended day Kindergarten. His work was recognized in school districts throughout the state by the Connecticut Center for School Change, and the state department of education and the United States Department of Education. We are honored to have had him as part of our community and tonight we take a moment of silence to recognize his loss.

**C. Salute to the Flag**

**D. Oath of Office**

Ms. Lisa Dalton, town clerk, swore in elected members Diane Bristol, Tom Lambert and Jason Malagutti. Cathie Rinaldi was also elected in, but was under the weather tonight and unable to attend.

**E. Roll Call – Ms. Davidson**

**F. Minutes**

Agenda Item:	F.1
Subject:	Minutes of the October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2019 Regular Board of Education Meeting
Motion Presented By:	Ms. Wilk
Motion Seconded By:	Mr. Lambert
Text of the Motion:	Madame Chair, I move that the Board approve of the minutes from the October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2019 regular Board of Education meeting as presented by Ms. Davidson.
Discussion:	None
Opposed:	None
Abstained:	Mr. Malagutti
Vote:	Motion passed
Agenda Item:	F.2
Subject:	Minutes of the November 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2019 Special Board of Education Meeting

Motion Presented By:	Mr. Lambert
Motion Seconded By:	Mr. Makowski
Text of the Motion:	Madame Chair, I move that the Board approve of the minutes from the November 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2019 special Board of Education meeting as presented by Ms. Taylor.
Discussion:	None
Opposed:	None
Abstained:	Mr. Malagutti, Ms. Wilk
Vote:	Motion passed

#### **G. Election of Executive Officers**

**Dr. Harrison** – Per state statute and town charter, tonight we will take a moment to elect our executive officers for the Board.

Agenda Item:	G.1
Subject:	Election of Executive Officers - Chairman
Motion Presented By:	Mr. Lambert
Motion Seconded By:	Ms. Rosa
Text of the Motion:	Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board appoint Leslie Crotty of the Watertown Board of Education, effective immediately.
Discussion:	Mr. Lambert – Many of us serving on the Board of Education had some time to evaluate Leslie Crotty as our past Board of Education chairwoman and how she responds to the challenges of this office. She has spent countless hours attending the subcommittees and representing the Board of Education at various meetings with the Town Council. She has helped develop budgets that are necessary to help cover the educational needs of our students, while fair and transparent, with the taxpayers of our town. She has challenged us to gain our community's trust and their votes in our town wide referendum. During her past role as Board Chair, she has always gone out of her way

to give every Board member a voice in a discussion that has come before this Board. Leslie has mentored new Board members, is a kind and compassionate collaborator who gently steers them into areas that will help obtain personal growth while they gain trust in their own abilities. Leslie Crotty, whose friendship, high energy, and availability to each and every one of you, has led me, more than ever, to believe that these years that we spend in public service are worth every second we can serve with these outstanding individuals. Please vote for Leslie Crotty for this position.

Opposed: None  
Abstained: None  
Vote: Motion passed

Agenda Item: G.2  
Subject: Election of Executive Officers – Vice Chairman

Motion Presented By: Ms. Crotty  
Motion Seconded By: Ms. Wilk

Text of the Motion: Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board appoint Tom Lambert as Vice Chairman of the Watertown Board of Education, effective immediately.

Discussion: Ms. Crotty – On behalf of Ms. Rinaldi, as she had wonderful accolades for Mr. Lambert, I will say in the moment, for me, I have had the honor of nominating him for this position in the past. There is nothing I agree with more and in the six years that I have been on this Board, the nominating of Tom Lambert for an executive position...not only do we all learn from him, but he leads with integrity, he believes in accountability, he has a wealth of experience in business and leadership that we have all gained knowledge from. He is a friend, my mentor, he takes my calls and texts at all hours, and my emails and I am forever grateful that you are able to help lead this Board and for the students of Watertown.

Opposed: None  
Abstained: None

Vote:	Motion passed
Agenda Item:	G.3
Subject:	Election of Executive Officers – Secretary
Motion Presented By:	Ms. Crotty
Motion Seconded By:	Mr. Lambert
Text of the Motion:	Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board appoint Janelle Wilk as the Secretary of the Watertown Board of Education, effective immediately.
Discussion:	Ms. Crotty – I am thrilled to have Janelle step up as an executive leader on this Board, not only as our secretary, but also as our Chair of Policy and Labor, whose knowledge in negotiations, among many other things, has helped guide us in our endeavors in that area and I am thrilled that she is part of the Executive leadership team.
Opposed:	None
Abstained:	None
Vote:	Motion passed

I just want to thank all of the Board members for your commitment to this Board and stepping up and wanting to be a part of the great work that is happening in Watertown. As Superintendent, these are the people that I work very closely with, along with our Administrators, and it is great to be in a district where there is so much care about our students and care about our staff and a real commitment to public service, so thank you to all of you sitting at this table and to our elected officials that are here with us tonight for the work that you do is very much appreciated and very much noticed.

#### **H. Award Recognitions**

##### **2019-2020 Watertown Paraeducator of the Year Award**

The Watertown Board of Education wishes to recognize and congratulate Watertown's 2019-2020 Paraeducator of the Year, Ms. Colleen Ferrucci. Ms. Ferrucci began her employment with Watertown in 1986, her friendly face, warm demeanor and enthusiastic energy brings comfort and delight to the students and faculty of Watertown High School. Throughout the years, Ms. Ferrucci has made strong connections with many staff members, which she then utilizes to best serve the needs of all students. Ms. Ferrucci, when asked

about her contributions as a paraeducator, stated matter-of-factly, "If I can bring sunshine to somebody, I will."

### **Paraeducator of the Year Recognition of Four Nominees**

The Watertown Board of Education would also like to congratulate and recognize the other four (4) nominees, nominated for the 2019-2020 Paraeducator of the Year pool: Each are talented professionals who exemplify the work ethic and commitment to nurturing our children and supporting our teachers.

- Rose Farrow – John Trumbull Primary School
- Gail Defrancesco – Swift Middle School
- Viola Mustafi – Polk Elementary School
- Wendy Goodman – Polk Elementary School

### **I. Report from Student Council Representative – Jordan Arnold**

**Mr. Arnold** - Mrs. Meka, from **John Trumbull Primary School**, reports that on Friday they welcomed over 60 veterans at their fourth annual Veteran's Day assembly. During the assembly, the first and second graders sang a medley of songs thanking Veterans for their service. The second graders read letters they composed sharing their appreciation to Vets and the kindergarteners recited a special poem.

Ms. Scully, from **Judson**, reports that their student council conducted elections for officer positions. The following students were named for positions: President: Joshua Oun, Vice president: Jacoby Rooney, Corresponding Secretary: Hayley Stahl, Treasurer: Oliver Severino, and the spirit committee Reps: Sawyer Dubay and Kenley LaFlamme.

The student council is conducting the annual turkey of the year competition where the money collected will go to the Watertown social services. There will also be a food drive to help support the food bank. The PTO is also doing their annual giving tree.

Ms. Galik, from **Polk**, is proud to announce that she is officially joining the Polk School as the permanent principal. On Friday, November 15th there will be an assembly to honor Veterans Day. Mr. Scott Andarowski, a 3rd generation veteran and served as a Marine in desert storm, will be teaching the school about the important holiday. Over the past 2 weeks, there have been parent-teacher conferences where the teachers have enjoyed partnering with students' families to understand the student's goals. This past week the school has started with "be the 'I' in-kind" where Polk shines light onto amazing students and the good they do each day.

Ms. Lurz, from **Swift**, reports they recently had a school night out at the Hartford Wolf Pack where the select choir sang the National Anthem. They held their annual mentor breakfast at which the community mentors had a community breakfast with their mentees. They got a chance to share a meal, talk for a bit and make plans to meet monthly. Their Tech Ed teacher, along with one of the 6th-grade science teachers, recently took 20 swift students to the STEM Manufacturing and Technology Expo held at Naugatuck Valley Community College.

Ms. Parlato, from **Watertown High School**, reports that they are continuing to send out their good news calls with both parents and students enjoying the recognition.

Teachers, Students, and Staff have been innovative and resilient while waiting for the technology to come back on line. The high school had a great turn out for parent/teacher conferences. Also, the open house for 8th graders was well attended as students and families got to learn and tour the school. Like the middle school, the high school had 12 students attend

the technology and manufacturing expo at Naugatuck Valley, which emphasized a wide variety of career choices.

#### **J. Superintendent's Recommendations and Report**

##### **1. Appointments – (Information Only)**

Ms. Chelsea Duncan to the position of building substitute for Polk Elementary School, effective November 4, 2019, being paid a daily rate of \$100.00.

##### **2. Transfers– (Information Only)**

Ms. Rebecca Fetting from the position of Cafeteria Custodian Area C at Swift Middle School, to Custodian Area C at Judson Elementary School.

##### **3. Resignations – (Information Only)**

None

##### **4. Superintendent's Report**

**Dr. Harrison** – Good evening Board Members. You see that we have one appointment, Chelsea Duncan to building sub at Polk and then one transfer. Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, the district discovered that its network was impacted by ransomware. As a district, we immediately launched an investigation and law enforcement was notified. The virus was designed to encrypt files but did not access any of our web bases systems that house student information and confidential information. I want to take a moment and acknowledge our IT team who worked closely with a third party expert all through last week, through the weekend and the weekend before. They are assisting us in restoring operations and determining the nature and scope of the incidents. The amount of progress that they made over the last 12 days is tremendous and I know you had an opportunity to talk at length with Mr. Turner in a special meeting last week, but I just want to take the opportunity to say a public thank you to them. A special thank you to our Administrators and teachers and staff for being patient throughout this process. There is a very methodical process in getting us back online and making sure this is not an incident that happens again. It requires a lot of time and patience and or folks have been great with coming up with creative solutions, using chromebooks where possible, and really thinking on how to collaborate on our focus on students. This is part of an ongoing investigation, but I will see our IT team made some very intentional decisions months ago that would better position us to handle an incident like this. This has also taught us some really important lessons that we need to learn to make appropriate changes going forward. You can expect to hear more about that over the next several weeks.

I also wanted to provide an update regarding safety and security. Just over a week ago, an 18 year old gained access to the high school by following in a tardy student after she was buzzed in. Following the incident, the school worked with the police department to investigate the situation. One part of the investigation was focused on the individual and his motives, but the other was shoring up our safety protocols and prevent future incidents. During the investigation, we learned that the individual had no sinister intention and imposed no threat

to the safety of our students. Through the investigation, we also identified opportunities for improvement. Dr. Parlato and I met last week to discuss some of them that are already in place and then the work that she is continuing to do with the Administrative team and Safety team as well. At our September 23<sup>rd</sup> Board of Ed meeting, we discussed many of the steps that the district is already taking to improve safety and security across our district and talked specifically about our focus on physical and psychological safety which are both very important to us. We also noted that safety is something that we continue to revisit and look for ways to make continuous improvement. We are always in a learning position, so we learned from this incident where all of our Principals and Administrators have gone back and looked at their safety protocols to see if there are changes that they need to make as well. Our last comprehensive safety audit was 2014. That audit was based on standards from the National Clearing House for Educational Facilities. The audit was a requirement for districts applying for the Safe Schools Grant. I have been looking over the results of that previous audit to determine how much progress we have made over the last five years then also look for areas where we still need to make some improvements based on those original suggestions. Going forward, I would also like to bring in an outside agency to assess the quality of our current procedures and then recommend some next steps. We talked about this in our meeting last week, but I think we would all benefit from fresh eyes and then also benefit from the safety lessons that have been learned in districts all around the country over the last five years. I will continue to provide more updates on that. One thing that every safety school article or recommendation stresses is the importance of awareness from staff and from students. In this situation at the high school, we are grateful for the staff members that noticed that there was a person in the building that was unauthorized and acted quickly to notify law enforcement. Even in the midst of everything else, I wanted to take a minute and thank that staff member and then thank our Administrators for issuing reminders to students to keep their eyes open and be aware of their surroundings and support some of the minor procedural changes and updates that we have put in place. Since then, even though many were in the works already, prior to that incident.

The last update is just about our solar projects across the district. Work has begun at Judson and Swift; they have started grubbing out the trees in the areas where they will be anchoring the panels to the ground and then also some preliminary work on the roofs in order to anchor them there. There is still some leveling that has to happen at both sites before we see them installed on the ground. Prior to that happening, Mr. Ceniccola had meetings with each school's Administrators to review the project and talk about all of the steps and what they will look like all throughout the project. Mr. Ceniccola recently met with High School Administrators as well to talk about the project at the high school. The original time line that we talked about in one of the updates was that we would be installed by Thanksgiving. We are not going to make that timeline but I will say they are trying to move forward as quickly as possible and I will continue to update you.

#### **K. Presentation of 2018 – 2019 Test Scores**

**Ms. Fekete & Dr. Harrison (Co Presenting)** – We are excited to share with you our scores and more importantly, the next steps. It is not just reporting the scores, but reporting the work that has been done to impact student learning. Our purpose tonight is to provide an overview of state testing data over time and through different lenses, provide an update on the effectiveness of the previous improvement strategies, and to highlight the next steps in relationship to specific data points. Different ways we will be able to look at the data include



period data which focuses in specific timeframes, cohort, which focuses on a specific group of students over time, proficient, which is data focused on the percent of students proficient and growth, which is data focused on growth towards proficiency. The state is now publishing growth data which will tell us how quickly we are moving kids not at proficiency to get there. They report that by growth rate, the percentage of students that met target, and then by average percent of target achieved. For example, if a student is looking for a target of 100 points and achieved 80 points, the percentage of their target achieved is 80%.

For ELA testing on SBAC for 2019, the state was at 55.7, the DRG was at 65.5 and Watertown was at 64.1 for reaching target. The next slide shown shows these across the years and you see a little decrease from 2018 to 2019. One of the big conversations we have had is honing in here on sixth grade performance where we see a significant decrease from fifth grade to sixth. We will talk more about it later, but it was important to note here too. This slide shows the percent of students meeting standard by grade. It is still period data looking at how each grade compared to the state and the DRG. Looking across grade levels, we see we are close and in some places, exceeding the DRG. We next look at cohort, the same group of students, over time. You can see year to year, over time. I want to point out grade 8 in 2018; we see the trend of continuous improvement over time, then again, looking at this year's grade 8 students, in grade 6 at 59%, grade 7 at 66% then at grade 8 at 68%. We now look at cohort data again compared to the rest of the DRG. Our slide here looks at both the growth rate and the average percent of target achieved. It is sometimes hard to see growth with your highest level of students. You can see here the subgroup 8, which is our level 4 high, we see they are still making growth, but then meeting more than 60% (on average) for that subgroup. Finally, SAT scores for ELA for 11<sup>th</sup> grade in the spring of 2019, shows here the comparison to the DRG and the state. State percentage was at 67.8 (522), for the DRG was 70.4 (529) and then Watertown was 56.5 (495). We are below both the state and the DRG here.

Now we move on to Math. For SBAC with Math the state was at 48.1%, the DRG at 59.2% and Watertown at 52.4%. We have our performed the state, but have a ways to go in our DRG. We then break that same data down by grade level and here we see again, the sixth grade level is where we see the most need for improvement. There are several factors we see as possible reasons/theories for this which include this group being one that struggles with transitions. They are now transitioned to a middle school setting, so that works with it as well. This group also had a high group of special needs students that add to this testing data. There were between 42-52 special education students and 10 English language learners. That impacts the students scoring at proficient, so we want to make sure we look at the growth numbers as well. Speaking to the middle school staff, we know that the resources there are structured to meet their needs and hope to see an increase in their scores in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. What we also see here is the implementation in the change in curriculum and with IReady. Last year, in sixth grade, was the first year with Illustrative Math and we believe it is a good program, but there are challenges with implementing a new curriculum. We now have our Math scores in comparison to the state and DRG by grade. The next slide shows the cohort data and we see student performance over time and build on skills. Math continues to be one of our challenges we want to address and this helps us to dig in deeper into the success or changes that need to be made instructionally. When you look back to 15/16 you see a small dip but then some good increases in performance over time, which gives us good signals on what is working with the curriculum. The next slide shows the raining with in the cohort data within the DRG. Looking at the growth chart, and putting it side by side with ELA, there is more growth happening, particularly with our highest level math students, but also with our lower level students. Closing the growth gap is the key to our percent to students at target. It is important to have levers in place to hone in on growth. Finally

we have our SAT math performance. The performance is nearly identical in 2018 to 2019 where the state is at 40.6% (500), the DRG at 45.5 (513) and Watertown at 32.0 (482).

Looking at AP testing, the AP courses provide students with college level content while still in high school and it is a nationally recognized program. The exams are scored on a 1-5 basis, with 5 being the highest. In many cases, students are able to skip the class in college if they are awarded a three or higher, depending on the college. The next slide shows the number of exams taken by course with AP Psychology being the most popular. The next slide shows the percentage of overall scoring on the exams, by level. In 2019, 9% scored a 5, 17% scored a 4, 35% scored a 3, 22% scored a 2 and 17% scored a 1. This is not just about getting college credit, but it's about college readiness and what to expect when they get to that next level.

For next steps, they are really more academic in nature but we need to make sure we have readiness as well. I have a slide pertaining to RULER here as we are rolling it out this year to staff and the idea is that next year we will implement that to students. The hope is that if we teach emotional regulation, we will have a greater readiness for learning. As we go through action steps, I will reference two things. One is to the instructional core and the other is the components to the District Improvement Plan. The instructional core includes the relationship with teacher/student in presence of content, the three interdependent components which are teacher skill, student engagement and academic challenging content and that you can't change performance without changing the core. The second piece is that steps are intentionally placed into our plans and you can see the alignment. There are four buckets of action steps which include: SRBI/WIST, curriculum, instruction, & student engagement/tasks.

The first area we will talk about is SRBI/WIST because it every part of the instructional core. It has turnkey potential and reap some short term benefits while working on long term goals. SRBI has strong impact on student learning. Our own data also promises this is a good place to put stock. The next slide compares student growth performance in language arts for students that connected intervention to the IReady data. When you compare the schools that were in year one to year two, there is a difference in growth. This tells us this is the right road. Math is even more significant. When we talk about revising the areas we will talk about three areas: tool, processes, and resources. For tools, we will maximize the benefits of tools we already have. In IReady we will have specific subscriptions for what we need to do to close the gap. Ms. Fekete went over all of the things that IReady can do for the teams. The second thing they will do is go into EdSight, which is the CSDE's portal and it is a robust place to find information to help you make decisions. There are many reports that give you reports on so many items to help you find performance. For the process itself, we will develop a streamlined process K-8. Watertown High School is piloting math intervention. The process will also include aligned assessments, timelines, protocols, scheduling, record keeping and document transmittal. For resources we hope to move forward with teachers on special assignment or TOSA. We want to have two this year and then increase it to five in 2020-2021. They will become the SRBI coordinators and PPT Facilitators in each school. They can also take math intervention groups in John Trumbull, Polk & Judson. The second action step is curriculum. This is where we will go over completed TregoEd protocol with all Administrators to determine needs, begin to plan curriculum audit process, explore free/open resources, research how other districts tackle curriculum writing, add a phonics program at John Trumbull, aligning standards at Judson and Polk with supplementing existing ELA curriculum and investigations and implementing a standards based report card. At Swift, align the standards to units and assessments and roll out Illustrative math and then at Watertown High School, planning a report card revision to include a revision of grading structures. They are planning for an alternate mid-term and final exam and portfolio of student work and analysis. For the action steps on instruction, all district staff will select and implement

on high impact instructional strategy, all schools will participate in instructional rounds connected to SSPs, an addition of a literacy coach at John Trumbull, the math specialists will offer coaching cycles and book study groups for teachers, and then at Watertown High School they are focusing on school culture, collective efficacy and employee engagement to yield increased student engagement. The fourth step is student engagement which will include focusing on differentiation, rigor and relevance at John Trumbull, Polk and Judson. At Swift, focusing on standards to design tasks and formative assessments, and then at Watertown High, reviewing learning targets to ensure quality/formative use as an assessment and to increase student agency and also holding weekly attendance meetings.

The last piece to share is the first year of science results; the NGSS. The reported scores for year 1 are: grade five at 61%, grade 8 at 67% and grade 11 at 38%. Our action steps for science include grades 3-8 CREC science units purchased and being implemented, three days of professional learning from CREC for Swift science teachers on implementation of units, unpack units and explore NGSS interim assessments at Polk/Judson, Polk will pilot a Friday science switch and at Watertown High School teachers are actively writing and implementing NGSS units and exploring the NGSS assessments as well. It will color the way you instruct if you know what is asked of the kids.

#### **L. New and Updated Board Policies – First Reading**

**Ms. Crotty** – We are going through a first reading of some new and updated policies. All of these updates are due to legislation, not new ones we are creating.

The first is Series 1000 - **Non-Discrimination (Community)** - The policy was revised to include discrimination based on alienage status is prohibited by law. There are no other changes in that policy.

The second is Series 3000 - **Budget Procedures & Line Item Transfers** - This has been revised to clarify the process for line item transfers between budgetary categories of the itemized budget. This applies to local Boards of Education, not regional ones. It changes the languages so that the Business Manager can do line item requests on the actual category and not the actual line item. It changes the language also to include “fiscal authority” vs defining titles.

**Code of Conduct Child Nutrition (New)** – This is a new policy in accordance with state and federal law. It is in relation to the procurement of goods and services in connection with Connecticut School Nutrition Program. It protects the district from any conflicts of interest when choosing vendors and purchasing products.

The third is Series 4000 - **Employment and Student Teacher Checks** – This policy has been updated to add “student teacher”. It now requires schools to conduct national and state criminal background checks for student teachers. It requires that all perspective employees to explain in writing whether they have been convicted of a crime, if one is pending, what the charges are and in what court they are pending. The act further clarifies that the fees for criminal background checks for student teachers are waived. Currently, student teachers fill out applications at their University, and we hope they are making these changes, but then we will have our own application as well, where we ask this same information.

**Non-Discrimination (Personnel)** – This has been revised to clarify discrimination based on alienage is prohibited by law. The general statutes on page three have been updated. Most of the pages update with word alienage.

The fourth is Series 5000 - Homeless Children & Youth – This has been revised to incorporate changes concerning the hearing and appeal process for school age homeless children and youth who are denied access to school accommodations under CT General Statute 10-186. It was further revised to clarify the rights of unaccompanied youth. It is important to note that our district liaison is Chris Brown. Adding unaccompanied youth ensures that all of the rights that we would have for students that qualify as homeless are also given to those unaccompanied youth. Unaccompanied youth are youth who aren't under the guardianship of a parent or another adult, one their own or homeless. They may be estranged from their families. They typically "couch surf" and spend a couple of weeks with one friend then move on to another friend. The intent of the law is to make sure these children can still go to school. There have been updates to the appeal process as well.

**Food Allergies and/or Glycogen Storage Disease** –The revision includes adding students with diabetes to the protections of students with life threatening food allergies and glycogen storage disease. The revision also clarify that students with life threatening food allergies and diabetes are virtually always students with disabilities and should be referred to a section 504 team.

**Non-Discrimination (Students)** – This is again adding the work alienage to the documentation.

**Section 504/ADA** –They have added the government website to the second page that is related to protecting students with disabilities. They have added language to include differential treatment, harassment and retaliation in regards to the grievance and complaint process. If a complaint is filed after 30 days from the incident, it gives the Board of Education permission to have a limited investigation. There is language around the request for a due process hearing. It also adds that if the Superintendent is the subject of the complaint, the Board shall designate an appropriate party to conduct the investigation in accordance with the procedures. On page 10, it states that the Board of Education may treat any student that has violated its drug and alcohol abuse policy the same as it would a non-disabled student.

**Sunscreen Application in School (New)** – In accordance with PA 19-60, students six years of age and older may now self-apply sunscreen in school prior to outdoor activity with a signed permission slip by the parent or guardian. The policy also includes a signed permission form that the school may choose to use.

Tonight was only the first read and 50% of the new policies that we have to put in place. At the next meeting, we hope to take action on them.

#### **M. Public Participation (Please state name, address and topic of discussion)**

**Sen. Eric Berthel – 92 Malvern Hill Rd. Wtn.** – Sen Berthel spoke on behalf of himself and Rep. Poletta wishing heartfelt congratulations to the elected/reelected candidates to the Board of Education.

#### **N. Committee Reports:**

**Curriculum and Instruction Committee, Ms. Cathie Rinaldi, Chair – No**  
**Policy and Labor Committee, Ms. Janelle Wilk, Chair –Yes**

The committee met earlier to review and discuss the following policies: Series 1000 - Non-Discrimination (Community), Series 3000 - Budget Procedures & Line Item Transfers, Code of Conduct Child Nutrition (New), Series 4000 - Employment and Student Teacher Checks, Non-Discrimination (Personnel), Series 5000 - Homeless Children & Youth, Food Allergies and/or Glycogen Storage Disease, Non-Discrimination (Students), Section 504/ADA, and Sunscreen Application in School (New).

**Budget and Finance Committee, Ms. Diane Bristol, Chair – No**  
**Facilities/PBC/Operations Committee, Mr. Thomas Lambert, Chair –Yes**

We hope they are to be done by the end of the year and currently are working on electrical and plumbing downstairs. Asphalt and parking lots are an issue right now, as it is too cold. They will have to wait for a good day to do that. The lower level probably won't be done until spring.

**Governance and Community Engagement Committee, Mr. Robert Makowski, Chair – No**

**O. Communications - Secretary**

None

**P. Report from the Board Chair**

**Ms. Crotty** – Thank you for the trust you have put in me as your chair. I do not take it lightly and I promise to continue to treat it with care and the respect that it deserves. I think that a good chair in any arena of public service works to facilitate a productive, respectful, line of discussion and take action that is in the best interest of all of our students and employees as well. I promise to continue to do that to the best of my ability.

**Q. Action Items – Adoption of Items to be Approved by Consent**

None

**R. Future agenda Items and Board Members' Comments**

**Mr. Lambert** – Thanked Mr. Turner and his IT crew again for all of their hard work and overtime they have put in. We are very proud of this team.

**Mr. Makowski** – Echoed Mr. Lambert's thoughts and also spoke of the preparation the IT team did in case something like that happened. He then spoke about the honored paraprofessionals from the night and thanked them again.

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

**None**

**T. Adjournment**

Agenda Item:	T.1
Subject:	To adjourn the meeting
Motion Presented By:	Ms. Bristol
Motion Seconded By:	Ms. Eastman
Text of the Motion:	Madame Chair, I move that we adjourn.
Discussion:	None
Opposed:	None
Abstained:	None
Vote:	Motion Passes

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mindi Davidson  
Recording Secretary

Janelle Wilk  
Secretary of the Board