

Board of Education

May 18, 2017

The Wethersfield Board of Education met in special session on Thursday, May 18, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. in the Lower Level Meeting Room of the Stillman Building, 127 Hartford Avenue.

The following Board members were present: Mrs. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Hill, Ms. Moon, Mrs. Paradise, Mrs. Vassel (6:40 p.m. arrival) and Chairperson Granato. Also present were: Superintendent of Schools, Michael Emmett; Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Curriculum and Instruction, Sally Dastoli; Business Manager, Matthew Kozaka; Director of Human Resources, Trent Donohue; Wethersfield High School Principal, Thomas Moore. Members of the public were also present.

Mrs. Granato led the Board and public in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1. Proposed for Executive Session**

**a. Discussion and Possible Action on Appointment of Principal for Highcrest Elementary School**

Ms. Moon MOVED to leave public session and enter executive session at 6:33 p.m. for the purposes of discussion and Possible Action on Appointment of Principal for Highcrest Elementary School. The motion was SECONDED by Mrs. Fitzpatrick and VOTED unanimously.

Present for executive session: Mrs. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Hill, Ms. Moon, Mrs. Paradise and Chairperson Granato.

Administrators: Mr. Emmett and Mrs. Dastoli; Others: Mr. Kozaka and Mr. Donohue

Ms. Moon MOVED to leave executive session and re-enter public session at 6:40 p.m. for the purpose of allowing Mrs. Vassel to enter the meeting. The motion was SECONDED by Mrs. Paradise and VOTED unanimously.

Ms. Moon MOVED to leave public session and re-enter executive session at 6:41 p.m. for the purpose of continued discussion regarding: Interview Candidate for Highcrest School Principal. The motion was SECONDED by Mrs. Paradise and VOTED unanimously.

Present for executive session: Mrs. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Hill, Ms. Moon, Mrs. Paradise, Mrs. Vasel and Chairperson Granato.

Administrators: Mr. Emmett and Mrs. Dastoli; Others: Mr. Kozaka and Mr. Donohue

Ms. Moon MOVED to leave executive session and re-enter public session at 7:05 p.m. The motion was SECONDED by Mrs. Paradise and VOTED unanimously.

Mrs. Granato MOVED that the Wethersfield Board of Education appoint Siobhan O'Connor to the position of Principal of Highcrest Elementary School, at a salary of One Hundred, Thirty-Three Thousand, Two Hundred Fourteen (\$133,214.00) Dollars, which is consistent with the Agreement Between Wethersfield Board of Education and Wethersfield School Administrators Association effective as negotiated. This appointment would be effective July 1, 2017. The motion was SECONDED by Mrs. Fitzpatrick and VOTED unanimously.

## **2. Action Items**

### **a. Recommended Motion: Approval of Transportation Contract**

Mrs. Fitzpatrick MOVED that the Wethersfield Board of Education approve a three (3) year contract for In-Town Regular Transportation; In-Town Special Education; In-Town Magnet; In-Town Parochial; Athletic; Late Bus; Summer School and Field Trip transportation services to Specialty Transportation, commencing on July 1, 2017; and FURTHER MOVED that the Wethersfield Board of Education approve a three (3) year contract for Out-of-Town Vocational School transportation services to Access Transportation, commencing on July 1, 2017. The motion was SECONDED by Mrs. Paradise and VOTED unanimously. Board Comments: Mrs. Paradise, Mr. Hill, and Mrs. Granato commented. Mr. Emmett and Mr. Kozaka also commented.

## **3. Reports/Discussion Items**

There was a lengthy discussion pertaining to the 2017-2018 Budget. Board members discussed a Five Hundred Thousand (\$500,000) Dollar, budget-reduction scenario as requested by Town Council. Mr. Kozaka answered questions of Board Members regarding this scenario. These reductions included 1) recognition of health insurance savings; 2) bus/transportation expense; 3) FICA; 4) diesel fuel price decrease; 5) 0.5 transition coordinator; 6) copy expense; 7) retirements; and 8) CABA membership. These proposed changes to the budget will be voted on at the next regular Board of Education Meeting. Due to the presently ongoing uncertainty of the State budget, the Town and Board may again have to revisit the 2017-2018 Budget for additional reductions.

Ms. Moon MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. The motion was SECONDED by Mr. Hill and VOTED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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John Morris, Vice-Chairperson – Secretary

Minutes Recorded by Ellen Goslicki, Recording Secretary