

Meeting: December 1, 2014

Staples High School

**WESTPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES - DRAFT 1**

**Board Members Present:**

Michael Gordon      Chair  
Jeanie Smith        Vice Chair  
Elaine Whitney     Secretary  
Mark Mathias  
Brett Aronow  
Karen Kleine  
Paul Block

**Administrators Present:**

Elliott Landon      Superintendent of Schools  
Elio Longo          Dir. of School Business Operations  
James D'Amico     Dir. of Secondary Ed & Research  
Julie Droller        Director of Elementary Education  
Marge Cion          Director of Human Resources  
Michael Rizzo       Director of Pupil Services

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:08 p.m., Staples High School, Room 333 PSA Conference Room

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Strategies for Negotiations; Security Matters

Jeannie Smith moved to go into Executive Session to discuss Strategies for Negotiation and Security Matters; seconded by Mark Mathias. All Board members were present. Elliott Landon, Elio Longo, Marge Cion and Michael Rizzo were in attendance at the invitation of the Board. The executive session was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

**RESUME PUBLIC SESSION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** 7:10 p.m. in the Staples High School Cafeteria

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION**

Dr. Landon announced that John Dodig, Principal of Staples High School, plans to retire at the end of the current school year.

**MINUTES:** Elaine Whitney moved to approve the minutes of November 17, 2014; seconded by Michael Gordon; passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS/COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

**DISCUSSION:**

NESDEC Enrollment Projections

*Note:* This topic was presented by Dr. Donald Kennedy of NESDEC.  
2015-16 Preliminary Budget Discussions with Board of Finance and the Chairs of the RTM Education and Finance Committees

*Note:* The following Town officials joined the Board of Education at the table for the first two discussion items: Members of the Board of Finance: John Pincavage,

Chair, Janis Collins, Tom Lasersohn, Michael Rea, and Jennifer Tooker; Velma Heller, Chair of the RTM Education Committee (arrived at 7:30 p.m.); and James Marpe, First Selectman. In addition, Brian Stern, Vice Chair of the Board of Finance, provided written comments in advance, which were read at the meeting.

Progress Report: National Executive Service Corps

**REPORTS:**

Implementation of SBAC Testing Program and Benefits and Efficacy of Standardized and AP Tests

Kindergarten Evaluation and Recommended Modifications to Program

**DISCUSSION/ACTION:**

Acceptance of Gifts:

**Be It Resolved, That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts with great appreciation multiple gifts of art works contributed by Julia and Greg Hubert, Patricia Colgan Davis, Paula Schooler, and Mary Ann Neilson, with a total value of \$74,150.**

**MOTION: Michael Gordon**  
**SECOND: Elaine Whitney**  
**RESULT: Passed**  
**VOTE: 7-0**

Approval: RFP for School Security Communications Systems

**MOTION: Michael Gordon**  
**SECOND: Brett Aronow**  
**RESULT: Passed**  
**VOTE: 7-0**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Michael Gordon moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:29 p.m.; seconded by Jeannie Smith and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Whitney, Secretary  
(Minutes written by Lisa Marriott)