

WESTPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES – Approved

Board Members Present:

Don O’Day Chair
James Marpe Vice Chair
Elaine Whitney Secretary
Mark Mathias
Michael McGovern
Michael Gordon
Jennifer Tooker

Administrators Present:

Elliott Landon Superintendent of Schools
Nancy Harris Asst. Superintendent Business
Lis Comm Dir. of Secondary Ed. & Research
Cynthia Gilchrest Dir. of Pupil Svc. & Elem. Ed.
Marge Cion Director of Human Resources

Others Present: Michael Rizzo (Asst. Director of Pupil Services); John Bayers (GFS Principal); Valerie Babich (Dir. of Psychological Services K-8); Janna Bell (CES Principal); John Feagin (BMS Teacher)

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: 7:30 p.m. in the Staples High School cafeteria.

HOLIDAY SONGFEST: The Staples High School Orphenians

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION

PUBLIC QUESTIONS/COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

MINUTES: Minutes of December 5, 2011 were accepted.

PRESENTATION: Report on Gifted Education (Mr. Rizzo, Ms. Gilchrest, Mr. Bayers, Dr. Babich, Ms. Bell, Ms. Command Mr. Feagin)

DISCUSSION/ACTION:

- 1. Policy 5131.911: Bullying Prevention and Intervention
- Policy 5131.912: Safe School Climate Plan (Ms. Gilchrest, Dr. Landon)

Be It Resolved, That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education adopts Policy P5131.911, Bullying Prevention and Intervention and P5131.912, Safe School Climate Plan, copies of which shall be appended to the Minutes of the Board of Education meeting of December 19, 2011.

MOTION: Mark Mathias
SECOND: Michael Gordon
RESULT: Approved
VOTE: Unanimous

- 2. Acceptance of Gifts (Dr. Landon)

Be It Resolved, That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts with gratitude and appreciation a gift of \$4,000 from the Long Lots PTA to be used towards the purchase of twenty (20) Kindle Touch E-Readers with essential supporting equipment for student use and one (1) video camera; a gift valued at \$5,380 from the Staples High School PTA for the purchase of ten (10) iPads and the necessary Apple Care support programs for teacher and student use; and, from the Westport Basketball Association, a gift valued at \$5,205 to replace the four (4) existing side basketball hoops at Long Lots Elementary School with new updated baskets that are adjustable to heights of eight to ten feet.

MOTION: Elaine Whitney
SECOND: Mark Mathias
RESULT: Approved
VOTE: Unanimous

A motion was made to start a new topic after 10:30 pm.

MOTION: Michael McGovern
SECOND: Mark Mathias
RESULT: Approved
VOTE: Unanimous

INFORMATION:

1. Utilization of Hybrid School Bus (Ms. Harris)

Be It Resolved, That the Board of Education instructs the Assistant Superintendent for Business to prepare a presentation for the Board of Finance requesting funds for the purchase of a hybrid bus consistent with the grant received from the Connecticut State Department of Transportation.

MOTION: Don O'Day
SECOND: Michael McGovern
RESULT: Approved
VOTE: Unanimous

2. Restructuring of Elementary School Physical Education and Middle School French -
Superintendent's Proposed 2012-13 Budget (Dr. Landon)

DISCUSSION: Underground Fuel Oil Storage Tank Replacement

Topic was deferred to a subsequent meeting

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 11:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Whitney, Secretary
(Minutes written by Jennifer Robson)