

WESTPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

**Board Members Present:**

Elaine Whitney	Chair
Jeannie Smith	Vice Chair
Michael Gordon	Secretary
Mark Mathias	
Brett Aronow	
Karen Kleine	

**Administrators Present:**

Elliott Landon	Superintendent of Schools
Elio Longo	Director of School Business Operations
Lis Comm	Director of Secondary Education
Cynthia Gilchrest	Director of Elementary Education
Marge Cion	Director of Human Resources
Michael Rizzo	Director of Pupil Services

**PUBLIC CALL TO ORDER:** 6:14 p.m., Staples High School, Room 1025C, Principal’s Conference Room

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Personnel Matter/Pending Litigation

At 6:14 p.m. Jeannie Smith motioned and was seconded by Mark Mathias to go into executive session to discuss Personnel Matter/Pending Litigation. Elliott Landon, Elio Longo and Marge Cion joined the executive session at the invitation of the Board. The executive session ended at 6:58 p.m. : All BOE members were present, Michael Gordon arrived at 6:40 p.m.

**RESUME PUBLIC SESSION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** 7:11 p.m. in the Staples High School cafeteria.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION**

Elaine Whitney announced that the Board would be moving the Acceptance of Gifts to after the NESDEC Enrollment Projections and the Budget Discussions.

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

**MINUTES:** November 25, 2013 Minutes approved.

**DISCUSSION:**

NESDEC Enrollment Projections

Don Kenney  
Dr. Landon

2014-15 Preliminary Budget discussions with Board of Finance

**DISCUSSION/ACTION:**

Acceptance of Gifts

Dr. Landon

**Be It Resolved, That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts with thanks and appreciation a gift from the Green's Farms PTA valued at \$6,000 for the purchase of non-fiction classroom books and a gift of forty-three (43) original art prints valued at \$25,700 from Mr. Mark Greenstein for the Westport Schools Permanent Art Collection.**

**MOTION:** Michael Gordon  
**SECOND:** Mark Mathias  
**RESULT:** Unanimous  
**VOTE:** 6-0

Middle School STEM/Encore Courses: Additions and Revisions

Dr. Landon

**Be It Resolved, That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the implementation of a comprehensive STEM program both at Bedford Middle School and Coleytown Middle School effective with the start of the 2014-15 school year, as delineated in the materials of the meeting of December 2, 2013.**

**MOTION:** Elaine Whitney  
**SECOND:** Mark Mathias  
**RESULT:** Unanimous  
**VOTE:** 6-0

Busing Logistics and Schedules

Dr. Landon

**Be It Resolved, That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to include in the Proposed Budget of the Superintendent of Schools for the 2014-15 school year sufficient funds to provide for an increase of 3 Type 1 vehicles and 1 Type 2 vehicle at an estimated cost of \$267,730, and**

**Be It Further Resolved, That the Board directs the Superintendent to implement the school starting and ending times for the start of the 2014-15 school year as delineated in the materials accompanying the agenda of the meeting of December 2, 2013.**

**MOTION:** Michael Gordon  
**SECOND:** Mark Mathias  
**RESULT:** Unanimous  
**VOTE:** 6-0

Revised Class Size Breakpoints

There was no vote taken on Class Size Breakpoints motion. The decision was made to leave things as they currently are.

Adoption of the 2014-15 Board of Education Meeting Calendar

Dr. Landon

**Be It Resolved, That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves a calendar of scheduled public meetings for the period July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015, said calendar to be appended to the meeting of December 2, 2013.**

**MOTION:** Jeannie Smith  
**SECOND:** Mark Mathias  
**RESULT:** Unanimous  
**VOTE:** 6-0

Move to go into Executive Session to discuss a confidential attorney client communication at 10:23 p.m.

**MOTION:** Elaine Whitney  
**SECOND:** Mark Mathias  
**RESULT:** Unanimous  
**VOTE:** 6-0

**CONTINUANCE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 10:31 p.m. Brett Aronow motioned and was seconded by Mark Mathias to go into executive session to discuss confidential attorney client communication. Elliott Landon, Elio Longo and Marge Cion joined the executive session at the invitation of the Board. The executive session ended at 11:59 p.m. All BOE members were present.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 11:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Gordon, Secretary  
(Minutes written by Lisa Marriott)