

WESTPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

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

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: 7:34 p.m. in the Staples High School cafeteria.

Acceptance of Gifts:

Be It Resolved, That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts with gratitude and appreciation from the Terex Corporation, a gift of an Aerial Work Platform valued at \$8,000, and

Be It Further Resolved, That the Board of Education accepts with gratitude and appreciation a gift of an LED Baseball Scoreboard valued at \$6,200 from Westport Baseball and Softball, Inc. and Westport Little League to be installed on the don Levy Little League Field at Coleytown Elementary School.

MOTION: Mark Mathias
SECOND: Jim Marpe
RESULT: Passed
VOTE: Unanimous

Be It Resolved, That the Board of Education authorizes additions and deletions to the Proposed 2012-13 Budget of the Superintendent of Schools, as follows:

- o Vote to add middle school French back into the budget: Add \$25,000 to 100 section of the budget.

MOTION: Elaine Whitney
SECOND: Michael McGovern
RESULT: Passed
VOTE: Unanimous

- o Vote to add Elementary PE at current levels back into the budget: Add \$120,000 to the 100 section of the budget, plus \$20,000 to the 200 section for associated benefits.

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

- o Reduction of 5.0 FTE in secretarial positions; board suggested one-half secretary in each school plus one in central office and facilities, but deferred to the Superintendent the specific allocation of these FTE reductions. Reduce the 100 section of the budget by \$200,000, plus \$30,000 from the 200 section for associated benefits.

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

- o Health Benefits: Move individual stop loss level to \$225,000 from \$175,000. Reduce line 200 of the budget by \$158,000.

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

- o Allocate to Continuing Education an additional \$50,000 for electricity. Reduce section 400 of the operating budget correspondingly.

MOTION: Jim Marpe
SECOND: Michael McGovern
RESULT: Passed
VOTE: Unanimous

- o Reduce total technology purchases by \$50,000, and make a concerted effort toward facilitating the use of the personal technology that many students bring to school. Reduce section 600 of the budget correspondingly.

MOTION: Michael McGovern
SECOND: Jim Marpe
RESULT: Passed
VOTE: Unanimous

- o Reduce replacement equipment by \$8,000, as the result of a generous gift from the Terex Corporation. Reduce section 700 of the budget correspondingly. (Note: The vote to effect this change occurred when the board accepted this gift.)

- o Proposal by Superintendent to eliminate General Music instruction in 5th grade, which would have resulted in a total cost reduction of \$60,000. No motion. No change to program or budget.

- o Elementary break points: Proposal to return to the 2008-09 methodology, which would have required adding \$175,000 to the budget.

MOTION: Michael Gordon
SECOND: Jennifer Tooker
RESULT: Not Passed
VOTE: 2 in favor (Gordon, Tooker); 5 opposed (Marpe, Mathias, McGovern, O'Day, Whitney)

- o Motion to approve the Board of Education's Proposed Budget (operating) in the amount of \$100,226,554, which constitutes a 2.17% increase from the 2011-12 budget, and a \$331,000 decrease from the Superintendent's Proposed Budget, for consideration by the Board of Finance.

MOTION: Don O'Day
SECOND: Jim Marpe
RESULT: Passed
VOTE: Unanimous

- o Five-year capital forecast. Motion to accept, with elimination of wireless for all three schools (SHS, CES & KHS) for the 2012-13 school year. (Note: The SHS wireless upgrade remains in the operating budget.)

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

And, Be It Further Resolved, That the Board of Education approves for submission to the Board of Finance a Proposed 2012-13 Budget of the Board of Education that incorporates said additions and deletions in the amount of \$100,226,554, with a copy of the completed proposed budget, including Other Budgets, appended to the Minutes of the Meeting of February 6, 2012.

MOTION: Don O'Day
SECOND: Jim Marpe
RESULT: Passed
VOTE: Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Whitney, Secretary
(Minutes written by Lisa Marriott)