



Stratford Board of Education

STRATFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION – MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: 08/22/2016

Meeting Location: Center School, All-Purpose Room

Approved: DRAFT

Recorded By: Teresa Lycoudes

1 ATTENDANCE

Name	Title	Location	Present
James Feehan	Board Chair		Y
Leonard Petruccelli	Board Vice Chair		Y
Theresa Sheehy	Board Secretary		Y
Chris Barnaby	Board Member		Y
Maria Buturla	Board Member		Y
Susan Lance	Board Member		Y
Eric Lazaro	Board Member		Y
Dr. Janet Robinson	Superintendent	Central Office	Y
Clarence Zachery	Chief Operating Officer	Central Office	Y
Linda Gejda	Asst. Superintendent	Central Office	Y
Teresa Lycoudes	Recorder / Board Secretary	Central Office	Y
	SAA Representative	Administration Center	
Mike Fiorello	SEA President	SHS Instructor	Y
Lou Spetrino	Videographer		Y

2 MEETING LOCATION

Building: Administration Center / Board Room

3 MEETING START

Meeting Schedule Start: 7:15 PM

Meeting Actual Start: 7:20 PM

4 AGENDA

- **Opening Remarks by Chair**

1. Chairman Feehan called the August 22, 2016 Board of Education meeting to order at 7:20 PM. A quorum was confirmed, and Mr. Feehan asked everyone to stand and join Board Member, Leonard Petruccelli, for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.
2. After the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Feehan requested everyone to remain standing and join in a moment of silence in observance of the passing of Mr. Barnaby's father.

- **Presentations** – There were no presentations.
- **Public Participation** – There were two (2) speakers. The following members of the Stratford community spoke:
 1. **Larry Farrell** – *234 Klondike Street, Stratford CT – Support of Board of Education*
 2. **Olga Pena** – *452 Laughlin Road, Stratford CT – Summer Packets (online) and Collaboration between Stratford Public Schools and C.A.R.E.*

Public Speakers entire conversation can be viewed on the District Website at www.stratfordk12.org .

- **Student Representatives Report** – There were none. The Student Representatives to the Board will be introduced at the September Board meeting (September 26, 2016).
- **Superintendent’s “Status of the Schools” Report** – Dr. Robinson reported about the following items:
 1. **Commissioner’s Back to School Meeting with Superintendents.**
 2. **Minority Teacher Recruitment.**
 3. **SBAC Results**
 4. **Stratford Rotary Backpack funding – 110 students have been identified and given backpacks to start the 2016-17 school year.**
 5. **Administrators Retreat – August 15, 16 & 25.**
 6. **New Teacher Orientation – August 17 – 19.**
 7. **Math Packets – online summer packet. Khan Academy is used. Summer packets are not graded, but proves to be a useful tool for teachers to know where students place when coming in after the summer break.**
 8. **Personnel Update – There are 23 unfilled positions, at this point in time (mostly in Special Education)**
- **Consent Agenda**
 1. Mr. Petrucelli motioned that the Consent Agenda items be taken separately. Mr. Feehan stated that since there were only two items, they could be voted on separately.
 - **Meeting minutes** from June 27, 2016. –
A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. PETRUCCELLI;
SECONDED BY MRS. LANCE TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES (OUTLINED ABOVE), AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
 - **Personnel Status Document.** – Mr. Petrucelli motioned that Items A 1 & 2 and B 8 be voted on separately. He asked for clarification of items A: 1&2 - Special Education Coordinators. Dr. Robinson and Mr. Zachery explained that these were not new positions, but replacements of

employees who have resigned either before or after the end of the school year. Mr. Petruccelli requested that “new” or “replacement” be put after the new employee’s name on the personnel document. Dr. Robinson said, going forward, this will be added to the document.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. LANCE; SECONDED BY MRS. BUTURLA, TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE ITEMS A: 1&2 AND B:8. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A SEPARATE MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. PETRUCCELLI; SECONDED BY MR. LAZARO, TO ACCEPT THE REMAINDER OF THE PERSONNEL STATUS DOCUMENT. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **Items for Action**

1. **Proposed: Selection of Facilitator for Strategic Plan 2016 – Finance Committee.**

- A motion was made by Mrs. Lance; seconded by Mr. Petruccelli to select **David G. Title** as Facilitator for the Strategic Planning Process for Stratford Board of Education. The **motion carried** unanimously.

2. **Proposed: Approval of Town of Stratford’s purchase of property located at 25 North Parade Street (Stratford) as additional property for the scope of the Stratford High School (SHS) State Construction Project #138-0101.**

Proposed: Approval of Town of Stratford’s transference of Town-owned property at 245 King Street to be utilized as additional property for the scope of the Stratford High School (SHS) State Construction Project #138-0101.

- A motion was made by Mr. Petruccelli; seconded by Mrs. Sheehy to approve the Town of Stratford’s purchase of property located at 25 North Parade Street (Stratford) as additional property for the scope of the Stratford High School (SHS) State Construction Project #138-0101. The **motion carried** unanimously.
- A motion was made by Mr. Petruccelli; seconded by Mrs. Sheehy to approve the transference of Town-owned property at 245 King Street to be utilized as additional property for the scope of the Stratford High School (SHS) State Construction Project #138-0101. The **motion carried** unanimously.

3. Proposed: 092 Certification requirement for the position of Athletic Director in the Stratford Public School system. This would include grand-fathering in the current Athletic Director at Stratford High School.

- A motion was made by Mrs. Lance; seconded by Mrs. Sheehy to approve 092 Certification requirement for the position of Athletic Director in the Stratford Public School system (including grand-fathering in the current Athletic Director at Stratford High School). The **motion carried** unanimously.
- **Tabled Item -**
 1. **Scholarship Opportunities for District Student Teachers**
- **Old Business**
 1. **There was no old business other than the Scholarship Opportunities for District Student Teachers which is a tabled item.**
- **New Business (For Information / Discussion)**
 1. **Discussion re: Lighthouse Program for Stratford School system:** Dr. Robinson stated that she would look into this topic and will bring forth a report and information gathered to the Curriculum Committee. She said after the Curriculum Committee, then a recommendation would be made and the item put before the Board should it prove to be something that would benefit Stratford Public Schools.
 2. **ALPS –** Mr. Feehan reported that he attended the recent C.A.R.E. Committee meeting. He said the ALP program was discussed. Mr. Feehan stated that the ALP program is not racially diverse for Stratford’s demographics; therefore, the program is not equitable. Dr. Robinson said that administration will be reviewing the program to see how accelerated learners can be accommodated at other elementary schools. She said to start; an audit of the selection process will be reviewed. She said she will bring an update to the Board sometime in January 2017.
 3. **Boilers – All Buildings -** Boilers at all buildings were discussed. Mr. Petruccelli said that he would bring this topic to the Town Building Needs Committee for further review. Mr. Petruccelli made a motion to table the item; seconded by Mrs. Sheehy and carried unanimously.
 4. **Bunnell High School Field House –** Mr. Feehan said the funding of the BHS Field House is in the hands of the Town Council. Mr. Petruccelli made a motion to table the item; seconded by Mrs. Sheehy, and carried unanimously.
 5. **Strategic Plan (5-Year Planning Process) –** Facilitator quotes were reviewed by the Finance Committee and the

recommendation of David Title was put forth to the Board and voted on earlier in the evening. Mr. Feehan stated that he wanted enough stakeholders identified. The Board members identified the following stakeholders:

- 1. Bus Company**
- 2. Students (secondary) – 1 from each high School**
- 3. Parents**
- 4. Businesses (Stratford Rotary and Chamber of Commerce)**
- 5. Members of Clergy**
- 6. Republican and Democrat representation**
- 7. Police**
- 8. Fire**
- 9. EMS**
- 10. C.A.R.E.**
- 11. Public at Large**
- 12. PTA Council Designee**
- 13. Union Representation**
- 14. SEPTA**
- 15. South End Community Center**
- 16. Sterling House**
- 17. Parents Place**
- 18. Community Services**
- 19. Baldwin Center**
- 20. Oronoque Village**
- 21. Technology – Ed Molloy**
- 22. Board Member**
- 23. Superintendent**
- 24. Assistant Superintendent**
- 25. Special Education Director**
- 26. Chief Operating Officer**
- 27. General Public**

Mr. Feehan requested the list be sent out to all Board members. Mr. Petruccelli made a motion to table the item; seconded by Mrs. Sheehy and carried.

- 6. Harvard Study** – Training “Coaching for Equity” – 80 hours to be provided on site over the school year. Wooster Middle School is participating.
- 7. Communication – “Let’s Talk”** - Dr. Robinson reported that personnel including secretaries were trained for this communication program that’s new to the district. She said customer service and response time will be monitored and rated. Dr. Robinson reported the program went live in July 2016. It is being piloted at the Administration Center and will later roll out to the rest of the district.

▪ **Committee Reports**

1. **Athletic Review** – Mrs. Lance said the committee did not have the opportunity to meet before school finished. She said she hopes to have a meeting some time after school starts in September.
2. **School Plant / Planning Committee** – School Plant Planning did not meet; however, Mr. Barnaby reported that the schools are in the process of being prepared for the opening of school on September 1st. He asked that someone contact Public Works to be sure the landscaping will be ready.
3. **Finance Committee** – Mr. Petruccelli said the Finance Committee met prior to the Board meeting. He reported that the Committee reviewed information and quotes from several organizations in regards to facilitating Strategic Planning. Mr. Petruccelli said that after discussion, the Committee voted to forward David Title to the Board as facilitator for Strategic Planning (with a favorable recommendation).
4. **Curriculum Committee** – Mrs. Sheehy reported that once again quorum was not met at the June Curriculum Committee meeting; therefore action could not be taken. She said the items voted on earlier were placed on the Board agenda without formal recommendation from the Committee.

▪ **Other Committees:**

- **CABE** – Mr. Feehan stated there was nothing to report.
- **CES** – Mrs. Sheehy reported that CES did not meet over the summer months.
- **Town / BOE Liaison** – Mr. Petruccelli reported that the Board of Education / Town Liaison Committee met on June 1st. He said discussion took place in regards to the Board of Education hiring its own Maintenance crew. He said the Public Works Director was in agreement with this. He said the Committee also discussed Center School but there was nothing new to report.
- **Town Building Needs** – Mr. Petruccelli reported that the Board of Education Town Building Needs Committee met on June 18th and August 15th, 2016. He said discussion took place regarding the portables. Mr. Petruccelli stated the portables will be ready for the start of the school year (Sept. 1st). Mr. Zachery reported the portable basketball hoop put in place at Nichols was stolen. He said the

police had the truck that Mr. Petruccelli also reported the SHS sub-committee will meet Tuesday, August 30th.

- **PTSA** – There was nothing new to report.

- **Committee Appointments / Assignments** – Mr. Feehan made the following appointment:

1. **Tania Livingston – Curriculum Committee**

- **Board Goals 2016-18** – The Board Goals for 2016-18 were not reviewed, at this point in time. Mr. Feehan said the Board Goals for 2016-18 would be updated for the September meeting.

- **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Mr. Feehan asked for a motion to enter Executive Session. A motion was then made to waive the rules and add FOI Hearing to the Executive Session agenda by Mr. Petruccelli; seconded by Mr. Barnaby. Another motion was made by Mr. Barnaby to enter Executive Session at 8:55 PM to include all Board members present, Dr. Robinson and Mr. Zachery and from there to enter a Non-Meeting to discuss union negotiations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Petruccelli, and carried unanimously. The purpose of Executive Session included:

1. BOE vs Pancak
2. BOE (Gustafson)
3. BOE (Sulzicki)
4. BOE (Daniels)
5. Teacher Termination
6. FOI Hearing

Executive Session ended at 9:30 PM.

In public Session, Mr. Feehan stated there were no items for action from Executive Session.

Mr. Feehan stated (for the record) the non-meeting for negotiations discussion rendered the following:

1. ***Negotiation Committees for the following:***

- ***Stratford Administrators Association*** – Board members, Susan Lance, Theresa Sheehy and Jim Feehan.
- ***Stratford CIA Union*** – Board Members, Len Petruccelli, Chris Barnaby, Susan Lance, Theresa Sheehy and Jim Feehan.

- **ITEMS “TO DO”**

1. Mr. Feehan asked that the list of Stakeholders for the Strategic Planning project be compiled and shared with the Board Members.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

- The meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM upon a motion made by Mr. Petruccelli; seconded by Mrs. Sheehy/Mr. Lazaro, and carried unanimously.

The next meeting of the Stratford Board of Education is scheduled for **Monday, September 26, 2016**. The meeting will be located at the Administration Center (1000 East Broadway) and is set to begin at the normal start time of 7:15 PM.

Meeting recorded and minutes transcribed by:

Teresa Lycoudes, Board Secretary & Executive Assistant to the Superintendent