



Stratford Board of Education

STRATFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION – OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date:
March 26, 2018

Meeting Location: Board Room / Admin. Ctr.
1000 East Broadway, Stratford, CT 06615

APPROVED – 4.23.2018

**Recorded By: Teresa Lycoudes/
Secretary to the Board of Education**

1 ATTENDANCE

Name	Title	Location	Present
Eric Lazaro	Board Chair		Y
Susan Lance	Board Vice Chair		Y
Maria Buturla	Board Secretary		Y
Allison DelBene	Board Member		Y
Bob DeLorenzo	Board Member		Y
Vinny Faggella	Board Member		Y
Karen Rodia	Board Member		Y
Dr. Janet Robinson	Superintendent	Central Office	Y
Clarence Zachery	Chief Operating Officer	Central Office	
Linda Gejda	Asst. Superintendent	Central Office	
Teresa Lycoudes	Recorder / Board Secretary	Central Office	
James Conner	Council Chair	Town of Stratford	
Harold Greist	SAA Representative	SHS Principal	
Mike Fiorello, Kristin Record, Robin Julian	SEA Representatives	SHS, BHS & VSS - Instructors	
Lou Spetrino	Videographer		

2 MEETING LOCATION

Building: Administration Center / Board Room – 1000 East Broadway – Stratford CT 06615

3 MEETING START

Meeting Scheduled to Start: 7:15 PM
Actual Start Time: 7:17 PM

4 AGENDA –

- **Opening Remarks by Chair** – The Board Chair (Eric Lazaro) opened the **March 26, 2018** Board of Education meeting (held in the Board Room / Administration Center – 1000 East Broadway, Stratford CT) at 7:17 PM.
- **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance** – Mr. Lazaro asked everyone to stand and join Board Member, Allison DelBene, in the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.
- **Presentations** – Recognition for the following occurred.
 1. **Second Hill Lane Elementary School** – Jim Noga, Principal and Amy Pinto, Assistant Principal.
- **Student Representatives Report** – Mr. Lazaro took the agenda out of order and asked the student representatives from Bunnell and Stratford High Schools to report the happenings at their respective school.
 1. **Bunnell High School – Hannah McLaughlin**
 2. **Stratford High School – Hannah Shimura**
- **Public Participation** – There were three (3) public speakers. Mr. Lazaro reminded the public to be mindful of the three minute time allotment to speak. The speakers were:
 1. **Christopher Cormier** – *127 Warwick Avenue, Stratford CT 06614 – Finances*
 2. **Mayara Goncalves** – *(representing Martha Paivh) – 687 Light Street, Stratford CT 06614 - Stratford Academy Waiting List*
 3. **Monica Short** - *304 Huntington Road, Stratford CT 06614 - Teachers*
- **Superintendent’s Executive Report** – Dr. Robinson reported about the following items:
 - **Board Appreciation (Month of March)** – Dr. Robinson informed the gathering that March is Board Member Appreciation month. She thanked the Board members for their endless dedication and efforts. Dr. Robinson added that each were given a small token of appreciation in honor of their service to the community.
 - **SAT Testing** – Dr. Robinson informed the gathering that due to the recent inclement weather, SAT Testing would take place in April.

- **Schools by Design** – Dr. Robinson reported the district is working with Schools By Design to talk about and review the district’s efficiencies and inefficiencies in our school buildings. She added that in essence, it is an efficiency audit that will hopefully bring about more consistency and uniformity at the district schools.
- **Security Meeting in Bridgeport** – Dr. Robinson was invited and attended a meeting regarding security last week in Bridgeport. She said it was very interesting to hear what other communities are doing about security at their schools. She said the meeting was about sharing views, best practices, ideas, etc. and the committee was made up mostly of Police Chiefs, Mayors and Superintendents.
- **March 14th Student “Walk Out” (Honoring the victims of Parkland Florida)** – Dr. Robinson commended the students for their participation on March 14th of the National Walk Out event honoring the victims of the Parkland Florida high school shooting. She said the students were very well organized and were simply amazing for their participation and having their voices heard.

Mr. Faggella said that he was impressed as well. He said he was at Bunnell High School for their March 14th Walk Out participation. Mrs. Lance stated that she and Mr. DeLorenzo were at Stratford High Schools and were equally impressed, as well. She said the students did an outstanding job.

- **Consent Agenda**

- Mr. Lazaro entertained a motion for the items contained in the **Consent Agenda**.

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** (*Reference BOE Policy #9326*)

- a) Minutes from the **February 26, 2018 (regular meeting)**

- aa. (*Minutes from the special meetings March 3rd and March 14th were added for acceptance*).

2. **Personnel Document** (Staff Assignments)

3. **Overnight Trip Requests** - There were none.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rodia; seconded by Mrs. Lance. The **motion passed unanimously**. (7 to 0)

- **Items for Discussion / Action**

- **Proposed: Healthy Food Certification (To certify)** – Pursuant to Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Board of

Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the CT Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or by non-school organizations and groups.

A MOTION TO CERTIFY WAS MADE BY MRS. LANCE; SECONDED BY MR. FAGGELLA. THE **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7:0)**.

- **Proposed: Healthy Food Certification Exemption Statement** – The Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. LANCE; SECONDED BY MRS. RODIA TO ADOPT THE HEALTHY FOOD CERTIFICATION EXEMPTION STATEMENT. THE **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7:0)**.

- **Proposed: Homeless Students Policy 5118 (2nd Read & Adoption)** – The second read for policy #5118 “Homeless Students” was presented for final review and adoption.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. RODIA; SECONDED BY MRS. BUTURLA TO ACCEPT THE SECOND READ AND ADOPT POLICY 5118 “HOMELESS STUDENTS”. THE **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7:0)**.

Two additional items were added to the agenda for action to be taken by the Board. They were as follows:

- **Proposed: Motion to accept Filing of Form ED049F, Final Grant Application for a School Construction Project, with the State Department of Education, Bureau of School Facilities, for the Bunnell High School for the roof replacement project and adopting the following Resolution accepting the project as complete:** – “BE IT RESOLVED, that the Stratford Board of Education accepts the Bunnell High School, State Project #138-0102, as complete”.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. RODIA; SECONDED BY MRS. LANCE TO ACCEPT THE ABOVE RESOLUTION AS STATED ABOVE. THE **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (7:0)**

- **Proposed: Motion to accept Filing of Form ED049F, Final Grant Application for a School Construction Project, with the State Department of Education, Bureau of School Facilities, for the Franklin Elementary School for the roof replacement project and adopting the following Resolution accepting the project as complete:** – “BE IT RESOLVED, that the Stratford Board of Education accepts the Franklin Elementary School, State Project #138-0103, as complete”.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. RODIA; SECONDED BY MR. DELORENZO TO ACCEPT THE ABOVE RESOLUTION AS STATED ABOVE. THE **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (7:0)**

- **Tabled Items -**
 - **Scholarship Opportunities for District Student Teachers / Minority Teacher recruitment**
 - **Middle School Attendance Policy**
 - **Magnet School**
 - **Residency Verification (Grade 5)**

The tabled items remained on the table.

- **Old Business for Information / Discussion**
 - There was none.
- **New Business for Information / Discussion**
 - **Structural Realignment** – A presentation and discussion occurred in regards to possible structural realignment of the district. The presentation showed that Stratford is naturally racially balanced from shore to forest (south to north). At

present approximately 1000 students are bussed each day from the south end to various schools due to there not being a school in their community. Stratford Academy which is made up of Johnson House and Victoria Soto is an intra-district Magnet School and accepts students by application only. The cost of bussing students to and from this area costs the Board of Education approximately 1.6 million dollars annually. It was determined by the Board members and Administration that this endeavor will have to be planned out thoroughly and carefully while also taking into consideration that this will be emotional for many. It was also determined that future meetings will take place in the effort to share information and educate the public.

*****Please view the video posted on the district's website at www.stratfordk12.org to see this entire presentation.***

▪ **Committee Reports**

- **Athletic Review** – Mr. DeLorenzo reported the Committee has not met at this point in time, but does plan to meet in the near future.
- **School Plant / Planning Committee** – The School Plant Planning Committee did not meet during the month of March.
- **Finance Committee** – The Finance Committee held a special meeting on March 3rd to approve a budget number to send over to Town Council.
- **Curriculum Committee** – Mrs. Buturla reported the Curriculum Committee did not meet in March.

▪ **Other Committees:**

- **CABE** – There was nothing new to report.
- **CARE** – There was nothing new to report.
- **CES** – Mr. Faggella reported that CES' next meeting will be April 5, 2018 and he plans to attend.
- **Town / BOE Liaison** – There will be a special meeting of the Town / BOE Liaison Committee on Wednesday, March 28, 2018. This is a reschedule of the regular meeting scheduled for March 21st that was cancelled due to inclement weather.
- **Town Building Needs** – Mrs. Lance reported that the meeting was mostly regarding the Stratford High School renovation/construction project. She added that the project is amazing to watch.

- **PTSA** – The PTSA Council did not meet in February or March.
- **Committee Appointments / Assignments** – There were no Committee appointments or assignments.
- **Good and Welfare:** Mr. Lazaro reminded the public of upcoming dates. Schools and Administration will be closed on Friday, March 30, 2018 in observation of Good Friday. Schools will be closed April 9-13, 2018 for Spring Recess.
- **ADJOURNMENT**
 - The meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM upon a motion made by Mrs. Rodia; seconded by Mrs. Buturla, and carried unanimously.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Stratford Board of Education is scheduled for **Monday, April 23, 2018**. The meeting location will be the Board Room at the Administration Center (1000 East Broadway) and the meeting time will be 7:15 PM.

***Meeting recorded and
minutes transcribed by:***



**Teresa Lycoudes, Board Secretary &
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent**