



Stratford Board of Education

STRATFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION – OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: January 25, 2021

**Meeting Location: Virtual Meeting via
Google Meets
Stratford CT**

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

1 ATTENDANCE

Name	Title	Location	Present
Allison DelBene	Board Chair		Y
Amy Wiltsie	Board Vice Chair		Y
Vinny Faggella	Board Secretary		Y
Andrea Corcoran	Board Member		Y
Janice Cupee	Board Member		Y
Bob DeLorenzo	Board Member		Y
Karen Rodia	Board Member		Y
Dr. Janet Robinson	Superintendent	Central Office	Y
Linda Gejda	Asst. Superintendent	Central Office	Y
Pam Mangini	Chief Operating Officer	Central Office	Y
Teresa Lycoudes	Recorder	Central Office	Y
Lou Spetrino	Videographer		Y

2 MEETING LOCATION

- Please visit the website at www.stratfordk12.org to see the information regarding the meeting.

Virtual Meeting via Google Meets

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 (*Allison DelBene*) **opened the January 25, 2021 Board of Education regular meeting** (held virtually via Google Meets) at 7:17 PM. A Quorum was confirmed.

Mrs. DelBene led everyone in the Invocation Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

Student Representatives Report – There were no Student Representative reports at the virtual meeting. The Student Representatives have not reported at this point in time.

Public Participation – There were two (2) Public Speakers.

1. **Mike Fiorello** - 20 Red Fox Rd, Stratford, CT - Re-Opening of Schools
2. **Harold Greist** - 215 Washington Parkway - Stratford CT - ½ day Wednesdays

Superintendent’s Executive Report

- **Dr. Robinson reported about the following:**
 - **Status of the Schools:**
 - Vaccines / Vaccinations
 - The nurses are being vaccinated and trained to administer vaccinations. The current group of recipients are age 75+ and finishing up on nursing homes, etc. Still working closely with the Town of Stratford Department of Public Health
 - Daily Check In App - Daily for all staff members. Consists of a small questionnaire including location and symptoms. When answered, this is reviewed by School Nurses and appropriate steps are taken.
 - Transition Committee / Remote Learning
 - Grades 2 - 4 beginning to attend 4 days/week this week.
 - Grades 5-8 set to begin attending 4 days/week February 1st.
 - Safety Plan submission to State of CT
 - **Board Members posed the following questions:**
 - Virtual Academy - Is this an opportunity?
 - SEL for Staff- What is in place for Staff members in need of emotional support, etc.
 - **Operating Officer’s Report** - Mrs. Mangini (Chief Operating Officer) reported on the financials.
 - The Finance Committee met prior to the Board meeting. Mrs. Mangini reported that the Finance Department will continue to carefully monitor the budget. The Superintendent will present her proposed Itemized Estimate of Expenditures January 28th. Budget workshops are set to follow on February 3rd, 10th, and 18th. Mrs. Mangini also reported that Sodexo now has a Facebook

page. One of the items in this agenda coming before the Board is the request to extend the Food Service Contract by one year.

Consent Agenda - The Consent Agenda portion consisting of the meeting minutes for November 23, 2020 (regular meeting), Personnel Assignments(December and January) and Budget Transfers from December 2020 was passed on a motion made by Mr. Faggella; seconded by Mrs. Wiltsie, and passed unanimously. A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Items For Action

- **Proposed: CIA Contract - Agreement Between UAW Local 376 (United Automobile, Aerospace, Agricultural Implement Workers of America and Stratford Board of Education) - from the December 2020 Board Agenda.**

Board Members Vinny Faggella and Andrea Corcoran serve on the Negotiating Committee. A motion to approve and accept the contract was made by Mrs. Corcoran; seconded by Mrs. Wiltsie and carried unanimously. A Roll Call Vote was taken.

- **Proposed: Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) - Tabled from 11.23.2020 and from the December 2020 Board Agenda.**

Chief Operating Officer, Pam Mangini, and Director of Facilities, Rich Ruggiero attended the meeting in regards to the Capital Improvement Plan. A motion was made by Mrs. Wiltsie to accept and adopt the CIP; seconded by Mrs. Corcoran, and carried unanimously. A Roll Call Vote was taken.

- **Proposed: Chapel Ed Specs - The Stratford BOE moves to approve the Educational Specifications for Chapel Elementary School dated January 20, 2021 for submission to the State Department of Education as part of a grant application for Roof Replacement and New Solar Array at Chapel Street Elementary School.**

The above reference was accepted on a motion made by Mr. Faggella; seconded by Mrs. Cupee. A Roll Call Vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

- **Proposed: Second Hill Lane Elementary Ed Specs - The Stratford BOE moves to approve the Educational Specifications for Second Hill Lane Elementary School dated January 20, 2021 for submission to the State Department of Education as part of a grant application**

for Roof Replacement and New Solar Array at Second Hill Lane Elementary School.

The above reference was accepted on a motion made by Mrs. Rodia; seconded by Mrs. Cupee. A Roll Call Vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

- **Proposed: Wooster Middle School Ed Specs - The Stratford BOE moves to approve the Educational Specifications for Wooster Middle School dated January 20, 2021 for submission to the State Department of Education as part of a grant application for Roof Replacement and New Solar Array at Wooster Middle School.**

The above reference was accepted on a motion made by Mrs. Wiltsie; seconded by Mrs. Rodia, and passed unanimously. A Roll Call Vote was taken.

- **Proposed: Bunnell High School Ed Specs - The Stratford BOE moves to approve the Educational Specifications for Bunnell High School dated January 20, 2021 for submission to the State Department of Education as part of a grant application for a New Solar Array at Bunnell High School.**

The above reference was accepted on a motion made by Mrs. Rodia; seconded by Mrs. Cupee, and passed unanimously. A Roll Call Vote was taken.

- **Proposed: Johnson House Elementary School Ed Specs - The Stratford BOE moves to approve the Educational Specifications for Johnson House Elementary School dated January 20, 2021 for submission to the State Department of Education as part of a grant application for a New Solar Array at Johnson House Elementary School.**

The above reference was accepted on a motion made by Mrs. Cupee; seconded by Mrs. Rodia, and passed unanimously. A Roll Call Vote was taken.

- **Proposed: Food Service Management - Motion: To approve the Stratford Public Schools option to waive the food service management company (FSMC) contract that will expire on June 30, 2021 and extend through SY2021-22 (June 30, 2022) in accordance with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Issue of, and the Connecticut State Department of Education's opt in the Nationwide Waiver of Food Service Management Contract Duration in the**

National School Lunch Program and Summer Food Service Program EXTENSION (Covid-19: Child Nutrition Response #71)

A motion to accept the proposal and approve was made by Mrs. Wiltsie; seconded by Mr. Faggella and passed unanimously. A Roll Call Vote was taken.

- **Proposed Curriculum**
 - **Conversations on Race Course Proposal**
 - **African/Black/Puerto Rican/Latino Studies**
 - **College Algebra 2 / MAT 120**
 - **Chemistry 2**

A motion to accept and adopt the above referenced curriculum proposal was made by Mrs. Rodia; seconded by Mrs. Cupee, and passed unanimously. A Roll Call Vote was taken.

- **Discussion / Possible Action: ½ Day Wednesdays for Grades K-8 (Elementary and Middle Schools)**

A motion to continue to ½ days Wednesdays allowing teachers time to meet with their students, allowing students catch up time, and allowing for collaboration time, etc. was made by Mrs. Wiltsie; seconded by Mrs. Cupee, and passed unanimously. The motion included the caveat that this practice would be revisited at the end of Marking Period 3 (March Board meeting). A Role Call Vote was taken.

- **Discussion / Possible Action: “Snow Day” versus Remote Learning**
 - **Recommended: Allowing for two (2) snow days. Anything over 2 days reverts to Remote Learning.**

The above reference was accepted on a motion made by Mr. DeLorenzo; seconded by Mr. Faggella, and passed unanimously. A Roll Call Vote was taken. It was noted for the record, this would not have any impact on Graduation.

Mrs. Wiltsie asked what happens to Wednesdays in a 4 day work week?

Dr. Robinson said she would survey the teachers to see what the preference is. The attempt was made to have school all 4 days of a shortened week, but this has caused problems with child care, etc. for teachers and routine of parents, etc.

- **Tabled Items** - Residency was taken off the table on a motion made by Mrs. Wiltsie; seconded by Mrs. Corcoran. Mrs. Wiltsie asked for an

update on Residency issues. Dr. Robinson gave the following brief report:

Investigation Dates: December 22, 2020 through January 20, 2021

Total investigations = 28. 4 Address Changes, 3 moving out of the district. Everything else was routine. To date there have been 0 tip line calls.

- Residency was put back on the table on a motion made by Mrs. Wiltsie; seconded by Mrs. Corcoran and passed unanimously. A Roll Call Vote was taken.

- **Committee Assignments** - There were no new committee assignments.

Committee Reports

The Finance Committee held a meeting prior to the Board meeting. There was nothing new to report that wasn't addressed at the Board meeting.

The Curriculum Committee met on Tuesday, January 12, 2020. There was nothing new to report other than the curriculum passed in this meeting.

The Town / SBOE Liaison Committee met on January 20, 2020. Mrs. DelBene stated the budget was discussed among other topics.

Mr. Faggella reported the School Plant Planning Committee met December 3, 2020. The Committee is due to meet again on February 4th to talk about the feasibility study with Milone & MacBroom and to meet and hear from Brian

Mrs. Wiltsie asked about the February Teacher PLC date.

Hearing no further discussion:

Adjournment - A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY MRS. CUPEE; SECONDED BY MRS. RODIA. THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:00 PM.

Meeting recorded and minutes transcribed by:



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