



Stratford Board of Education

STRATFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION – OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date:
September 25, 2017

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

Approved: **DRAFT**

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

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
Harold Greist	SAA Representative	SHS Principal	Y
Mike Fiorello, Kristin Record, Robin Julian	SEA Representatives	SHS, BHS & VSS - Instructors	Y
Gavin Forrester, Karen Rodia Allison Del Bene	Board Candidates		Y
Lou Spetrino	Videographer		Y

2 MEETING LOCATION

Building: Administration Center / Board Room – 1000 East Broadway

3 MEETING START

Meeting Scheduled to Start: 7:15 PM

Actual Start Time: 7:15 PM

4 AGENDA –

- **Opening Remarks by Chair** – The Board Chair (James Feehan) opened the **September 25, 2017** Board of Education meeting (held in the Board Room / Administration Center – 1000 East Broadway, Stratford CT) at 7:15 PM. He asked everyone to stand and join **Board Member, Maria Buturla**, for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.
- **Presentations** – Recognition for the following occurred.
 1. **Stratford’s Teacher of the Year – Samantha Rosenberg (Franklin Elementary School)**
 2. **Franklin Elementary School (highlights) – Sherrod McNeill, Principal**
- **Public Participation** – There were four public speakers:
 1. **Donald Goodson** – *409 Sherwood Place, Stratford CT 06614* – **C.A.R.E.**
 2. **Michael Murphy** – *20 Nutmeg Lane, Stratford CT 06614* – **Accessibility / timeliness of Enrollment Date.**
 3. **Kerri Lehman** - *150 Tanglewood Road, Stratford CT 06614* – **Chapel Street School Climate Committee & Enrollment Data.**
 4. **Brooke Trasy** – *30 Ash Street, Stratford Ct 06615* – **Special PPT Mtg.**
- **Student Representatives Report** – The student representatives from Bunnell and Stratford High School were introduced and each reported about the beginning of the year happenings at their respective school.
 1. **Bunnell High School – Hannah McLaughlin**
 2. **Stratford High School – Hannah Shimura**
- **Superintendent’s “Status of the Schools” Report** – Dr. Robinson reported about the following items:
 - **New Enrollments** – Dr. Robinson informed the gathering that there have been 841 new enrollments from July 1st. She said 267 students have left the District leaving a net difference of 574 students. She said these new students coming into the district receive **STAR** assessments. Dr. Robinson said **all** students are assessed at the beginning of the school year, mid-year and at the end of the school year to track and monitor their progress.

- **October 4, 2017 (SHS Instructional Rounds)** – Dr. Robinson reported that Instructional Rounds will take place at Stratford High School on October 4, 2017.
- **Registration 2017-2018** (beginning of school year) – Complaints were made and received by administration and board members about the beginning of school registration process. Dr. Robinson said the number of late registrations have been tremendous this year. She said coupled with that, is there was simply not enough staff in place to handle the work load. Dr. Robinson said the website has been revised to help steer families in the right direction and the online process has been reviewed, as well. She said discussion has already begun about what can be done better for the 2018-2019 school year. She said there will definitely be enough staff in place and the hope is to have computers in the registration department for parents who otherwise do not have access the online registration tool. She said Registration staff will also assist parents in their online registration.
- **Consent Agenda**
 - Mr. Feehan entertained a motion for the items contained in the **Consent Agenda**.
 1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** (Reference BOE Policy #9326)
 - a) Minutes from the **August 28, 2017 (regular meeting)**
 2. **Personnel Document** (Staff openings as of September 21, 2017) (Reference BOE Policies
 3. **Overnight Trip Request to Toronto CANADA (SHS Music Department)**(Reference BOE Policy 615

A motion was made by Mr. Petrucelli; seconded by Mrs. Sheehy to take each item separately on the Consent Agenda.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. SHEEHY; SECONDED BY MR. PETRUCCELLI, TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE **MINUTES FROM AUGUST 28, 2017. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.** (7:0)

After a brief discussion centered on the personnel document, the personnel assignments and the overnight trip request to Canada for the Stratford High School Music Department were brought to a motion.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. SHEEHY; SECONDED BY MR. BARNABY, TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE **CONSENT AGENDA (Items 2 & 3). THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.** (7:0)

- **Items for Discussion / Action**

- **Proposed: Math Tutor Materials for Tiered Intervention** – The Math Tutor materials for tiered intervention proposal was referred to the Board (with a favorable recommendation) by the Curriculum Committee from the September 12, 2017 Curriculum meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. SHEEHY; SECONDED BY MRS. BUTURLA TO APPROVE THE MATH TUTOR MATERIALS FOR TIERED INTERVENTION (forwarded by the Curriculum Committee with a favorable recommendation). THE **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7:0)**.

- **Proposed: AP Physics Textbook (submitted for approval)** – The AP Physics textbook was referred to the Board (with a favorable recommendation) by the Curriculum Committee from the September 12, 2017 Curriculum meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. SHEEHY; SECONDED BY MRS. BUTURLA TO ADOPT THE AP PHYSICS TEXTBOOK (forwarded by the Curriculum Committee with a favorable recommendation). THE **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7:0)**.

- **Proposed: Revised Curriculum for Civics (secondary level)** – Revised curriculum for **Civics (secondary level)** was referred to the Board (with a favorable recommendation) by the Curriculum Committee from the September 12, 2017 Curriculum meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. SHEEHY; SECONDED BY MRS. BUTURLA TO ADOPT THE REVISED CURRICULUM FOR CIVICS (SECONDARY LEVEL) (forwarded by the Curriculum Committee with a favorable recommendation). THE **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7:0)**.

- **Proposed: Revised Curriculum for U.S. History (secondary level)** – Revised curriculum for **U.S. History (secondary level)** was referred to the Board (with a favorable recommendation) by the Curriculum Committee from the September 12, 2017 Curriculum meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. SHEEHY; SECONDED BY MRS. LANCE TO ADOPT THE REVISED CURRICULUM FOR U.S. HISTORY (forwarded by the Curriculum Committee with a favorable recommendation). THE **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7:0)**.

- **Proposed: Revised Curriculum for American Economy (secondary level)** – Revised curriculum for **American Economy (secondary level)** was referred to the Board (with a favorable recommendation) by the Curriculum Committee from the September 12, 2017 Curriculum meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. SHEEHY; SECONDED BY MRS. LANCE TO ADOPT THE REVISED CURRICULUM FOR AMERICAN ECONOMY (forwarded by the Curriculum Committee with a favorable recommendation). 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)**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. LANCE; SECONDED BY MR. LAZARO TO REMOVE ITEM #4 (MAGNET SCHOOL LEGAL CASE) FROM THE TABLE.

A brief update was given by Mr. Zachery and Mr. Feehan regarding the Magnet School legal case.

- **Old Business for Information / Discussion**

- There was none.

- **New Business for Information / Discussion**

- There was no new business.

- **Committee Reports**

- **Athletic Review** – Mrs. Lance reported the Athletic Review Committee did not meet during the month of September.
- **School Plant / Planning Committee** – The School Plant Planning Committee did not meet during the month of September.
- **Finance Committee** – The Finance Committee met prior to the Board meeting. A quorum was not present.

- **Curriculum Committee** – Mrs. Sheehy reported that in addition to the items voted on for action, the Curriculum Committee was updated regarding the convening of a subcommittee to review and research the non-leveling of classes. She said Dr. Robinson and Dr. Gejda are working on reaching out to members of staff and public to serve on the committee.

- **Other Committees:**
 - **CABE** – There was no report.
 - **CARE** – The CARE Committee will meet on October 4th.
 - **CES** – Mrs. Sheehy reported that C.E.S. met and talked about the opening of school.
 - **Town / BOE Liaison** – Mr. Feehan reported the Town / BOE Liaison Committee did not meet during the month of September.
 - **Town Building Needs** – The public was updated on the Nichols Drop Off/Pick Up Loop and the Stratford High School renovation project.
 - **PTSA** – The PTSA Council met on September 14, 2017. Dr. Robinson was in attendance. Mrs. Lance asked for the 2017-2018 meeting dates to be sent to her.

- **Committee Appointments / Assignments** – There were no Committee appointments or assignments. Mr. Feehan mentioned the two vacancies on both, the Finance Committee and the Curriculum Committee.
 - **Formation of a Chapel Street Elementary School Climate Committee.** – It was the consensus of the Board to leave school operations to Administration; therefore, no committee was formed.
 - **Formation of a SAT Committee** – It was the consensus of the Board to leave academics and increasing scores to the Administration; therefore, no committee was formed.
 - **Formation of a Committee re Naming of BHS Field House** – Mr. Feehan said protocol will be followed regarding the naming of the BHS Field House. He appointed Mr. Lazaro as the Committee Chairmen and stated that Susan Lance and Maria Buturla will serve

on the committee, as well. Information about the process has been posted on the District website.

- **Vacant positions on Curriculum and Finance Committee.** – Each committee currently has two (2) vacant positions.

- **Board Goals 2016-18** – Given the timeframe, the Board Goals for 2016-18 will be reviewed at a later date. Mr. Barnaby briefly talked about his “kindness” goal.
- **Executive Session – Pending Litigation** – Chairman Feehan stated Executive Session will be two parts. He said for the first part regarding pending litigation, all Board members present, Dr. Robinson, Mr. Zachery and Mrs. Lycoudes will attend. He said the second part is regarding the Superintendent’s contract, and will include the Board members and Dr. Robinson. A motion was made by Mr. Barnaby; seconded by Mr. Petrucelli to enter Executive Session. The time was 9:55 PM.

Mr. Petrucelli left the meeting.

At 10:26 PM, the meeting resumed in Public Session.

- **Possible Action from Executive Session –**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. SHEEHY; SECONDED BY MR. BARNABY TO APPROVE THE SUPERINTENDENT’S CONTRACT INCLUDING THE EVERGREEN CLAUSE. THE MOTION ALSO INCLUDES APPROVAL OF THE SUPERINTENDENT’S GOALS ALONG WITH ADDITIONAL UPDATED GOALS SET BY THE BOARD.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN:

Jim Feehan	Yes
Terry Sheehy	Yes
Chris Barnaby	Yes
Maria Buturla	Yes
Susan Lance	Yes
Eric Lazaro	Yes

THE **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** (6:0).

Good and Welfare – The following items were reported:

Mr. Feehan stated publicly that he was out of order during the August 28, 2017 meeting regarding the manner in which he addressed and spoke to Mr. Zachery. He apologized for his actions. Mr. Zachery stated apology accepted.

- **Upcoming Events** –

1. **Friday, September 29, 2017** – Early Dismissal (Teacher PLC)

- **ADJOURNMENT**

- The meeting adjourned at 10:29 PM upon a motion made by Mrs. Sheehy; seconded by Mr. Lazaro, and carried unanimously.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Stratford Board of Education is scheduled for **Monday, October 23, 2017**. 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**