

West Hartford Public Schools
Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
February 5, 2019

Present: Mrs. Blanks, Dr. Greenberg, Mr. Levine, Mr. Pauluk, Ms. Polun, Dr. Thomas-Farquharson, Mr. Zydanowicz, Superintendent Tom Moore, Student Representatives Gus Bacon (Conard), Megan Striff-Cave (Hall)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

Students from Smith STEM School and Conard High School presented to the Board on the Computer Club Bits and Bytes. Bits and Bytes is a partnership, funded in part by the West Hartford Foundation, between Smith School and Conard High School. Students from Conard travel to Smith to teach students to use Sprites and show them how block programming works. The Board thanked the students for their presentation.

Student Participation

Jillian Gilchrest, 329 Fern Street, West Hartford, spoke on school start times.

Public Communication

Mr. Zydanowicz moved and Mr. Pauluk seconded:

Unfinished Business

THAT the Board of Education adopt the Capital Improvement Plan for 2019-2020

Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Polun moved and Dr. Greenberg seconded:

New Business

THAT the Board of Education accept as a First Reading the following policy which was revised by the Board Policy Subcommittee:

6310 – Graduation Requirements.

Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Tom Moore spoke about recent calls regarding graduation, stating that a decision will be made after April 1st. Superintendent Moore congratulated Sedgwick Middle School students who participated in Kids Lit for placing third in the nation. Mr. Moore also congratulated Megan Goulet, from Conard High School as being recognized as a National

Staff Communications and Reports Superintendent's

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Winner of the NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Award.
Mr. Rick Ledwith, Executive Director of Human Resources, reported to the Board on Personnel Actions. This report is a combination of the December and February reports. The Board asked questions on mid-year retirements.

Report

Personnel Actions

Mr. Paul Vicinus, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, alongside Mrs. Kerry Jones, Director of Elementary Education, Ms. Kristi Lavery, Principal of Duffy Elementary, and Mrs. Kelly Brouse, Principal of Bugbee Elementary, presented to the Board on the Role of the Curriculum Specialist. The Curriculum Specialist is a teacher-leader position that provides invaluable support and assistance to the elementary principal. The Curriculum Specialist plays an active role in the school continuous improvement process and works closely with staff in defining large scale building needs relative to instruction, remediation, and enrichment. Curriculum Specialist support professional learning and staff development, engage with students and provide important building-based leadership and logistical support to principals. The Board asked questions on the term or length of time a Curriculum Specialist serves, what role is held at the high school level, and additional certification required for this position. Question regarding stipend was also asked.

*Role of the
Curriculum Specialist*

Mr. Zydanowicz moved and Dr. Greenberg seconded:

THAT the Board of Education approve the Financial Report for the period ending December 31, 2018.

*Routine Matters
Approval of
Financial Report*

Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Greenberg moved and Mr. Zydanowicz seconded:

THAT the Board of Education approve the revised minutes of the Regular Board of Education meeting of January 15, 2019.

*Approval
Of Minutes*

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dave Pauluk visited Duffy Elementary and Norfeldt Elementary and thanked principals for their hospitality.

Dr. Thomas-Farquharson attended transition meetings for parents and thanked the middle school principals for the informative presentation.
Ms. Deb Polun announced the West Hartford's Cookin', coming up

*Information and
Reports*

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March 30th.

Hall High School Student Representative, Megan Striff-Cave, reported to the Board on Blackbox Theater's comedy improv troop, speaker Charles Smith, the Jazz Band concert and National School Counseling week. Conard High School Student Representative, Gus Bacon, reported to the Board on the upcoming presentation titled "How to Pay for College", NCAA Information Night, the Winter Swing Dance, and the 2019-2020 Program of Studies is now available online. He also reported on the upcoming ice cream social and safe grad planning.

Mrs. Carol Blanks announced the following meeting dates:

1. Wednesday, February 20, 2019, Regular Board of Education meeting, Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, room 314, Legislative Chamber, 7:00 p.m.
2. Tuesday, March 5, 2019, Regular Board of Education meeting, Presentation of the Superintendent's Budget, Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, room 314, Legislative Chamber, 7:00 p.m.
3. Wednesday, March 13, 2019, Budget Workshop #1, Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, room 314, Legislative Chamber, 7:00 p.m.
4. Tuesday, March 19, 2019, Regular Board of Education meeting, Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, room 314, Legislative Chamber, 7:00 p.m.
5. Wednesday, March 27, 2019, BOE Public Hearing, followed by Budget Workshop #2, Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, room 314, Legislative Chamber, 7:00 p.m.

No Requests for future agenda items at this time.

No comments from visitors at this time.

Ms. Polun moved and Dr. Greenberg seconded:

THAT the Board of Education adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST:

Mrs. Carol Blanks, Chairperson Dr. Lorna Thomas-Farquharson,
Secretary

Respectfully submitted by: Mrs. C. Rogers, Clerk of the Board

*Future Business:
Announcement of
Meeting Dates*

*Request for future
Agenda Items*

*Comments from
Visitors*

Adjournment

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