

ANSONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

PLACE: Robert E. Zuraw Admin. Building DTL Conference Room DATE: 02 May 2018 TIME: 6:00p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: William Nimons, president

I. OPENING

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call - Mr. Nimons called a quorum.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	PRESENT	ABSENT	LATE
MRS. TRACEY DeLIBERO	X		
MS. FRAN DIGIORGI	X		
MR. JOHN IZZO	X		
MR. JOE JEANETTE	X		
MR. WILLIAM NIMONS, President	X		
MR. CHRISTOPHER PHIPPS	X		
MR. VINCENT SCARLATA	X		
TOTAL	7	0	0

II. Action Items, consideration of approving the items below.

A. Discussion and possible action upon strategy and negotiations concerning pending claims or pending litigation to which the Board is a party regarding Reductions in the Board's 2017-2018 Budget Appropriation.

Motion: To go into Executive Session regarding pending claims or pending litigation and further to invite Superintendent Merlone, Dr. Joe DiBacco, and attorney Fred Dorsey at 6:08p.m.

Discussion: Mr. John Izzo suggested the Executive Session be moved to the last thing instead of all attendees having to wait and then come back. Mr. Nimons stated he would just assume get the Executive Session done with.

	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO		X		
MS. FRAN DIGIORGI	1	X		
MR. JOHN IZZO		X		
MR. JOE JEANETTE		X		
MR. WILLIAM NIMONS, President		X		
MR. CHRISTOPHER PHIPPS		X		
MR. VINCENT SCARLATA	2	X		
TOTAL		7	0	0

Motion: To return to regular meeting at 7:05p.m.

	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO		X		
MS. FRAN DIGIORGI	1	X		
MR. JOHN IZZO		X		
MR. JOE JEANETTE		X		
MR. WILLIAM NIMONS, President		X		
MR. CHRISTOPHER PHIPPS		X		
MR. VINCENT SCARLATA	2	X		
TOTAL		7	0	0

ACTION, as needed, as a result of Executive Session

Motion: Move that the Ansonia Board of Education authorize the Administration to continue discussions with the City to attempt to resolve the matter of the reduction in the Board's 2017-18 budget appropriation but, if the matter is not resolved within the parameters discussed by the Board in executive session by the close of business on May 10, 2018, the Administration is further authorized to file legal action against the City to restore the \$600,000 reduction.

	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO			X	
MS. FRAN DIGIORGI	1	X		
MR. JOHN IZZO			X	
MR. JOE JEANETTE	2	X		
MR. WILLIAM NIMONS, President		X		
MR. CHRISTOPHER PHIPPS		X		
MR. VINCENT SCARLATA		X		
TOTAL		5	2	0

Mr. Phipps wanted to note he is against any litigation. He also said the Board currently has an extremely acrimonious relationship with the city and they want to mend that any way they can, obviously this does not help. He continued saying based on the letter that was received by the State Board of Education and their legal opinion that states the city of Ansonia cannot go back and remove the \$600,000 from the current budget. He also stated the Board cannot afford to pay bills. He said with that said and the motion that was read, the Board is giving one last chance to hopefully compromise with the city. Mr. Phipps said no one is winning with a law suit. He said the Board's responsibility is to advocate for the children and if they do not go after this money, the children are not being justified. Mr. Phipps said the Board simply cannot afford not to and hopefully discussions will prove beneficial.

- B. Discussion and possible action to award three studies/audits (Special Education, Enrollment/Facilities study, and District Quality Assessment) – Alliance Grant Funded

Discussion: Dr. Joe DiBacco began by explaining the three audits/studies that have been passed by the Board. Dr. DiBacco added the audit descriptions are detailed and all facilities will be closely evaluated. He said June 30, 2018 the cost needs to be finalized. Dr. DiBacco said the recommendations for the companies involved are coming very highly recommended. He said the bids that are being presented are not the highest nor the lowest, they tend to be right in the middle. He stressed several times the funds have been budgeted fully through the Alliance Grant. Dr. DiBacco suggested the Special Education audit be done by Cambridge Ed, LLC. Dr. DiBacco also suggested the Quality Review Study be conducted also by Cambridge Ed, LLC. Dr. DiBacco suggested the Enrollment and Long Range Facilities Study be completed by Milone and MacBroom. Mr. Izzo added Cambridge does come very highly recommended by references that were contacted. He also said the studies are much needed and will provide guidance.

MOTION: To move forward and accept the recommendations given by Assistant Superintendent Joe DiBacco regarding audits/studies. To except bids from Cambridge Ed, LLC for the Special Education audit and the Quality Review Study. Furthermore, to accept the bid from Milone and MacBroom to collaboratively conduct the Enrollment and Long Range Facilities Study.

	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO		X		
MS. FRAN DIGIORGI		X		
MR. JOHN IZZO		X		
MR. JOE JEANETTE		X		
MR. WILLIAM NIMONS, President		X		
MR. CHRISTOPHER PHIPPS	1	X		
MR. VINCENT SCARLATA	2	X		
TOTAL		7		0

III. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO		X		
MS. FRAN DIGIORGI	1	X		
MR. JOHN IZZO		X		
MR. JOE JEANETTE	2	X		
MR. WILLIAM NIMONS, President		X		
MR. CHRISTOPHER PHIPPS		X		
MR. VINCENT SCARLATA		X		
TOTAL		7	0	0

Respectfully submitted,



Cassie Venson
Recording Secretary
Date 05/05/2018