

**Greenwich Special Education Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: 5-19-2021

PLACE: Virtual Meeting

ATTENDANCE:

Greenwich SEAC Board Members

Caroline Lerum
Audra O'Donovan
Jennifer Kutai
Robyn Baldwin
Dawn Zimmerman
Kimberly O'Donnell
Genice Mark
Kathy Walker
Donald McGuire
Abby Anders
Danielle Green
Virginia Plath-Kelly
Susan Keating
Erin Montague
Jennifer Donat
Sarah Obuchowski
Dr. Michael-Joseph Mercanti-Anthony

Alternates:

Courtney Powers
Elizabeth Forger
Andrea Cosby

CPAC (Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center):

Lynn Rule

BOE Administration:

Dr. Toni Jones
Mary Forde
Karen Hirsh

A.) Meeting Opening/ Attendance

Call to Order – 6:32PM

B.) Welcome and Opening Remarks from Chairperson

Thank you to everyone for a great year (CL)

C.) Public Comment

Floor was open for public discussion - three minutes each. No comments (CL)

D.) Approval of Meeting Minutes for 3/17/21 and 5/14/21

3/17/2021 Meetings were motioned to approve by Don McGuire.

Dawn Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All approved. No dissension. No abstentions.

5/14/2021 Meetings were motioned to approve by Don McGuire.

Jennifer Kutai seconded the motion.

All approved. No dissension. No abstentions.

E.) Remarks from the Chief Pupil Personnel Services Officer

Workshops:

- Completed 2 of the 4 series with Ross Green. Well attended and families are finding it helpful.
- What would you like to do for next year? Funds were allocated for next year.
- Suggested that parents review prior workshops

F.) Remarks and updates from Superintendent

- PCG is busy writing, and the committee will have the report the last week of June or first week of July. Everyone will see the report at the same time. (TJ)
- Funding SR1 PPE supplies (survival funds)
- Funding SR2 was technology and staffing, some funding for next year
- Funding ARP around 9.5MM they will release the template on the 24th or 25th of May to gather community input and submit back to the state.

What is the best way for parents or staff to give feedback? (CL)

There will be surveys and town halls (TJ)

How realistic is it for SR funding to support a team to come in over the summer to catch up on evaluations? (CL)

Goal is to get caught up and pay over Holidays if people come into work. Hard right now to staff summer school. Doing the best they can (TJ)

All questions comments and concerns will be attended too and forwarded along to the town halls by Karen Hirsh

G.) Discuss board terms and lottery process

One year term - Your term can end after this school year and you can be done. If you want to continue on, you may continue on for an additional term (2 years) per the bylaws (CL)

Two year term- Your term ends after two years. If you want to continue on, you may continue on for an additional term (2 years) per the bylaws (CL)

Went through the list of voting members to confirm who will be continuing one-year or two-year terms (per the lottery results) (CL)

One Year Term Members:

Leah Thornton – Not present
Genice Mark – Continuing
Jennifer Kutai – Continuing
Dawn Zimmerman – Continuing
Katie Nogaki – Not present
Susan Keating – Not continuing
Danielle Green – Continuing
Jennifer Donat – Continuing
Courtney Powers – Continuing
Naomi Nova – Not present

Two Year Term Members:

Patricia Minicozzi – Not present
Katie Bistrain – Continuing
DonMcGuire – Continuing
Audra O'Donovan – Continuing
Kathy Walker – Continuing
Caroline Leru – Continuing
Virginia Plath-Kelly – Continuing
Abby Anders – Continuing
Erin Montague – Continuing
Beth Forger – Continuing
Andrea Cosby – Continuing
Dr. Michael-Joseph Mercanti-Anthony – Continuing
Sarah Obuchowski – Continuing

H.) Election of Executive Committee and Officers

Is anyone interested in chairing the committee - Dawn Zimmerman has reached out and expressed interest (CL)

Dawn Zimmerman for chair 2021-2022 school year
Motioned by Audra Donovan
Seconded by Kathy Walker
All approved. No dissension. No abstentions.

Vice Chairs for 2021-2022 school year
Audra Donovan- yes, would like to continue
Jen Kutai - no, nominated Caroline Lerum
Kathy Walker motioned for Audra Donovan, seconded by Don McGuire
Kathy Walker motioned for Caroline Lerum, seconded by Don McGuire
All approved. No dissension. No abstentions.

Recording Secretary for 2021-2022 school year
Recording Secretary, Robyn Baldwin - no
*Leaving open for new members or a committee member who was not able to join today

Corresponding Secretary for 2021-2022 school year
Katie Bistran, no

Robyn Baldwin, nominated herself
** Corresponding secretary should have a general email and not use personal email

Kathy Walker motioned for Robyn Baldwin, seconded by Don McGuire
All approved. No dissension. No abstentions.

Motion to approve the candidates in tonight's meeting for next year, seconded by Don McGuire
All approved. No dissension. No abstentions.

I.) Review of final reports from subcommittees

Caroline Lerum read the final report that includes all the subcommittees

J.) Conduct a review of the Final Report

Caroline Lerum read the final report that includes all the subcommittees

Any discussion or questions - floor opened (CL)
(KH) will ask to add this to the agenda for BOE. Should plan to present before the PCG report comes out

K.) Vote to approve the Final Report

Motion to approve by Don McGuire, seconded by Michael Anthony to present to the BOE
All approved. No dissension. No abstentions.

L.) Vote on meeting schedule for next year

We are going to have x amounts of meetings. Given the pandemic we are not committing to dates yet.

We will schedule meetings for 9/14,11/9, 1/11, 3/8, and 5/17 Motion to approve by Abigail Anders , seconded by Dawn Zimmerman
All approved. No dissension. No abstentions.

M.) Adjournment

Meeting ended at 8:09 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Robyn Baldwin