ANSONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION

PLACE: Meeting held at Mead School Cafeteria, 75 Ford Street, Ansonia, CT 06401
DATE: 08 May 2024 TIME: 6:30 p.m.
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: Mr. Rich Bshara, President.

I. OPENING

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call – Mr. Bshara called a quorum

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	PRESENT	ABSENT	LATE
MR. RICH BSHARA, president	X		
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO	X		
MS. OCASIO-GONZALEZ		X	
MR. DAVID KNAPP	X		
MS. BETH LABERGE	X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS	X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK	X		
TOTAL	6	1	0

II. Public Session

Mr. Bshara asked to add an action item to the agenda. He asked to add Action Item B, the resignation of Steven Judge.

MOTION: To add the resignation of Steven Judge to Action Items agenda.

	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. RICH BSHARA, president		X		
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO		X		
MS. OCASIO-GONZALEZ				
MR. DAVID KNAPP	2	X		
MS. BETH LABERGE		X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS	1	X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK		X		
TOTAL		6	0	0

III. Action items, consideration of approving the following items:

A. Ansonia Board of Education meeting minutes dated April 10, 2024

MOTION: To accept meeting minutes dated April 10 2024.

	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. RICH BSHARA, president		X		
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO		X		
MS. OCASIO-GONZALEZ				

MR. DAVID KNAPP	1	X		
MS. BETH LABERGE	2	X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS		X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK		X		
TOTAL		6	0	0

B. Resignation of Steven Judge, High School Teacher.

Discussion: Mr. Bshara read the letter of resignation from Mr. Judge. Superintendent DiBacco said they wish Mr. Judge well, he said Mr. Judge is a well-liked teacher at the high school and they are sorry to see him leave. Mr. Bshara said he is requesting the Board accept his resignation and a letter of thanks be sent to Mr. Judge.

MOTION: To accept the resignation of Mr. Steven Judge, high school teacher.

	MOTION	**YES**	**NO**	**ABSTAIN**
MR. RICH BSHARA, president		X		
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO		X		
MS. OCASIO-GONZALEZ				
MR. DAVID KNAPP	1	X		
MS. BETH LABERGE	2	X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS		X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK		X		
TOTAL		6	0	0

IV. Informational Items.

A. Student Representatives

Quintez Whittle, Junior at the high school, introduced himself to the Board. He gave the Board a bit of background about his school life and his family. He talked about several field trips happening this month at the high school, the Global Scholars trip to Italy, a band expo performance as well as a field trip to Broadway lead by Ms. Tangredi, and several activities for poetry month. Quintez also talked about a mock car crash that took place to educate the students about drinking and driving. He said this event is run by Officer Barry and supported by numerous departments in the city, such as the EMT, the fire department, police department, as well as student and faculty volunteers. He said the STEM challenge recently took place, the prom will be coming up, and graduation on June 8th. The Board thanked Quintez and said he did a great job.

B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

Mr. Bergin greeted the Board. He said he is happy to introduce Kayla Jarrin, ELA & Social Studies Director, who will be giving an amazing presentation on Transformative Literacy; Capturing our Curriculum Journey. He said the district has moved forward with her new literacy program and it is having great success.

Ms. Jarrin greeted the Board. She said she is so thankful to them for allowing her to help implement this new curriculum. She told the Board, she is also excited to be able to showcase the project to colleagues throughout the state. Ms. Jarrin said she wanted to commend everyone in the district who agreed eagerly to assist and be a part of this movie, which displays the success of the program. She said the technology department, especially Ann Turner and Josh Nichols did a great job using Discovery Video. Kayla said the movie will be on the Discovery Channel for teachers, on our district website, and also shared with the state. The video was played, everyone agreed it was awesome. Mr. Bshara said he is so happy to see this type of progress, he thanked Ms. Jarrin and the entire staff. Ms. Jarrin thanked the Board again. She said this program has been in the works for a very long time and included many hours of training and planning. She said it is a collective team of teachers, students, and staff who made it possible.

C. Special Education Director's Report

Ms. Stephanie Savo was not in attendance, questions were asked to be directed to Ms. Savo.

D. Technology Report.

Mr. Vin Pastore gave his report, he told the Board about the platform that was implemented to backup Google Enterprise Applications and a new Mitel MiCollab virtual server. Mr. Pastore told the Board his department was approved for the Category E-Rate funds for the year which covers the internet access and WAN fiber which will be 85% - 90% funded.

E. School Business Administrator Financials

1. 2023-2024 Year-to-Date

2. Grants and Other Income

Mr. Charles Carey, Business Administrator, briefed the Board on the district's current financials. He asked them to note the deficit that was showing previously, has now been rectified. He said some line items were adjusted and the district is back on track.

Mr. Phipps asked where they are with next year's budget. Mr. Carey said they are waiting for the city to announce their budget. Mr. Bshara said the district's budget has been submitted for $1.8 million. Mr. Bshara said he is happy to get the support from city hall. He said he is pleased with Mr. Carey's knowledge of the Board of Education's operations and how our Superintendent, Mr. Bergin, and Mr. Carey work so well together to present the budget to the city. He said he is good with where the budget is and if there is a further need, the Board will try and help accommodate.

Mr. Phipps thanked Mr. Carey for his management, as well as the leadership team. He said the student population is very close to 2,400, a number that we haven't seen in a very long time.

F. Food Service Director's Report

Mr. Kevin Benham was not in attendance, all questions should be emailed.

G. Athletic Director's Report.

Mr. Tom Brockett was not at the meeting. All questions should be emailed to Mr. Brockett.

H. Enrollment

Mr. Bshara discussed the Enrollment report.

I. Youth Family Outreach Summary

Mr. Bob Lisi was not present, all questions should be addressed to him.

J. Facilities Director's Report

Mr. Bob Evans greeted the Board. He briefed them on the Middle School softball field condition. He said his department is doing what they can to improve the field, without costing the district excessive expenses. Mr. Evans told the Board about the Prendergast playground repairs as well as resurfacing Mead School's play area. He also talked about the quarterly classroom filter changes, the heating valve replacement at Prendergast, pour-n-place surfacing installation at Prendergast Pre-K, summer school schedule finalization, and the roofing project at the high school that will be happening very soon. Mr. Evans thanked the Facilities Committee for the recent meeting.

K. Director of Equity and Communications Report.

Dr. Reese Morales reviewed his report. He said he continues to collaborate with Breon Sanders at the Middle School on restorative circle, had a conversation with a student about the importance of being impeccable with words, assisted Spanish speaking students in resolution of a conflict, met with the high school Boys Group, and several other incidents he was able to assist in.

L. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent DiBacco said he wanted to commend Kayla on her excellent job. He said it is worth mentioning that Ms. Jarin was asked by the State of Connecticut to present on how to roll out their literacy program. He said this is really a big deal. Superintendent DiBacco said this is one more example of great things happening in Ansonia. He talked about being invited to the Governor's residence to attend the 2024 Workforce Summit at the Governor's Workforce Partnership Awards as an honorary mention. He said the district was given a proclamation the next day at the Aqua Turf for the collaboration with Teamsters and Sikorsky. Superintendent DiBacco said he was fortunate to attend The SCASA Award luncheon. He said this is a wonderful event that honors one fifth grade, two eighth grade, and two grade twelve students for their outstanding achievements. Superintendent DiBacco said he attended the dedication ceremony of the Middle School Gymnasium to Mr. Marvin Franks. He said the well-deserved dedication was hosted by the Mayor and Shawn Venson. He told the Board, they are getting toward the end of the year and all activities that happen during this time. Superintendent DiBacco said he is proud to say, everyone is working together and things are moving forward.

Mr. Bshara thanked everyone for all their efforts put forth. He said there is a lot of notoriety coming to the district, and he is happy to be a part. He thanked Superintendent DiBacco for being the head of all the good that is coming out of the district.

M. Additional; Administration or Board of Education

V. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7: p.m.

	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. RICH BSHARA, president		X		
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO				
MS. OCASIO-GONZALEZ		X		
MR. DAVID KNAPP	1	X		
MS. BETH LABERGE		X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS		X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK	2	X		
TOTAL		6	0	0

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Venson

Cassie Venson

Recording Secretary

Date: 5/13/2024