

**Windsor Locks Board of Education
58 South Elm Street
Windsor Locks, CT 06096**

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
September 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.**

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.

Members Present:	K. Christianson, D. Gragnolati (arrived at 6:19 p.m.), L. Cutler, and G. Guyette
Members Absent:	A. Osorio
Administrators:	S. Parkhurst, R. Stacy, R. Bissonnette, K. Krupa and A. Goodwin
Student Representatives:	N. Gooden
Students:	None
Staff:	D. Bole and P. Sibilila
Others:	T. Mooney, D. Farr and some participating on Microsoft Teams
Press:	None

I. Call to Order

Chairwoman Ms. Kylee Christianson called the Regular Meeting to Order at 6:02 p.m. held at the Windsor Locks High School Media Center and via Microsoft Teams.

A. Roll Call for Quorum

All Board Members present were Ms. Kylee Christianson, Mr. Dennis Gragnolati (arrived at 6:19 p.m.), Ms. Lindsay. Cutler and Mr. Greg Guyette.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood up and pledged allegiance to the flag.

II. Board of Education and Superintendent Communications

Mr. Shawn Parkhurst, Superintendent of Schools, addressed the Board. He reminded the Board during the budget discussions, it was suggested the Board of Finance should be updated on projects and other budget concerns throughout the year. He will be attending the next Board of Finance Meeting scheduled for October 8, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. to give a State of School Report discussing the chimney and roof projects among other upcoming projects.

Chairwoman Ms. Christianson noted she represented the Board of Education at the negotiations for the teacher's contract last night and it went very well.

III. Board Student Representative(s) Report

Mr. Nicardo Gooden, Student Representative, addressed the Board. He welcomed everyone back to school and noted school is going good. He mentioned the fall sports began their schedules, including volleyball, soccer and football. He is hoping volleyball will be offered to boys, as currently only girls are able to participate. Students are starting to talk about and prepare for Homecoming that is scheduled for October 26, 2024.

IV. Public Audience (only Agenda Items)

Mr. David Farr of 55 Briar Cliff Drive addressed the Board. He noted that he has addressed the Board previously on two topics and has not received an answer as of yet. The first topic is the salary of the athletic director needs to be addressed, as the salary for that position is the lowest in the state. The second topic is addressing the age of the track at the high school (built in 1968) and needs an upgrade. Before Paul Harrington left the Town he had talked about renovating the sport fields and track, but it never happened. He suggested having a conversation with Scott Storms, a member of the Board of Finance and a member of the Board of Education and have a dialog and perhaps come up with a plan or see if funding through the state can be obtained. He suggested the superintendent arrange some sort of meeting.

V. Approval of Minutes

- **August 29, 2024 Special Meeting**

It was **MOVED** (Cutler) and **SECONDED** (Guyette) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Education approves the minutes of the August 29, 2024 as presented.

VI. Personnel Report: Resignation

A. Retirements

Mr. Robert Stacy, Director of Human Resources, addressed the Board. He commented he has received the following two retirements:

- Ms. Deborrah Ramirez, a School Counselor at Windsor Locks High School, will retire June 30, 2025. Ms. Ramirez will have served the students of Windsor Locks for 11 years.
- Ms. Tracy Rasmussen, a Mathematics Teacher at Windsor Locks High School, will retire June 30, 2025. Ms. Rasmussen will have served the students of Windsor Locks for 20 years.

It was **MOVED** (Guyette) and **SECONDED** (Cutler) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Education accepts the retirements on the dates noted and offer our appreciation for their service to the Windsor Locks Public Schools.

B. Educator New Hires

Mr. Stacy commented about the new hires in the district. He indicated a total of 69 new hires including 23 new teachers. He gave the Board Members a list of the new hires for their review. He mentioned many districts are having a difficult time filling their vacant positions.

A brief discussion was held.

Board Member Mr. Dennis Gragnolati arrived at 6:19 p.m.

VII. Legislative Update and Implications

Mr. Parkhurst introduced Attorney Tom Mooney from Shipman and Goodwin to present the Legislative Updates and Implications for Boards of Education. Attorney Mooney gave a handout to the Board Members for their review. He highlighted and discussed some of the changes as follows:

- Expulsion Hearing Notice change
- Parent Notification of Student Behavior Causing Disruptive or Harm and Behavioral Intervention Meeting
- Community Service changes
- School Climate Surveys and Climate Improvement Plans
- Paid Sick Leave expanded for all employees
- FMLA for Noncertified School Board Employees
- Changes to Mandated Reporter Statute
- HVAC Inspection and Evaluation
- Reserve Funds
- Ban on Delegating Authority to Schedule Thanksgiving Day High School Football Games

A brief discussion was held.

VIII. Board and Superintendent Comment

Board Member Ms. Cutler inquired about all the changes with the staffing. She would like feedback of those changes, for instance, sharing the positions of SRO and Library Media Specialist at North Street School and South Elementary School.

Board Member Mr. Guyette inquired about the AP results from last year.

IX. Public Audience (General)

None.

X. Adjournment

It was **MOVED** (Cutler) and **SECONDED** (Gragnolati) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Education adjourn the Regular Meeting of September 12, 2024 at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise M. Piotrowicz
Recording Secretary