VOLUNTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

195 Main Street Voluntown CT 06384 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS: Adam S. Burrows Board Chair – Diana Ingraham

Barbara Gileau James Hutchins, Vice-Chairperson Vikki Smith Cathy Grant, Secretary Robert Iovino April Woodcock

> Phone: 860.376.9167 www.voluntownct.org

BOARD MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, March 12, 2015
Board of Education Meeting Room - 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE Present: Barbara Gileau, Cathy Grant, James Hutchins, Diana Ingraham. Absent: Vikki Smith, Robert Iovino,

April Woodcock. Also Present: Superintendent Adam Burrows

CALL TO ORDER The Chairperson called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited

CONSENT AGENDA MOTION #1 (3/12/15): made by Jim Hutchins SECONDED BY Cathy Grant that the Board of Education

approve the Consent Agenda as presented

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES

CITIZENS COMMENTS There were no citizens present

GUEST SPEAKER There were no guest speakers

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Principal Alycia Trakas submitted her report and highlighted information about the following:

Students as a Focal Point: SRBI, after school tutorial, second quarter school assembly, CMT science assessment, SBAC testing schedule, Read Across America Day celebrating Dr. Seuss Day, NFA Day of Awareness at VES, National Junior Honor Society inductees, Mystic Arts Center's Young Art Show, Eastern Connecticut Regional Middle School Music Festival, and CABE Student Leadership Awards.

Curriculum, Learning, and Instruction: VES Weekly Notes, attending bi-weekly team meetings, chairing various meetings and attending in-house meetings, attending out-of-district training about improving school climate, grants/reports, the receipt of NAEYC Re-Accreditation, CCSS Coaching Days, EASTCONN meetings with our ELA Math Coaches, ELA Teacher, Specials Teachers, and ELA Coaches, outdoor edible school garden mini-grant program, and school readiness RFP and quality enhancement grants.

Teacher Evaluation: Teacher Evaluation Committee met on February 13 and voted to approve the Teacher Evaluation and Support Plan with the addition of the PASS documents. After Board approval, the plan will be submitted to the CT SDE.

Professional Development: A Professional Development Day was held on March 2nd. The schedule included DCF Mandated Reporter Training, Traits Writing Teacher Share, Accommodations / Modifications/Interventions, and School Climate Training.

CMT/SBAC Assessment: Creation of a parent letter, practice test schedule, assessment schedule, and accommodations for SBAC ELA and Math, CMT Science, and NCSC.

Building, Grounds, and Transportation: Safety Drills included four fire drills, four lockdown drills, one evacuation drill, and one earthquake drill.

Community and Public Relations: PTO meeting was held February 17th, and YSB and Recreation Commission upcoming activities were reviewed.

SCHOOL GARDEN GRANT

MOTION #2 (3/12/15): made by Cathy Grant SECONDED BY Barbara Gileau that the Board of Education approve the submittal of the Outdoor Edible School Garden Mini-Grant

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS: MOTION CARRIES

SPECIAL EDUCATION REPORT Mr. Burrows gave an update about the process of completing annual reviews during the last part of the school year.

RESIGNATION / DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL ED **MOTION #3 (3/12/15):** made by Barbara Gileau SECONDED BY Cathy Grant that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Dr. Elaine C. Lee, Director of Special Education, with regret, for the purpose of retirement effective at the end of this 2014-2015 school year

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

SELECTION COMMITTEE / DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL ED **MOTION #4 (3/12/15):** made by Jim Hutchins SECONDED BY Cathy Grant that the Board of Education authorize Diana Ingraham to serve on the Selection Committee to complete the interviewing process for a Director of Special Education

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT The Superintendent reviewed his Calendar of Events for March and April 2015. It was noted, the Enrollment Report indicates that there are **317** students (Pre-K through Grade 8) plus **121** High School Students. Mr. Burrows also reviewed the State of Connecticut Application for State Adult Education Funds for 2015-2016 and the CABE March 2015 Newsletter regarding opportunities for Liaisons.

INDOOR AIR QUALITY (TfS) AND SAFETY

The Committee continues to discuss the school roof update project, increased use of the school facility, and the solar panel project. The next meeting is scheduled for April 8.

YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU / LOCAL PREVENTION COUNCIL The Youth Services Bureau / Local Prevention Council continues to coordinate future activities with youth and other organizations in the community, SERAC grant impacts and priorities, Red Cross CPR/First Aid Classes, a visit from Bill Corbett and the "Tweens and Teens" program, Health Fair, Birth to Three initiatives and Home School Families.

SCHOOL SECURITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE (ALL HAZARDS PLAN) MOTION #5 (3/12/15): made by Cathy Grant SECONDED BY Barbara Gileau that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to submit the All Hazards Plan as per PA 13-3

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS: MOTION CARRIES

SCHOOL READINESS COUNCIL

The Council has been working diligently with the child find/community outreach initiative. Enrollment in the program has met the 39 student projection for the requirements of the grant.

TEACHER EVAULATION PLAN **MOTION #6 (3/12/15):** made by Cathy Grant SECONDED BY Jim Hutchins that the Board of Education approve the 2015-2016 Professional Learning Teacher Evaluation Plan for submittal to the State Board of Education

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

WELLNESS

A Health Fair at VES and a Blood Drive at the Baptist Church are scheduled for Thursday, April 9.

HIGH SCHOOL

There was discussion on the Grade 8 choice of High Schools and a review of the results of students' choices. We are currently waiting for Quinebaug Middle College to make enrollment decisions.

BUILDING COMMITTEE VES ROOF The \$1,104,304 Roof Project was unanimously approved at a Town Meeting on February 24, 2015. A required ED049 Form will now be submitted to the State Department of Education to seek approval from the School Facilities Unit for the project and to secure the grant for the 63.93% reimbursement rate assigned to Voluntown for "eligible" costs. The Building Committee will now continue their work in making the many upcoming decisions required for the completion of the project.

2015-2016 BUDGET The Superintendent reviewed the draft 2015-2016 Proposed Budget. The Board of Education Public Hearing for the Budget is scheduled for Thursday, April 9.

MOTION #7 (3/12/15): made by Cathy Grant SECONDED BY Jim Hutchins that the Board of Education Approve the 2015-2016 Board of Education Budget for \$6,748,717 that represents an increase of \$254,069 or 3.91% over the 2014-15 total of \$6,494.648

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2015-2016 **MOTION #8 (3/12/15):** made by Barbara Gileau SECONDED BY Jim Hutchins that the Board of Education approve the 2015-2016 School Calendar as presented

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION CARRIES

SCHOOL CLIMATE PLAN The Board performed a second reading of the #5131.911 Safe School Climate Policy and Regulation. Updates include working to meet the mandates of PA 14-172, PA 14-232 and PA 14-234. A third reading will be placed on the Agenda for the April 9 meeting.

PARAPROFESSIONAL EVAULATION FORMAT

MOTION #9 (3/12/15): made by Cathy Grant SECONDED BY Jim Hutchins that the Board of Education approve the Paraprofessional Evaluation Format as presented

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

BOARD BY-LAWS The Board tabled discussion on the By-Laws to the April 9 meeting.

SOLAR PANEL PROJECT AGREEMENT The Superintendent of Schools has signed the EVERSOURCE Commercial Solar Interconnection Contract for Voluntown Elementary School.

POLICY #3515 FACILITIES USE The Board performed a second reading of Policy #3515 Facilities Use. A third reading will be placed on the April 9 Agenda.

NON RENEWAL NON TENURED TEACHERS MOTION #10 (3/12/15): made by Cathy Grant SECONDED BY Barbara Gileau that the Board of Education approves pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151 that the Voluntown Board of Education non-renew the following non-tenured teacher contracts of Andrea Bunger, Julia Stands, Hailie Davis, Katelyn Stockford, Kristin Goodwin, Megan Glidden and Sue Orbertello, and that the Board further moves that the Superintendent of Schools be directed to communicate this action of the Board in writing to Andrea Bunger, Julia Stands, Hailie Davis, Katelyn Stockford, Kristin Goodwin, Megan Glidden and Sue Orbertello and that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to respond on behalf of the Board of Education to any requests for a hearing, if required by law, or for other data which may be forthcoming from the teacher and/or his/her representative pursuant to applicable provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151; and further move that the Superintendent be directed that any response to a request for a hearing, and if a hearing is required by law, indicate that such hearing is to be before the Board of Education.

 Andrea Bunger 	MOTION	Cathy Grant	seconded by	Barbara Gileau	All in favor
 Julia Stands 	MOTION	Cathy Grant	seconded by	Jim Hutchins	All in favor
 Hailie Davis 	MOTION	Cathy Grant	seconded by	Jim Hutchins	All in favor
 Katelyn Stockford 	MOTION	Cathy Grant	seconded by	Jim Hutchins	All in favor
 Kristin Goodwin 	MOTION	Cathy Grant	seconded by	Jim Hutchins	All in favor
 Megan Glidden 	MOTION	Cathy Grant	seconded by	Jim Hutchins	All in favor
 Sue Orbertello 	MOTION	Cathy Grant	seconded by	Jim Hutchins	All in favor

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

NFA TUITION AGREEMENT 2015- 2020 (5-YEAR) **MOTION #11 (3/12/15):** made by Cathy Grant SECONDED BY Jim Hutchins that the Board of Education Authorize the Superintendent to sign the 2015-2020 Norwich Free Academy Tuition Agreement effective July 1, 2015

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

AUTHORIZED 403B VENDORS MOTION #12 (3/12/15): made by Jim Hutchins SECONDED BY Cathy Grant that the Board of Education approve the annual authorized 403B Vendors

VOICE VOTE:

UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

POLICY #5125 STUDENT RECORDS The Board performed a first reading of Policy #5125 Student Records. A second reading will be placed on the April 9 Agenda.

POLICY #6173 HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION The Board performed a first reading of Policy #6173 Homebound Instruction. A second reading will be placed on the April 9 Agenda

FARMERS'
MARKET /
USE OF SCHOOL
FACILITIES

MOTION #13 (3/12/15): made by Jim Hutchins SECONDED BY Cathy Grant that the Board of Education approve the request to use the school facilities by the Economic Development Commission for Farmers' Markets as submitted

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS:

MOTION CARRIES

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

The Board will further review the Superintendents Evaluation at the April 9 meeting

EXECUTIVE SESSION -NON-CERTIFIED CONTRACTS **MOTION #14 (3/12/15):** made by Cathy Grant SECONDED BY Jim Hutchins that the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 9:32 for the purpose of discussing negotiations of non-certified employees and that the Principal, Aycia Trakas and the Board Clerk, Sherry Pollard, be invited

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION #15 (3/12/15): made by Cathy Grant SECONDED BY Jim Hutchins that the Board of Education

move out of Executive Session at 9:37. There was no action taken

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION #16 (3/12/15): made by Jim Hutchins SECONDED BY Cathy Grant that the Board of Education

adjourn the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES

Respectfully submitted, Sherry Pollard, Board Clerk