

APPROVED

ENCLOSURE NO. 4

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Thursday, December 1, 2011

DEC 13 2011

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education held Thursday, December 1, 2011, at 501 Kings Highway East, 2nd Floor Board Conference Room.

1. Chairman Ms. Pamela Iacono called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Other Board members present were: Mrs. Sue Brand, Mr. John Convertito, Mr. Philip Dwyer, Mrs. Jessica Gerber, Mr. Tim Kery, Mr. Perry Liu and Mrs. Jennifer Maxon Kennelly. Mr. Paul Fattibene was absent. Also in attendance were Superintendent of Schools Dr. David Title, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Mrs. Margaret Mary Fitzgerald and Attorney Donald Houston. Approximately 10 people comprised the remainder of the audience.
2. Mr. Kery moved, seconded by Mrs. Gerber that the Board of Education convene into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations with the Fairfield Education Association (FEA).
Motion carried: 8:0:0.
3. Reconvene to Public Session at 8:00 p.m.
4. Mrs. Brand moved, seconded by Mr. Dwyer that the Board of Education approve the contract between the Fairfield Board of Education and the Fairfield Education Association dated July 2012 – June 2015.
Motion carried: 8:0:0.
5. Mrs. Brand moved, seconded by Mr. Liu that the Board of Education By-Laws be approved as amended.

Ms. Iacono stated that Board members received a sheet of suggested By-Law changes that were made by Board members at the last meeting and during this week.

Article II – Organization & Officers

Section 3: Duties of Officers

A-4 – The Chairman shall appoint members of the Board to act as liaisons to the following bodies:

Add:

d. The Board of Finance

Motion carried: 8:0:0.

Add:

e. The FEA

Motion failed: 4:4:0.

Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mr. Liu and Mrs. Brand voted in favor.

Mrs. Gerber, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Dwyer and Mr. Kery voted in opposition.

Article II – Organization & Officers

Section 3: Duties of Officers

A-4 – The Chairman shall appoint members of the Board to act as liaisons to the following bodies:

Delete:

a. Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) and renumber

Motion carried: 8:0:0.

Article II – Organization & Officers

Section 3: Duties of Officers

Add:

A-5 – The Chairman shall appoint a member to serve as a delegate at the CAFE Convention.

Renumber A-5, 6, 7 to read A-6, 7, 8

Motion carried: 8:0:0.

Article II – Organization & Officers

Section 4: Committees

A. Standing Committees

2. Facilities, Information Technology & Long-Range Planning

Elimination of this Standing Committee

Motion carried: 7:1:0.

Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mr. Liu, Mrs. Gerber, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery and Mrs. Brand voted in favor. Mr. Dwyer voted in opposition.

3. Finance, Budget & Community Relations

Elimination of this Standing Committee

Motion carried: 6:2:0.

Mr. Convertito, Mr. Liu, Mrs. Gerber, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery and Mrs. Brand voted in favor. Mrs. Kennelly and Mr. Dwyer voted in opposition.

Article IV – Methods of Operation

Section 1: Formulation of Policies

B. The Board policies shall be reviewed periodically and revised as needed. In order to insure compliance with current legislation and regulations, the Board shall contract with CAFE for a full review of all policies and administrative regulations at least once every five years.

Delete words “with CAFE”

Motion carried: 8:0:0.

Article IV – Methods of Operation

Section 4: Board Evaluation

The Board of Education shall annually undertake a self-evaluation of its policies, practices, and internal operating procedures in order to provide the best possible services to the community and the School District at a Special Meeting in May prior to the Superintendent’s Evaluation.

Change wording to: “no later than May and no sooner than January”

Change wording to: “the Board of Education shall annually undertake a self-evaluation of its policies, practices and internal operating procedures in order to provide the best possible services to the community and the School District. Each year at the Board’s organizational meeting, the Board shall schedule a special meeting date for self-evaluation to take place no later than May.”

Motion carried: 8:0:0.

Voting Items

All voting items presented to the Board shall not be voted on at the same meeting in which the voting item is first presented. All matters presented to the Board for a vote must first have been on a previous agenda as a matter for discussion/presentation.

Motion failed: 1:6:1.

Mrs. Brand voted in favor. Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Dwyer and Mr. Kery voted in opposition. Mr. Liu abstained.

Agenda & Enclosures

The Board shall have the agenda with its materials, enclosures, etc., five business days prior to the meeting.

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

A suggestion was made to limit the Minutes to capturing the final action and some points in summary form as to what caused the vote to go the way it did.

Reports

A suggestion was made to have someone reporting to the Board on a regular basis about what is going on in the legislature and if there are going to be any votes from the State Board of Ed since it has a huge impact on us.

Mr. Convertito moved, seconded by Mr. Liu to table the last three items until they can be put into language consistent with the By-Laws with specific sections and reference numbers.

Motion carried: 7:1:0.

Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mr. Liu, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Kery and Mrs. Brand voted in favor. Ms. Iacono voted in opposition.

Article II – Organization & Officers

Section 4: Committees

A. Standing Committees

1. Curriculum, Policy and Special Programs

Amend to read Policy Committee and the current text for subsection “a” be eliminated, and “b” and “c” be nomenclatured to “a” and “b”.

Motion carried: 7:1:0.

Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mr. Liu, Mrs. Gerber, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery and Mrs. Brand voted in favor. Mr. Dwyer voted in opposition.

Board comments and discussion took place prior to the vote on each item.

6. Mr. Kery moved, seconded by Mrs. Gerber that this meeting adjourn at 8:49 p.m.

Motion carried: 8:0:0.

Jessica Gerber
Secretary