

The Enclosures referred to in the Agenda are available for inspection at each of the three Public Libraries in Fairfield, Fairfield Public Schools' website <http://www.fairfieldschools.org/> and the Education Center, 501 Kings Highway East.

THE PUBLIC IS REQUESTED TO TURN OFF CELL PHONES OR PLACE THEM ON VIBRATE PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MEETING

Board of Education, Fairfield Public Schools
501 Kings Highway East, 2nd Floor Board Conference Room, Fairfield, CT

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

REGULAR MEETING 7:30 P.M.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Presentation
 - A. Recognition of Mr. Glenn Mackno, Recipient of CT PTSA Award for Outstanding Middle School Administrator
4. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 21, 2013
Recommended Motion: "that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 21, 2013"
(Enclosure No. 1)
5. Student Reports

Marco Congello	Fairfield Ludlowe High School Student Liaison
Alice Rocha	Fairfield Ludlowe High School Student Liaison
Acacia Longley	Fairfield Warde High School Student Liaison
Danielle Clarke	Fairfield Warde High School Student Liaison
6. Board Committee/Liaison Reports
 - A. Communications Committee Presentation
 - B. Continued Discussion on Policy #6200-Instruction-Curriculum: Report on Committee Discussion and CSDE Response to 10-4b
7. Superintendent's Report
 - A. Update on District Initiatives
(Enclosure No. 2)
8. Old Business
9. New Business
 - A. First Reading of Policy #5112-Students-Attendance, Excused Absences and Truancy
(Enclosure No. 3)
 - B. First Reading of Policy # 5115-Students-Attendance, Dismissal of Students
(Enclosure No. 4)

C. First Reading of Policy #5117-Students-Attendance, Excused Absences
(Enclosure No. 5)

D. First Reading of Policy #5118-Students-Attendance, Truancy
(Enclosure No. 6)

E. Discussion on Planning for the 2014-2015 Budget Review Process

10. Public Comments and Petitions

During this period the Board will hear comments and receive petitions from any citizen present at the meeting. Any single presentation must be limited to two minutes, and audio-visual equipment cannot be used without the advance authorization of the Chairman. **The Board will not hear comment on individual personnel matters or comments addressed to a specific member(s) of the Board.** Decorum will be enforced. Citizens are asked to comment on any voting item at the time the item is under consideration by the Board.

11. Open Board Comment

12. Convene to Executive Session

Recommended Motion: “that the Board of Education convene to Executive Session to discuss Superintendent Evaluation”

13. Reconvene to Public Meeting

14. Adjournment

Recommended Motion: “that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education adjourn”

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 25, 2013	Regular Board Meeting	7:30 p.m. 501 Kings Highway East 2 nd Floor Conference Room
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RELOCATION POLICY NOTICE

The Fairfield Public Schools System provides services to ensure students, parents and other persons have access to meetings, programs and activities. The School System will relocate programs in order to ensure accessibility of programs and activities to disabled persons. To make arrangements please contact:

Pupil & Special Education Services
501 Kings Highway East, Fairfield, CT 06825
Telephone: (203) 255-8379

JUN 11 2013

Board of Education, Fairfield Public Schools
501 Kings Highway East, 2nd Floor Board Conference Room, Fairfield CT 06825

Tuesday, May 21, 2013
MINUTES

Voting Summary:

Convene to Executive Session

Mrs. Gerber moved/Mr. Kery seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education convene to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy concerning collective bargaining and the performance of a Board member". Motion passed 7-0 (*Mrs. Kennelly and Ms. Iacono were not present for the vote*).

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:52PM.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 7, 2013.

Mrs. Kennelly moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion "that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 7, 2013." Motion passed 7-0-1 (*Mrs. Brand abstained; Ms. Iacono was not in the room for the vote.*)

Old Business

Approval of the Secondary Math Curriculum, Grades 6-10

Ms. Iacono moved/Mrs. Brand seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education approve the Secondary Math Curriculum, Grades 6-10." Motion passed 9-0.

Approval of Secondary Math Resources, Grades 6-10.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Convertito seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education approve the Secondary Math Textbooks, Grades 6-10, per the memorandum dated April 26, 2013." Motion passed, 9-0

Approval of Superintendent's Recommended Budget Adjustments for 2013-2014.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Kery seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's Recommended Budget Adjustments for 2013-2014"

Mr. Fattibene moved/Mrs. Kennelly seconded to amend the Superintendent's Recommended Budget dated 5/7/13 so as to supplement the items with those listed on Mr. Fattibene's list dated 5/21/13.

Following discussion, Mr. Fattibene offered to withdraw his amendment. Mrs. Kennelly agreed.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mrs. Kennelly seconded to restore Gifted MS in the amount of \$83,000 and to reduce the technical capital line by \$83,000. Motion passed 8-1 (Mr. Kery against)

Mrs. Brand moved/Mr. Liu seconded to amend the main motion by dividing the first five items from the balance of the items, through pension. Motion passed 5-4 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Convertito, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand in favor; Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery against.)

Mr. Convertito moved/Mr. Kery seconded to call the question. Motion passed 9-0.

Motion to approve the first five items on the list (through pension) passed 9-0.

Mr. Liu moved/Mrs. Brand seconded to remove Grade 5 general music class from the list of adjustments and replace with (1) the reduction of Business Services by \$27,000 and (2) the elimination of the \$3000 for BoE conferences and workshops. Motion failed 3-6 (Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono and Mr. Kery against).

Mr. Convertito moved/Ms. Iacono seconded to reinstate SPED swimming for \$26,000 and replace with (1) the elimination of the \$3000 for BoE conferences and workshops, and (2) the reduction of \$17,000 from the tech budget, and (3) the reduction of \$6000 from the Jennings ceiling.

Mr. Dwyer stated the Board accepts the change in the motion as follows:

Mr. Convertito moved/Ms. Iacono seconded to reinstate SPED swimming for \$26,000 and replace with (1) the elimination of the \$3000 for BoE conferences and workshops, and (2) the reduction of \$23,000 from the tech budget. Motion passed 9-0.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Kery seconded to call the question. Motion failed 5-4 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand against.)

Mrs. Kennelly moved/Mr. Fattibene seconded to eliminate the HS Athletic rental charge to be made up by (1) a \$45,000 reduction in electric usage and (2) a reduction of \$5000 in postage. Motion failed 4-5 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand in favor; Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono and Mr. Kery against.)

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Kery seconded to call the question. Motion failed 4-5 (Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand against)

Motion to Extend

At 10:50PM, Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Kennelly seconded to extend the meeting to 11:45PM. Motion passed 5-4 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene in favor; Mr. Liu, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery, Mrs. Brand against.)

Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded to remove the HS Athletic fee and replace with a \$25/student/sport with a cap to be set by the administration. Motion failed 4-5 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Kery in favor; Mr. Liu, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand against.)

Mr. Convertito moved/Ms. Iacono seconded to call the question. Motion failed 5-4 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand against.)

Mrs. Brand moved/Mr. Liu seconded to eliminate the stipend for the MS Liaison positions for \$132,000.

Mr. Fattibene moved/ Mrs. Kennelly seconded to amend the amendment to cut the stipends by \$69,500 so as to (1) eliminate the athletic rental charge, (2) reinstate the Music Assured Experience and (3) reinstate FAY.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Convertito seconded to call the question. Motion passed, 8-1 (Mr. Liu against).

Motion (the amended amendment to the main motion) failed 4-5 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand in favor; Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery against)

Mr. Kery moved/Mr. Convertito seconded to call the question. Motion passed 6-3 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mrs. Brand against.)

The original motion, as amended (with the reinstatement of MS Gifted and SPED Swimming, and the reduction of technology capital by \$106,000, and the reduction of BoE Workshops by \$3000), passed 5-4 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand against)

New Business

Mr. Kery moved/Mr. Fattibene seconded to table items A-F. Motion passed 8-1 (Mrs. Kennelly against.)

Adjournment

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Dwyer seconded the recommended motion, "that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education Adjourn." Motion passed 9-0. Meeting adjourned 11:35PM.

Detailed Minutes:

Call to order and Roll Call

Chairman Philip Dwyer called the meeting to order at 6:50PM. Present were members Jennifer Kennelly, (arrived 6:56PM), John Convertito, Perry Liu, Jessica Gerber, Philip Dwyer, Pamela Iacono (arrived 6:52PM), Paul Fattibene, Tim Kery, and Sue Brand. Others present were attorneys Don Houston and Joel Green.

Convene to Executive Session

Mrs. Gerber moved/Mr. Kery seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education convene to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy concerning collective bargaining and the performance of a Board member" Motion passed 7-0 (*Mrs. Kennelly and Ms. Iacono were not present for the vote*).

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:52PM.

Call to order of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education and Roll Call

Chairman Philip Dwyer called the Regular meeting to order at 7:59PM. Present were members Jennifer Kennelly, John Convertito, Perry Liu, Jessica Gerber, Philip Dwyer, Pamela Iacono, Paul Fattibene, Tim Kery, and Sue Brand. Others present were Dr. Title, student representatives from FLHS and FWHS, members of Central Office and approximately 50 members of the public.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Philip Dwyer led the Board and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Dwyer stated that Board by-laws allow the Chair some discretion with public comment, and that in order to facilitate a smooth meeting with regards to the budget adjustment motion for this meeting, the public will be given the option to speak after a motion is made but not after each proposed amendment.

Presentation

Dr. Title presented the Superintendent and CAFE awards to the 8th grade Fairfield Woods Middle School Students who were unable to attend the May 7 award ceremony. Daniel Knorr received the Superintendent Recognition Award and Kendall Brown and Andrew Paik each received the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CAFE) Student Leadership Award.

Mrs. Kennelly recognized the Stratfield Elementary School "Odyssey of the Mind" team and their coaches for taking 2nd place in their division and moving forward to the World Championships at Michigan State University.

Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 7, 2013.

Mrs. Kennelly moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion "that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 7, 2013." Motion passed 7-0-1 (*Mrs. Brand abstained; Ms. Iacono was not in the room for the vote.*)

Student Reports

Danielle Clarke, Fairfield Warde High School, reported that both lacrosse teams made States; various clubs are collecting gear; the drama club put on a successful mock crash with the police and fire departments; Junior Prom was a success; the senior Prom is next Saturday; auditions are beginning for choir, chamber singers, honors band, honors orchestra; and Battle of the Houses was a success.

Marco Congello, reporting for Fairfield Ludlowe High School, stated that AP tests ended on Friday with over 700 exams administered; senior internships begin on May 30th; Junior Prom was a great success, it was both fun and safe; Boys Volleyball is playing Ridgefield; the baseball team is playing at Harbor Yard tomorrow and Girls Tennis is advancing.

Board Committee/Liaison Reports

Mrs. Gerber reported that the Communications Committee will provide a comprehensive report to the Board at the June 11 Meeting to include their work to date, and ideas to improve communication. This would include arranging a Town Hall meeting regarding the budget season, including more Board member information on the website, recognizing student achievements, creating a yearly survey, and having a discussion on public comment.

Mr. Dwyer stated that the Riverfield project was approved by the Board of Selectman, and Ms. Iacono stated that it is now moving forward to the Board of Finance.

Mr. Dwyer stated that the Fairfield Ludlowe Project was postponed until this Wednesday. If approved it will move forward to the June 4 BOF agenda, and if approved there it will move forward to the RTM.

Mrs. Brand stated that the Advisory Committee is meeting diligently and she is pleased with the progress.

Mr. Fattibene stated that RTM Districts were re-drawn at last night's RTM Meeting, which may affect future budgets.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Title stated that he will report on the District Initiatives at the first meeting in June.

Old Business

Approval of the Secondary Math Curriculum, Grades 6-10

Ms. Iacono moved/Mrs. Brand seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education approve the Secondary Math Curriculum, Grades 6-10."

In response to Mr. Liu, Dr. Boice stated she would provide him with a copy of the Algebra Student Survey Results.

Mrs. Brand stated that she can see that the pacing is different. Dr. Boice stated that in the Common Core, there are more topics than ever before, and that the depth and level of instruction will be more intense. Dr. Rasmussen stated that much work has been done standardizing assessments and feedback is a key component.

Mrs. Kennelly asked how much latitude teachers are given to go beyond agreed upon common assessments. Dr. Rasmussen stated that teachers give feedback at any time during instruction. Dr. Rasmussen stated that assessments will be created after curriculum approval. Dr. Boice stated that the Pearson text offers rich online assessments that can be used to develop benchmark assessments; Blue Ribbon assessments are only available through middle school.

Mrs. Kennelly asked what the philosophy was behind only having 2 levels in math. Dr. Boice stated that while she was not here for the 3 level system, she understands it was not successful. Dr. Boice stated she believes student needs are being met and there is a built in support system, SRBI at the high school, IEP at the middle school; the schools have done an excellent job of providing Tier 2 interventions as well as helping teachers with Tier 1 interventions.

Mrs. Brand asked how the gap will be filled for the 9th grade math, with regards to CPM. Dr. Boice stated that CPM was a text, and students received everything that was needed with regards to instruction and curriculum; by all accounts of measuring with teacher reports, the students did well and are ready for 9th grade.

Public comment: None

Motion passed 9-0

Approval of Secondary Math Resources, Grades 6-10.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Convertito seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education approve the Secondary Math Textbooks, Grades 6-10, per the memorandum dated April 26, 2013."

Mr. Liu stated that he is puzzled at the cost to pilot CPM. Dr. Boice stated the fee for CPM was for professional development, the textbooks will be sent back. Mr. Liu stated that it seems inconsistent that the new books will not cost us anything. Mrs. Kennelly stated that if CPM were purchased, then the professional development would have been free. Mr. Liu stated that he will support this math text and thanked the group of parents labeled 'math moms' for taking the time to get involved.

Mr. Fattibene stated that he had the opportunity to review the texts and found they were designed specifically for the Common Core, and there is a common theme with the layout and sections.

Public Comment:

Nancy Haberly, Duck Farm Road, thanked Mr. Liu for speaking up for the community.

Suzanne Miska, Rygate Road, thanked the parents for being involved in the textbook selection process.

Nadine Nizet, Mill Hill Terrace, stated that she would like to see and understand where CPM fell short, and that Central Office should offer, free of charge, remedial summer classes to those students who failed the math test.

Tricia Donovan, Taintor Drive, stated that she is a math mom and thanked the Board for her inclusion in the committee; she felt the teachers were open, and that the district should look at parents as a free resource.

Motion passed, 9-0

Mr. Dwyer thanked everyone for the math discussion and recognized and congratulated Dr. Cutaia-Leonard.

Approval of Superintendent's Recommended Budget Adjustments for 2013-2014.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Kery seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's Recommended Budget Adjustments for 2013-2014"

Mrs. Brand stated that she would like to see line items next to each budget adjustment. Mr. Dwyer ruled that voting will occur in this format, as it has for the past two times this has been done, due to programs falling on several lines; the Board may challenge the chair and 5 votes will be needed to overrule the Chair.

Mr. Fattibene stated in an effort to maintain a good district and provide programs, he compiled an alternate list of cuts and passed out a spreadsheet with this information. Mr. Fattibene explained his list: Reduce by half: Middle School Gifted, Music Assured Experience and charging overtime to all users; reinstate High School Athletics Rental Charge, Grade 7 Gifted testing, and Fairfield Arts for Youth; and replace with cuts to Business Services, Mileage Reimbursement, Instructional Services, Hourly Webmaster, Wage/Benefit Reserve, Paraprofessional (to 146.6), Postage, Recruitment Expense, Capital Business and Technology, and Maintenance (Jennings ceiling).

Mr. Fattibene moved/Mrs. Kennelly seconded to amend the Superintendent's Recommended Budget dated 5/7/13 so as to supplement the items with those listed on Mr. Fattibene's list dated 5/21/13.

Mrs. Kennelly stated that she agrees with Mr. Fattibene but disagrees with restoring Grade 7 Gifted testing and disagrees with cutting the gifted program in half as this would render the program meaningless. Dr. Title stated the current Middle School Gifted program, if it should continue next year as is, will require \$83,000. Dr. Title stated that some of the cuts mentioned are what he calls "phantom cuts", or cuts that are made but the expense is still incurred and then the money has to be spent anyway. Dr. Title stated that the paraprofessional cut is unwise, legal fees will still be expended, mileage reimbursement is contractual, the webmaster is critical, postage has gone up, cutting the wage/benefit reserve is like rolling the dice, professional development is important due to the new teacher evaluation, and it is important to recruit top talent. Dr. Title stated that the overtime charge to some user groups is what is done currently, and that has proved problematic.

Ms. Iacono thanked Mr. Fattibene, and wished the list had been sent ahead of time; she implored the Board to not go backwards with 'phantom cuts' as the Board is finally getting respect from other Town Bodies; paras are needed, the webmaster is essential for communication efforts, and capital maintenance should not be delayed. Ms. Iacono asked Dr. Title if there is something that might be substituted for Middle School Gifted. Dr. Title stated that in lieu of cutting maintenance/capital budget to restore the Gifted Program to its current status, he suggested cutting the increase in technology capital.

Mr. Fattibene offered to withdraw his amendment. Mrs. Kennelly and the Board agreed.

In response to Mr. Convertito, Dr. Title stated that interns are students at a local university and they are paid to substitute teach, separate from student teaching; if interns are reduced, the substitute rate would have to be increased. Dr. Title stated that universities set the price paid for interns, and that enrollment determines where substitute teachers might be needed. In response to Mrs. Brand, Ann Leffert stated that the going rate is 90 per day, and 150 for a long-term sub.

In response to Mr. Liu, Dr. Title stated that Bridgeport is obligated to provide Magnet Discovery Transportation costs; this cost was included in the budget as Bridgeport had asked us to provide transportation.

In response to Mr. Liu, Dr. Title stated that once the Board approves the budget, staff needs time for data entry and balancing prior to turning it over on July 1. Mr. Liu stated that the Board needs more time to propose cuts similar to Mr. Fattibene's list; he stated he is passionate about the middle school Gifted Program, Special Ed swimming, and 5th grade Music Class. Mr. Liu asked Dr. Title to reduce secretarial positions so as to preserve programs. Dr. Title responded that there is one central office secretary that has already been reduced; secretarial positions are essential and have specific job functions such as accounts payable, payroll and insurance; and that with no additional staff, the school district took on the accounts payable for the Town.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mrs. Kennelly seconded to restore Gifted MS in the amount of \$83,000 and to reduce the technical capital line by \$83,000.

In response to Mr. Convertito, Mr. Cullen stated that the HVAC at Sherman and Osborn Hill are important to complete as it is almost impossible to regulate cooling through classrooms and condensation has developed on the walls; these systems are not zoned.

Mr. Kery stated that roughly 21% of middle school students are identified as gifted; he is concerned that not enough is being done for the gifted students and that too many students are identified as gifted; it could be a meaningful program for students who are truly gifted. Ms. Iacono stated that she agrees that the gifted program should be re-evaluated.

Motion passed 8-1 (Mr. Kery against)

DRAFT

Mrs. Brand moved/Mr. Liu seconded to amend the main motion by dividing the first five items from the balance of the items, through pension. Motion passed 5-4 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Convertito, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand in favor; Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery against.)

Mr. Convertito moved/Mr. Kery seconded to call the question. Motion passed 9-0.

Motion to approve the first five items on the list (through pension) passed 9-0.

Mr. Liu moved/Mrs. Brand seconded to remove Grade 5 general music class from the list of adjustments and replace with (1) the reduction of Business Services by \$27,000 and (2) the elimination of the \$3000 for BoE conferences and workshops.

Ms. Iacono stated she opposes the amendment, and supports the increase in instructional time in core subjects such as math. In response to Mrs. Gerber, Dr. Title stated that the change in music curriculum will be similar to what was done with World Language. Dr. Title stated that if the Board chooses to take this off the list, he suggested going deeper into Tech Capital rather than Business Services.

Motion failed 3-6 (Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono and Mr. Kery against).

Mr. Convertito moved/Ms. Iacono seconded to reinstate SPED swimming for \$26,000 and replace with (1) the elimination of the \$3000 for BoE conferences and workshops, and (2) the reduction of \$17,000 from the tech budget, and (3) the reduction of \$6000 from the Jennings ceiling.

Mr. Dwyer stated in the interest of full disclosure, he previously worked at the YMCA in which the pool is rented.

In response to Ms. Iacono, Dr. Title stated that Board members could pay their own way to CABE conferences or other Board conferences; CABE services would remain.

In response to Ms. Iacono, Mr. Cullen stated that the Jennings ceiling tiles are crumbling and falling apart.

Mr. Dwyer stated the Board accepts the change in the motion as follows:

Mr. Convertito moved/Ms. Iacono seconded to reinstate SPED swimming for \$26,000 and replace with (1) the elimination of the \$3000 for BoE conferences and workshops, and (2) the reduction of \$23,000 from the tech budget.

Mrs. Kennelly asked if the SPED program could be reduced to 1 day per week. Mrs. Leonardi responded that this would create unsafe conditions; the issue would be having 25 students in the pool with an almost 1:1 ratio of staff. Mrs. Leonardi stated that this program has been in place more than 25 years. Mr. Convertito, Mr. Liu, and Mrs. Brand all expressed support for the SPED swimming program.

Motion passed 9-0.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Kery seconded to call the question. Motion failed 5-4 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand against.)

Mr. Fattibene offered a point of order and Mr. Dwyer stated that $\frac{3}{4}$ vote is required to call the question.

In response to Mrs. Kennelly, Dr. Title stated that the 'middle school liaison' is a stipend paid to teachers to act as team leaders, and is not a position. Dr. Title stated he would not recommend touching this. Mrs. Brand stated that she would support eliminating the middle school liaison stipend.

Mrs. Kennelly moved/Mr. Fattibene seconded to eliminate the HS Athletic rental charge to be made up by (1) a \$45,000 reduction in electric usage and (2) a reduction of \$5000 in postage.

Mrs. Kennelly stated that she understands the idea to go after sports rental fees but finds it discriminatory at some level. Mr. Fattibene stated that he agrees but would have taken the money from other areas.

Dr. Title stated that 'pay to play' is not a program cut, and he is not certain of the electricity savings.

Motion failed 4-5 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand in favor; Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono and Mr. Kery against.)

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Kery seconded to call the question. Motion failed 4-5 (Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand against)

At 10:50PM, Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Kennelly seconded to extend the meeting to 11:45PM. Motion passed 5-4 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene in favor; Mr. Liu, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery, Mrs. Brand against.)

Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded to remove the HS Athletic fee and replace with a \$25/student/sport with a cap to be set by the administration.

Ms. Iacono and Mr. Liu stated that they will not support pay to play.

Motion failed 4-5 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Kery in favor; Mr. Liu, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand against.)

Mr. Convertito moved/Ms. Iacono seconded to call the question. Motion failed 5-4 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand against.)

Mrs. Brand moved/Mr. Liu seconded to eliminate the stipend for the MS Liaison positions for \$132,000.

Mr. Fattibene moved/ Mrs. Kennelly seconded to amend the amendment to cut the stipends by \$69,500 so as to (1) eliminate the athletic rental charge, (2) reinstate the Music Assured Experience and (3) reinstate FAY.

Dr. Rosato stated that the middle school liaisons are the leadership team and are the main communication vehicle across the grade levels and are depended upon to ensure consistency; these are teachers working full time in the classroom. Mr. Kery asked if this could be taken away, contractually. Dr. Title stated that it could be taken away if the work were taken away. Mr. Kery stated that he will not support this and is concerned that Dr. Title and staff have stated that it is important. Mr. Dwyer stated that he agrees with Mr. Kery. Mrs. Brand stated that she doesn't take this lightly and knows it is a tough choice. Mr. Kery stated that Team Leaders are important to students and the educational professionals are saying this is important for this age group and he is vehemently opposed to this. Dr. Title stated that the Team Leaders are critical to the middle school structure.

Mrs. Kennelly stated she is frustrated that there has been no give in administration. Mr. Convertito stated that he has no information on the effect of the stipend cut.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Convertito seconded to call the question. Motion passed, 8-1 (Mr. Liu against).

Motion (the amended amendment to the main motion) failed 4-5 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand in favor; Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery against)

Mr. Kery moved/Mr. Convertito seconded to call the question. Motion passed 6-3 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mrs. Brand against.)

Public Comment:

Neal Fink, Crest Terrace, stated that he feels the public was done a disservice with regards to public comment, and he is also disappointed that no one brought up custodial overtime fees.

Suzanne Miska , Rygate Road, stated that the rental fees create an inequitable situation.

Lisa Havey, PTAC President, stated that she is appalled at the process, and that it is inconceivable that people were not included in the process, and asked the Board to be stop taking away programs.

Tricia Donovan, Taintor Drive, stated that real financial reform was not made.

Marc Patten, RTM, stated that the the 4th and 5th grade World Language that was reduced previously is ineffective and either reduce it entirely or only give to 5th grade; he stated that he is thrilled that gifted program is OK, and thanked the Board for all the hard work.

Nancy Haberly , Duck Farm Road, stated that cutting one music class is doing a disservice to those students who shine in those areas.

John Llewellyn, Sturges Road, stated that the problem with the budget originates in the way it is prepared, which is budget to budget and not budget to actual, so the numbers that we are looking at are in some cases 18 months out of date; he thanked Mrs. Kennelly and agrees that it is amazing that we haven't looked at restructuring or going after anything in the overhead.

Jennifer Hoffman, Whitewood Drive, spoke in defense of the music program.

Julie Gottlieb, RTM, respectfully asked that the Board look at overhead and administration in the coming year.

The original motion, as amended (with the reinstatement of MS Gifted and SPED Swimming, and the reduction of technology capital by \$106,000, and the reduction of BoE Workshops by \$3000), passed 5-4 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand against)

DRAFT

New Business

Mr. Kery moved/Mr. Fattibene seconded to table items A-F.

Mrs. Kennelly requested email comments from the Board on item E with regards to using pilots in the curriculum.

Motion passed 8-1 (Mrs. Kennelly against.)

Public Comments:

Jen Biondo, Romanock Road, thanked the Board for listening regarding the swim therapy.

Patty Donohue, Congress Street, thanked the Board regarding the SPED swimming.

Kelly Fedak, Eleven O'Clock Road, thanked the Board regarding the SPED swimming, as the program enhanced her son's life and those around him.

Kelly Dunn, Tuckahoe Lane, thanked the Board for restoring the swimming program and appreciates the efforts.

Open Board Comments:

Ms. Iacono asked if student parking spots could be numbered and assigned. Mrs. Kennelly agreed, and thanked the staff and Dr. Title; she stated that she values all the work that was done.

Mr. Dwyer asked the Board to look at item E and email suggestions to Mrs. Kennelly in time for the next Policy Committee Meeting.

Adjournment

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Dwyer seconded the recommended motion, "that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education Adjourn."

Motion passed 9-0. Meeting adjourned 11:35PM.

Submitted by:

Jessica Gerber

Board of Education

Secretary

Fairfield Public Schools
Major District-Wide Initiatives
2012-2013

ENCLOSURE NO. 2

JUN 11 2013

TECHNOLOGY	
1. Begin to implement new student management system (Infinite Campus)	Completed year 1 implementation with full roll-out to staff, students and parents. Data analysis and expansion of the assessment component will begin in 13/14.
2. Develop/revise the technology distribution model (hardware)	Completed for elementary level classrooms, secondary in progress
3. Develop a district-wide approval process for technology resources (hardware and software)	In progress, with a completion target date of June 2014
4. Implement the employee self-service component of the Human Resources software (paper reduction)	In progress, testing Phase I done by 6/30
5. Computerize reservations, work order and field trip approval systems	In progress, software purchased, 7/13 roll-out
6. Develop a rubric to assess staff skill levels and target professional development in technology	In progress, self-assessment completion target date is January 30, 2014.
PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION	
7. School Climate Teams – implement surveys, investigations, professional development, common protocol and documents	Completed, ongoing work in 13/14, included in all school improvement plans
8. Rollout of Student Success Plans – implement professional development, Naviance software (grades 6–12)	Rollout complete. We will complete developmental guidance curriculum this summer, implement advisory (to some degree) in high school next year and begin use of Naviance software in middle school next year.
9. Develop Common Performance-Based Assessments in Grades 9 and 10 to improve consistency of instruction	Completed, ongoing
10. Implement new Elementary Special Education staffing model	Completed
11. Implement revised Gifted model	Completed, lessons/units for middle school developed
12. Implement the new Math Support model at both Middle School and High School levels (grades 6–11)	Completed. We will continue to monitor both models next year.
13. Implement all newly adopted curricula	Completed
14. Implement Food Service goals	Completed
15. Implement school-wide, grade level and department Data Teams to improve instruction and student achievement	Completed, ongoing as part of district improvement efforts in 13/14
16. Implement the new elementary Progress Report	Completed
17. Implement Instructional Rounds (3 per school) to accelerate school improvement strategies	Completed, ongoing as part of staff professional development
18. Refine and implement School Improvement Plans to improve student achievement	Completed, ongoing as part of administrative professional development and evaluation
19. Implement PLATO software for homebound instruction, CAPT folders, High School intervention, Math workshops in grades 10 and 11, and assessing home-schooled students returning to Fairfield Public Schools	Completed
FINANCE	
20. Improve budget development process and timeline (internal)	Completed
21. Improve budget management across schools and departments	Completed, improved approval process; took on Accounts Payable from the Town
22. Bid and award transportation contract	Completed

CURRICULUM and PROGRAM	
23. Develop and approve curriculum in 6-9 Language Arts, PK-2 Math and 6-10 Math	Math completed, Language Arts scheduled for 13/14
24. Propose a revised English Language Learners program K-12	Completed
25. Develop a new Racial Imbalance Plan (PK expansion)	Completed, approved by CSDE
26. Research revisions to Library Media program (K-8)	Research completed, curriculum revision begins in 13/14
27. Begin a kindergarten program review	Completed, now full day in 13/14
28. Revise 4-6 World Language curriculum to reflect the current staffing level	Completed
29. Begin a review of the Alternative High School program	In progress. Completion expected in 13/14.
STAFFING	
30. Induct and support new and reassigned leaders (central office and schools) in their new roles	Completed
31. Review secondary curriculum development, coordination and implementation process	In progress, ongoing review as part of new Teacher Evaluation System
32. Finalize non-certified contracts	In progress
33. Revise Administrator and Teacher Evaluation Plans and prepare for implementation in 2013-2014	Completed
FACILITIES	
34. Propose funding requests for the Fairfield Ludlowe High School renovation project, Osborn Hill, Riverfield renovations, Sherman (Phase 3), Fairfield Ludlowe High School windows	Completed except Sherman Added FLHS roof replacement to funding request
35. Revise the Long-Range Facilities Plan	In progress, postponed until 13/14
36. Develop leasing options for Central Office, Alternative High School and Maintenance facilities	In progress with the Town
37. Board acceptance of Stratfield and Fairfield Woods Middle School projects	Expected in 13/14, in progress
POLICIES	
38. Approval of all policies that are up for review	Completed by Policy Committee, ongoing

JUN 11 2013

Board of Education
Policy Guide**Students****Attendance, Excused Absences and Truancy****ATTENDANCE**

5112

~~It is the legal responsibility of every parent or guardian of children of compulsory school age (five (5) to eighteen (18), twenty one (21) years of age as outlined in statute) to ensure that regular, uninterrupted attendance at school and classes is maintained. A lack of consistent attendance can have an adverse effect on a student's academic achievement. Therefore, it is the policy of the Fairfield Board of Education to take appropriate legal action against a parent or guardian who fail to abide by the Connecticut Compulsory Attendance Law.~~

Connecticut state law requires parents/guardians to cause their children, ages five through eighteen inclusive, to attend school regularly during the hours and terms the public school is in session. Parents/guardians or persons having control of a child five years of age have the option of not sending the child to school until ages six or seven. Mandatory attendance terminates upon graduation or withdrawal with written parent/guardian consent at age seventeen.

A student is considered to be "in attendance" if present at his/her assigned school, or an activity sponsored by the school (e.g., field trip), for at least half of the regular school day. A student who is serving an out-of-school suspension or expulsion should always be considered absent. A student not meeting the definition of "in attendance" shall be considered absent.

Classroom learning experiences are the basis for public school education. Time lost from class is lost instructional opportunity. The Board of Education requires that accurate records be kept of the attendance of each child, and students should not be absent from school without parental knowledge and consent.

Excused Absence

For absences one through nine, an absence shall be considered "excused" when a child does not attend school and appropriate documentation is provided by the student's parent/guardian approving the absence, due to:

- A. Illness or injury,
- B. Death in the immediate family,
- C. Religious obligation,
- D. Court appearance,
- E. School sponsored activity,
- F. Lack of transportation that is normally provided by a district other than the one the students attends, (This reason does not require documentation.)

Students

Attendance, Excused Absences and Truancy

ATTENDANCE

5112

- G. An emergency, or
- H. Other exceptional circumstances and extraordinary educational opportunities pre-approved by a District administrator and in accordance with SDE guidelines. Written excuse for such absences should be submitted to school officials by the child's parent or guardian. All other absences with or without written explanation shall be considered unexcused.

A student's absence from school shall be considered unexcused unless:

- A. The absence meets the definition of an excused absence and meets the documentation requirements; or
- B. The absence meets the definition of a disciplinary absence, which is the result of school or District disciplinary action and are excluded from these State Board of Education approved definitions.

When the school in which a child is enrolled receives no notification of the child's absence from a parent/guardian or other person having control of the child a reasonable effort shall be made by school personnel to notify by telephone, email, or mail such parent/guardian or other person having control of the child.

Unexcused Absence

Board policy with respect to unexcused absences stresses prevention and inquiry leading to remediation of absences. The schools will make all reasonable efforts to keep parents/guardians and students informed as to attendance problems and will make all reasonable efforts to help students improve their attendance when such improvement is warranted. Only when all local resources are exhausted is referral to legal authorities recommended.

A student's absence from school shall be considered "unexcused" unless the absence meets the definitions, listed above, for an "excused" absence, including the documentation requirements; or if the absence is the result of school or District disciplinary action.

Students

Attendance, Excused Absences and Truancy (continued)

5112

Release of Student During School Day/Dismissal

The Board recognizes the need for students to be in school for the full instructional day. It is encouraged that early dismissal should be requested only in emergency or unusual situations.

Request for release of a student during the school day originating outside the schools must be handled by the administration to ensure maximum provisions for the safety and welfare of the student.

Students who become ill during the school day may be excused by the school nurse. School personnel will notify parent/guardian to arrange transportation.

No student may be permitted to leave school at any time other than at regular dismissal without the approval of the student's parent/guardian. If a court official with legal permission to take custody of a child, or if a police officer arrests a student, the parent/guardian should be notified of these situations by the administration.

Truancy

The Board of Education must provide each child with a continuing education which will prepare the student to assume adult roles and responsibilities. Therefore, regular attendance and punctuality are expected from all children enrolled in our schools. By statute, responsibility for assuring that students attend school rests with the parent(s)/guardian(s) or other person having control of the child. Every effort must be made to keep absences and tardiness to a minimum. To assist parent(s)/guardian(s) and others in meeting this responsibility, the Board of Education has developed the following procedures regarding students ages five (5) to eighteen (18) inclusive.

1. Notify parents/guardians or other person having control of each child enrolled, ages five (5) to eighteen (18) inclusive, in writing, of the obligations of the parents/guardians pursuant to student attendance (C.G.S. 10-184).
2. Obtain from each parent/guardian or other persons having control of an enrolled child a telephone number or other means of contacting such parent/guardian or other person during the school day.
3. Establish a system for monitoring student's individual absences/tardies.
4. Notify, by telephone, email, or mail the parent(s)/guardian(s) or other such person(s) whenever a child fails to report to school on a regularly scheduled school day and no indication has been received by school personnel that the child's parent/guardian or other person is aware of the student's absence.
5. Identify a student as "truant" when the student has four (4) unexcused absences in any one month or ten (10) unexcused absences in any school year.

Students

Attendance, Excused Absences and Truancy (continued)

5112

Truancy

6. Hold a meeting with appropriate staff and the parent/guardian or other person having control of the child identified as a “truant” within ten (10) days of such designation to review the reasons for the truant behavior and to evaluate the situation.
7. Referral will be made to the PPT to determine whether or not an educational evaluation is appropriate, prior to filing a written complaint with the Superior Court.
8. File a written complaint by the Superintendent with the Superior Court alleging that the acts or omissions of any child identified as a “truant” are such that the student’s family is a “family with service needs” if the parent or other person having control of the child identified as “truant” fails:
 - a. to attend the required meeting to evaluate why the child’s truant or
 - b. to cooperate with the school in trying to solve the truancy problem.

Provide for the coordination of services and refer enrolled students who are truants to community agencies providing child and family services.

A student who is identified as a “truant” may be subject to the following consequences:

- A. Promotion to the next grade may be contingent upon the student successfully completing a summer school program
- B. The student may be retained in the same grade in order to acquire the skills necessary for promotion to the next grade level

Students

Attendance, **Excused Absences and Truancy** (continued) Truancy

5112

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-184 Duties of parents. (as amended by PA 98-243 and PA 00-157)

10-198a Policies and procedures concerning truants (as amended by PA 00-157 and PA 11-136)

10-199 through 10-202 Attendance, truancy in general. (Revised 1995 - PA 95-304)

10-221(b) Board of education to prescribe rules.

Campbell v New Milford, 193 Conn 93 (1984).

Action taken by State Board of Education on January 2, 2008, to define "attendance."

Action taken by the State Board of Education on June 27, 2012 to define "excused" and "unexcused" absences.

Approved 8/27/04

**** Proposed for Deletion****

Board of Education
Policy Guide

ENCLOSURE NO. 4

JUN 11 2013

Students

Attendance

DISMISSAL OF STUDENTS

5115

No child shall be dismissed prior to the regular school dismissal time to anyone other than his parent or guardian except in the case of a specific request from the parent or guardian asking that the child be dismissed to such designated person.

Approved 8/27/04

**** Proposed for Deletion****

Board of Education
Policy Guide

Students

ENCLOSURE NO. 5

Attendance

JUN 11 2013

EXCUSED ABSENCES

5117

Principals and teachers shall continually emphasize that students should not be taken out of school unless absolutely necessary. The idea that a student should attend school must be a priority for the student and his parent or guardian.

Students are to be excused from school upon written notification from the parent or guardian for any religious holidays not already observed in the school calendar. Students will be allowed to make up tests, quizzes, or any other assigned class work / homework, and students will not be deprived of any awards.

Appointments for dental and medical services should be made outside of school time whenever possible. In cases where an appointment during school hours is unavoidable, the parent or guardian will provide advance notification whenever possible.

Approved 8/27/04

**** Proposed for Deletion****

Board of Education
Policy Guide

ENCLOSURE NO. 6

JUN 11 2013

Students

Attendance

TRUANCY

5118

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, it is the policy of the Fairfield Public Schools to define a truant in the following manner:

A **truant** is a child aged five (5) to eighteen (18) inclusive who has four (4) unexcused absences in one (1) month or ten (10) unexcused absences in one (1) year.

Upon the determination that a child ages five (5) to eighteen (18) inclusive is a truant, the building administrator or designee will hold a meeting within ten (10) days with the parent or guardian of the child who is truant. Reasons for the truancy will be reviewed and evaluated including referral to the building Planning and Placement Team to determine whether or not an educational evaluation is appropriate. School services will be coordinated with referrals of the child to community agencies providing child and family services, as appropriate. The Superintendent may file a complaint pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes in the Superior Court, Juvenile Matters regarding the child's truancy alleging the belief that the acts or omissions of the child are such that his family is a family with service needs, if the parent or guardian fails to attend the required meeting with appropriate school personnel to evaluate why the child is truant or fails to cooperate with the school in trying to solve the truancy problem.

At the beginning of each school year and upon any enrollment during the year the building administrator or designee shall obtain from the parent or guardian of each child ages five (5) to eighteen (18) inclusive a telephone number or other means of contacting such parent or guardian during the school day. Provision will be made that, whenever a child ages five (5) to eighteen (18) inclusive fails to report to school on a regularly scheduled day and no indication has been given by the child's parent or guardian of their awareness of the child's absence, school personnel or volunteers under the direction of school personnel will make a reasonable effort to notify the parent or guardian by telephone.

Parents or guardians of children, ages five (5) to eighteen (18) inclusive, in the Fairfield Public Schools will be notified annually in writing of their obligation to cause their child to go to school.