

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

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Philip Dwyer called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Other Board members present were Mrs. Jennifer Maxon Kennelly, Mr. John Convertito, Mr. Perry Liu, Mrs. Jessica Gerber, Ms. Pamela Iacono (*arrived 7:07 p.m.*), Mr. Paul Fattibene, Mr. Tim Kery (*arrived 7:22 p.m.*), and Mrs. Sue Brand. Also in attendance were Dr. David Title, Selectwoman Cristin McCarthy Vahey (*arrived 7:30 p.m.*), Fairfield Police Chief Gary McNamara, Deputy Police Chief Chris Lyddy, Captain Josh Zabin.

2. Convene to Executive Session

Mrs. Brand moved, seconded by Mrs. Kennelly the recommended motion “that the Board of Education convene into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters concerning security strategy”

Motion Carried: 7:0:0 (*Ms. Iacono and Mr. Kery were not present for this vote*)

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:45 p.m.

3. 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 7:52 p.m. Other Board members present were Mrs. Jennifer Maxon Kennelly, Mr. John Convertito, Mr. Perry Liu, Mrs. Jessica Gerber, Ms. Pamela Iacono, Mr. Paul Fattibene, Mr. Tim Kery, and Mrs. Sue Brand. Also in attendance were Dr. David Title, members of Central Office, student representatives from Fairfield Warde and Fairfield Ludlowe High Schools, and approximately 100 members of the public.

4. The Chairman led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Presentations

A. Food Services Presentation by Mr. John Turenne, Food Services Consultant

Mr. Turenne stated that there are four goals: to continue to provide better tasting meals, train staff, improve communications with parents, and improve participation. Mr. Turenne stated he has worked in many institutions and feels that Fairfield is ahead of the curve. For the first goal, Mr. Turenne stated that he would like to emphasize cooking from scratch. The new National USDA standards which took effect in July 2012 have to be adhered to. Mr. Turenne stated that he is working on minimum standards to use as a roadmap; this includes no pink slime in beef, organic yogurt, and the elimination of processed foods. Mr. Turenne is working on many new recipes to include better tasting meals that students will eat. Regarding the second goal, a ‘boot camp’ was done with staff at the high schools, and there were 2 pilot runs in Roger Ludlowe Middle School and McKinley. Mr. Turenne stated that he plans to work in each elementary school. The third goal, communication, will get started by creating a lead team in the stakeholders: parents, food service managers, staff, and student councils. A formal letter about this was sent home with students, and a newsletter has been

created. There is a plan to do 2 parent/student evening cooking lectures, as well as press releases. All of this will lead to the fourth goal: an increase in participation.

Mr. Liu stated that he is happy that Mr. Turenne is working with Fairfield, and that he is a fan of the kale chips from the Stratfield presentation. Mr. Liu asked Ms. Munsell if this program would continue long-range. Ms. Munsell stated that there are minimum standards and expectations that will be in writing. Mr. Liu stated that he did not see the newsletter and would like to see consistency and does not want to see this program fail.

Ms. Iacono stated that she did see the newsletter and her son was excited about trying something new. Ms. Iacono asked Mr. Turenne whether Fairfield could have its own Food Services Program, and not have to follow the government regulations. The biggest problem with the government regulations is the quantity. The high school students, especially the athletes, are starving. They are unable to sustain themselves on 800 calories. Mr. Turenne stated that a district as large as Fairfield should stay on the Government Food Services Program; going off it would require some radical changes, including greatly increasing participation to offset the costs.

Mr. Convertito asked if it would be possible, in order to increase participation, to get the high school culinary students to create a recipe from scratch and serve it at lunch. Mr. Turenne said he would follow up on that idea.

Ms. Kennelly asked if Mr. Turenne would also be visiting the high schools. Mr. Turenne stated that he was focusing on the elementary students as a strategy to get the initial buy-in to the lunch program, as they will be future middle and high school students, but he will follow up on this idea as well.

B. Distribution and Presentation of Superintendent's Recommended 2013-2014 Operating Budget

Dr. Title presented the 2013-2014 Superintendent's Recommended Operating Budget, and stated that $\frac{3}{4}$ of the budget drivers are on one line item on page 15 - health insurance. Dr. Title stated that he chose last year to go with the lower reserve and higher trend, rather than the higher reserve and lower trend, saving approximately \$800,000. The health insurance, coupled with the non-certified employee pension is 4.03% of the 4.86% increase. Dr. Title stated that his budget strategy was to control whatever he could. Enrollment is projected to go up by about 100 students next year, shifting mainly toward the high schools. Elementary enrollment is not projected to go up or down, but the district was able to shift some staff there to the high schools. There is not a lot of change at the middle schools, but there is some shifting of staff to account for the fact that Fairfield Woods Middle School may be on par or larger than Roger Ludlowe Middle School. The net on certified staff is basically flat. This maintains all the class sizes within the Board's guidelines. Dr. Title stated that he did resist and is wary of implementing a new teacher evaluation system next year which is currently the mandate because he is unsure of the impact and does not have anyone on staff that can help with that. Dr. Title is hoping that the state will allow a phased approach for this, and this will have to be addressed down the road. There are some costs for this mandate that are included such as training and software, but nothing for the staff requirements. Projected retirements have increased to 16 for certified staff which is about the 5 year average. Dr. Title stated that the cuts that were made 2 years ago were reviewed. A part time person was added at the high school libraries for after-hours and computer

labs coverage, as this was a very low cost but high impact item, and the headmasters felt that not having this was very detrimental to the students. A new middle school gifted program is being rolled out which involves a pull-out option for students, and requires a .2 increase. Dr. Title did not make a recommendation to restore world language for cost reasons, and the increase in language arts has been beneficial. Another assumption is that federal and state revenue will be flat. On the federal level that is mainly Title I and IDEA grants, and on the state level that would impact excess cost. Transportation did not move around all that much. The new contract is more expensive, but there are fewer runs due to the elimination of the grandfathering at the middle schools. However, now we have to fund magnet school transportation and there is an increase in special education transport. There is no specific dollar amount on school security. All measures taken this year, such as the buzzer installation, came out of this year's budget. If a big infrastructure change is needed, it will go forward as a capital project with the police involved. If a police presence will be at the schools, that will fall under the police department budget. Dr. Title stated that his staff tried to address all the Board's suggestions regarding the budget book, and noted that for the last two years, the Fairfield budget book won "Honorable Mention" from the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education.

Mr. Dwyer stated that there is some time for conversation on the health insurance line tonight. Mr. Dwyer suggested that for next Tuesday, the Board start with the 100-300 series, then Thursday begin with the 400 series. Mr. Dwyer also asked that Board members provide any ideas they may have, regarding account trade-offs, at the Thursday meeting. This will give Dr. Title and his staff some time.

Mr. Kery made a request to get a picture of the entire fund for both Town and Board or Education, of the health insurance. Mr. Dwyer stated that the Town produces this report with First Selectman's budget and so it may not be readily available. As soon as it is available, it will be given to the Board.

Mrs. Brand asked what clusters we have moving forward. We should be notified of patterns, and this would be helpful to the Board. Mr. Dwyer stated that AON did have that information but not at the requested detail, and he will inquire about this.

Mr. Convertito asked if Dr. Title's budget notes could be transcribed and sent out, and Dr. Title agreed.

Mr. Dwyer stated that Board member questions can be provided to Dr. Title and the Board should be copied on the questions sent forward.

Mrs. Brand mentioned that posting the questions on the website would also be helpful..

Mr. Dwyer stated for the public that it is helpful for the community to attend budget meetings to show support. Also the "brown bag lunch" will be held on Thursday, January 17, where Dr. Title will speak to the budget.

6. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Gerber moved, seconded by Mr. Kery, the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 11, 2012"

Motion Carried: 9:0:0

7. Student Reports

Mr. Marco Congello and Ms. Alice Rocha reported for Fairfield Ludlowe High School. The Varsity Girls Basketball team members each chose a teacher to “appreciate” on the court by giving each teacher a rose. For the 6th straight year, Fairfield Ludlowe High School hosted 39 student athletes (basketball and dance) from Denmark. The Bella Boutique Christmas sale was a success. Over 30 music students qualified for regionals. Mid-terms begin January 24. Fairfield Ludlowe High School joined the country in a moment of silence for the Newtown tragedy, students helped each other, and there is memorial in the lobby to show support. The Cheer Team ‘books and bears program’ has begun and the Future Business Leaders of America Group is selling wristbands that say “We Are One” and they are wearing T-shirts that say, “Let their memory shine bright”.

Ms. Danielle Clark and Ms. Acacia Longley reported for Fairfield Warde High School. Mid-terms will start next Thursday, and Alpha Prep courses are beginning. Juniors are being introduced to the college process. Course selection sheets will go out soon. Job shadowing opportunities are beginning and applications are available at the career center. The Student Forum will participate in a hand-ball competition. The school store will open this Thursday. The Random Acts of Kindness Club will be having a valentine special. Humanity Now is involved with the Starfish foundation, and they are trying to raise funds to send a few students to Africa. Warde has put together a concert benefitting families affected by the Newtown tragedy; Newtown has asked these performers to also perform at Newtown. The County Assembly Dance was a fun event.

8. Board Committee/Liaison Reports

Ms. Iacono reported that the Riverfield Building Committee put forth a request to the Town for \$15 million. The vote was not unanimous. Dr. Title and Sal Morabito made suggestions to cut costs and recommendations have been made. Mr. Fryer was at the Town Facilities Commission meeting last night and this information will be provided to the Board. Mr. Liu asked if there was any talk of security; Ms. Iacono answered that security was part of the price.

Mrs. Brand reported that Dr. Pitkoff, from CES, worked with all the area superintendents to help Newtown open a new school within 5 days of the tragedy.

9. Superintendent’s Report

A. Secondary Math Curriculum Update

Dr. Title stated that the administration is completely open in terms of what is recommended for secondary math; not just for Algebra 1, but for all the grades leading up to it, and for Geometry. Members of the public will get unprecedented access to student texts under consideration, and will be able to submit a feedback form. Dr. Title stated that student performance data is still being gathered. In the meantime, older textbooks have been issued to the students to use as they see fit. Support is being offered, as always, to students who are struggling. Support is also offered to teachers with professional development. The goal is to improve student achievement in math, not to pursue any other agenda. Changes have to be made in many classrooms as standards have changed and college and business demands have changed. A full secondary math

report on the curriculum and the textbooks will be given in April. Dr. Title stated that there is tremendous interest in this topic and the administration is taking it very seriously.

Mr. Dwyer said there have been questions about the curriculum process, and the Policy Committee accepted the assignment to go over policy 6200 to see if the process or language has to be changed.

Mrs. Brand thanked Dr. Title and asked what the timeline would be for text/comment review. Dr. Title answered that the dates will have exact dates but will be sent forward.

Mr. Liu thanked Dr. Title for addressing this issue. The thing that frustrates this Board member is that this is still being called a study. We are doing the study through the entire secondary system. We have lost time if it is not a good program. The Board owes the parents a 'thank you' for bringing this to the Board's attention.

Mr. Convertito has one concern regarding a letter asking for un-biased volunteers and wants to be assured that people who have expressed an opinion can still be included in the math discussion. Mr. Dwyer stated that any citizen is allowed to come in and provide comments.

Mrs. Kennelly thanked Dr. Title for addressing the issue. It bears repeating that the public and the administration have the best interest of the students in mind. For all BOE reps in the audience – please make sure to pass this on to your schools that all parents will be invited to review texts.

Mrs. Gerber stated that her concern is that there is still half of the school year remaining, and she would like to see more support for students this year, so that it won't be a lost year.

Mr. Fattibene thanked Dr. Title for having an open mind, and he encourages the community to take advantage of this opportunity.

Mrs. Brand thanked Dr. Title for meeting with parents yesterday.

B. Quarterly Financial Update

Mrs. Munsell presented the Quarterly Financial Report and noted that heating season has not yet really begun.

Board comment followed.

Mrs. Brand stated her concern is that there will be insufficient funds to cover some of the unknowns such as PCBs, unknown utilities, and Hurricane Sandy. Dr. Title stated the big caveat is the reimbursement of Osborn Hill expenses. There are some savings with additional retirements. Also, the lockers at Roger Ludlowe Middle School will not be replaced. Mrs. Brand asked if this is bonded, when will the money be provided. Dr. Title answered that the Town knows this money is needed this fiscal year, and he is unsure how the Town will make this happen but the Town has assured us that this is possible, if it passes through all Town bodies.

Mrs. Kennelly asked about the reimbursement of non-educational costs for Hurricane Sandy. Ms. Munsell stated that this is a line item in the budget under maintenance services. Dr. Title stated that the Town has been billed for food and reimbursement conversations are still taking place; Congress has yet to pass the relief bill.

Mr. Fattibene stated that there are some extraordinary expenses including Osborn Hill and the hurricane, and asked whether all extraordinary expenses are included in that line item. Ms. Munsell stated an account was created for all extraordinary expenses. Mr. Fattibene asked if there is a plan in place in the event that special appropriation is not received by the Town. Dr. Title responded that no "Plan B" is in place, but he is optimistic. Mr. Fattibene questioned the 'other services' line under Pupil and Personnel Services, and asked what is driving that number. Ms. Munsell replied that excess costs reimbursement have not yet been applied. Dr. Title stated that the excess cost grant for special education explains exactly where that money goes. Mr. Dwyer stated that the excess cost is related to special education.

Mr. Kery stated that he is concerned about not getting reimbursed by the Town and he is also concerned about the fiscal cliff. Dr. Title answered that the risk for the fiscal cliff is for the 13-14 budget and beyond. Mr. Kery would like to look at the overall risks for the insurance fund, building remediation, security upgrades, and sequestration; we should be collaborating with other Town bodies to be conscious of these risks.

Mrs. Brand asked for a quarterly report on the health insurance account. Ms. Munsell stated that this year's budget has been updated through November, and she has not received an update since then. Dr. Title stated that a slight improvement in the numbers was seen and that if new numbers are received, they will be passed on.

10. Old Business

A. Discussion and Approval of Board of Education By-Laws

Mr. Dwyer stated that enclosure 4 will show the proposed amendments to be discussed. He stated that his previously suggested amendment regarding public comment will be discussed by the ad-hoc Communication Committee, and so is not on the list. The initial motion to approve the by-laws as amended will be made after the amendments are discussed. Mr. Dwyer asked Mrs. Kennelly to explain her proposed amendment to the Board. Mr. Dwyer read the motion: "that the Board of Education add a liaison position to Article 2, Section 3, Paragraph A, number 4, by adding letter d. The Fairfield Education Association (FEA)"

Mrs. Kennelly stated that it is important to have a representative to keep the lines of communication open on an official level. Mrs. Brand stated that this position was in place before and proved advantageous. Mr. Fattibene stated the concept was a good one, but questioned whether FEA meetings were considered public. Ms. Iacono stated the reason the position was eliminated is that the Chairman is the FEA liaison, there are no liaisons for other bargaining units. Mr. Dwyer stated that he would appoint himself as the FEA representative. Mrs. Kennelly stated that this official representative will help with the tremendous uncertainty of the new teacher evaluation. Mr. Kery stated that he appreciates the intent but has concerns regarding

legal issues – mainly that the Board is judge and jury for grievances. It may not be wise as anything communicated to the Board may be considered legal and this raises a “behind the scenes” concern, where volunteers will go around the Board to get things done. Mrs. Brand stated that having the Chairman as an official liaison will ensure that all FEA members understand that. She also stated she was at one time the FEA liaison and felt it worked to the district’s advantage. Ms. Iacono asked if Mrs. Kennelly would amend her motion to read that the chairman is the liaison to the bargaining unit. Mrs. Kennelly stated that she would be open to a friendly amendment. Mr. Dwyer asked if someone would work on that amendment language. Mr. Convertito stated that he has a difficult time with bargaining units coming to the Chairman. Proper channels have been set, a bargaining unit should not have the Chair’s ear to report on something when it is not recorded in public session. Mr. Liu asked Mrs. Brand how the position worked when she was the liaison. Mrs. Brand stated that she attended one FEA meeting and was called twice for her input. Mr. Dwyer asked to proceed to a vote, and asked if an amendment to the motion was made.

Mrs. Kennelly moved, seconded by Mrs. Brand the recommended motion “that the Board of Education add a liaison position to Article 2, Section 3, Paragraph A, number 4, by adding letter d. The Fairfield Education Association (FEA)”

Motion Failed: 4:5:0 Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Dwyer, Mrs. Brand in favor; Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Kery against

Mr. Dwyer read the second motion, moved by Mrs. Brand and seconded by Mr. Liu: “that the Board of Education change the notice period for meetings, agendas and materials by amending Article 5, Section 3, paragraph A as follows (**bold** represents added wording and ~~strikeout~~ represents deleted wording): Notice of each meeting of the Board and agenda **and materials** prepared by the Superintendent, listing all proposed action at such meeting, shall be delivered to each member of the Board at least ~~five (5)~~ **seven (7)** days prior to such meeting. Subject to each Board member’s consent, the Superintendent may deliver notice and the agenda electronically.”

Mr. Fattibene made a friendly amendment to the change the number of days from 7 to 6, which was accepted by both Mrs. Brand and Mr. Liu. Board discussion followed

Motion failed: 3:6:0 Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mrs. Iacono, Mr. Kery against

Mr. Dwyer stated that as a result of neither motion passing, the current Board of Education By-Laws stand and no further action is required. Mr. Dwyer suggested discussing the by-laws in more depth at the August meeting.

B. First Reading of Policy # 6417 - Instruction - Student Internet Use

Mrs. Kennelly stated that this policy has had some major changes to it, and so it is considered a First Reading, rather than a Second Reading. Mrs. Kennelly stated that the Policy Committee worked with counsel to draft new language including separating the terms ‘district technology resources’ from ‘personal electronic devices’ and noted that these terms not used interchangeably. Mr. Liu stated that he disagrees with the second page, fourth paragraph, “the school may search...” and believes this is over-reaching. Mr. Liu said that he believes the school can confiscate, but not search the device. Mrs. Kennelly responded that backpacks may be searched with reasonable cause and that this policy will give explicit guidance to teachers and administrators. Mr. Dwyer reminded the Board that this is a First Read and more debate should take place at the next regular Board meeting on January 29. Mr. Liu stated that this policy is about a person’s rights. Mr. Kery offered that he has personal experience with a security company and that personal devices could offer cost savings and capabilities, but that has to be managed with safety. Mr. Kery stated that he appreciates Mr. Liu’s concern, but the network must be protected. Mrs. Brand stated she shares Mr. Liu’s concerns. Mr. Liu stated he understands Mr. Kery’s viewpoint but that people still deserve rights. Mr. offered that a device could be confiscated and the parent called to pick it up. Mr. Dwyer stated that this policy has already been remanded back to the Policy Committee. Mr. Fattibene stated the language is constitutionally permissible; the debate is should this Board raise the bar and have limits to respect privacy more than the law permits.

C. First Reading of Policy #5335 – Students – Student Internet Use

Mrs. Kennelly stated that this policy will be redundant when Policy 6417 is approved. It can be deleted once a new policy is in place.

D. First Reading of Policy #4235 – Personnel – Electronic Monitoring

Mrs. Kennelly stated that this policy is already in place unofficially. Mrs. Parks stated that CAFE’s recommendations were taken into consideration with this policy. CAFE does not write language on policy unless there is a court case related to it. This policy was shown to CAFE and they said this is correct.

11. New Business

A. Approval of Advisory Committee on Missions and Goals

Mrs. Kennelly moved, seconded by Mrs. Brand, the recommended motion “that the Board of Education approve the Advisory Committee on Missions and Goals”

Mr. Dwyer noted that this is an enclosure that is not numbered. Mrs. Kennelly stated that there is no need to read the entire enclosure, but this was the top scoring goal for the Board.

Public Comment: None

Motion carried: 9:0:0

B. Discussion of Revised Educational Specifications – Osborn Hill School

Dr. Title stated that these ed specs were revised to reflect the PCB history, and to cover the bases where state reimbursement may occur.

Mrs. Brand moved, seconded by Ms. Iacono to “add a business item to the agenda to approve the revised Educational Specifications for Osborn Hill that is labeled Enclosure 8, dated January 15, 2013”

Motion Carried: 9:0:0

1. Ms. Iacono moved, seconded by Mr. Kery the recommended motion “that the Board of Education approve the revised Educational Specifications for Osborn Hill, labeled Enclosure 8, dated January 15, 2013”

Mr. Fattibene asked about remediation, or whether demolition is necessary. Dr. Title stated that this gives the architect flexibility to do both remediation and demolition. Mr. Kery asked if the hallway to enclose the pod is still there. Dr. Title said this will be researched by the building committee. Mr. Kery’s concern is that connecting the hallway may require code updates, and increase the cost. Dr. Title stated that if the walkway is too much, it will have to wait, but there are no plans at this time to do the code updates.

Public Comment: None

Motion Carried: 9:0:0

C. Discussion of Educational Specifications – Fairfield Ludlowe High School

Dr. Title state that this is a follow-up to the Long Range Facilities Plan that has one old project in it: the Fairfield Ludlowe High School windows. In addition, the Board had authorized the Chair to send a letter to the First Selectman requesting a building committee to expand the cafeteria and add classroom space because of the crowding issue. There are 2 other parts in the Long-Range Facilities Plan that are included, but will cost money. The critical pieces are the windows and the classrooms, the optional pieces are the roof, which is past its warranty by a number of years, and the bathroom renovations. An architect is working on costing these options out, but this is not quite ready for review. To avoid the “Riverfield problem” it states what is not addressed, as well as being clear and concise on what will be addressed. The Board may add to this if it chooses.

Ms. Iacono thanked Dr. Title for modernizing the ed specs. Dr. Title confirmed that Mr. Silver will be working from this document.

Mr. Convertito wanted clarification on bumping out café with classrooms on top, and wanted to add an addendum to be specific regarding the classrooms to be added. Dr. Title stated that these ed specs will be given to a building committee and possibly to another architect, who may have different ideas about location.

Mrs. Gerber asked about air quality issues, and requested a ballpark figure on getting this addressed. Dr. Title stated that he does not know if this is possible.

Mr. Kery asked for an idea, with new costs at OHS, and Riverfield, how much is left in the capital planning budget. Dr. Title stated that the waterfall is constantly being updated.

Mrs. Gerber stated that a year ago there were discussions about joining the Osborn Hill and Fairfield Ludlowe HS window projects together to save money. Dr. Title answered that the Board of Finance brought up same question, and Mr. Bill Silver said this would not be a cost savings as the windows are custom made.

Mr. Convertito noted that on page 3, what is not included are new security measures. Dr. Title stated that we need to wait for the Police Department report in March or April. Mr. Convertito asked if the Ludlowe security survey could be received sooner. Dr. Title answered that he will check, but that any new security measures would enlarge the scope of the project.

Mrs. Kennelly stated that if Fairfield Ludlowe gets air conditioning, then Fairfield Warde should follow. Is there any concern regarding zoning issues for the expansion? Dr. Title stated that is being looked at. Mrs. Kennelly asked if there was concern regarding obtaining Town support, and if alternatives such as redistricting due to the overcrowding, reviewing lunch schedules, table size, etc. were reviewed.

Ms. Iacono stated that Fairfield Warde does not have any extra room either, but it is a valid point to ensure that every option possible has been addressed.

Mr. Kery stated that he has attended multiple facilities meetings with Mr. Cullen, and recalled that any additional students in the cafeteria would be a security and safety concern. Mr. Cullen did early on get an architect to address the table issue, and the configuration could fit more students, but still was not enough.

Mrs. Brand noted that on page 4 it states that encapsulation will not be accepted. This should be re-worded as sometimes it is the best option. Mrs. Brand stated the other concern is the peak of when the most students will be in the building, and is wondering if this expansion will be done in time for the peak.

Mrs. Kennelly asked Dr. Title asked if guidance on bundling will be given. Dr. Title stated that the costs should be looked at, once received.

Mr. Fattibene moved, seconded by Mrs. Gerber the recommended motion “to extend the meeting to 11:15 p.m. “

Motion Carried: 9:0:0

12. Public Comments and Petitions

Ms. Cathy Coyle, FLHS PTA President, Sherwood Farm Road stated that Fairfield Ludlowe High School has science labs, even AP science labs, on a cart. Some teachers have to clear out of a classroom to make room for other teachers, so that their own students may not get help. Science teachers are choosing labs depending on mobility. Instructional time is being lost.

Ms. Laura Kottler, FLHS PTA President-Elect, stated that enrollment numbers continue to grow and FLHS is well over capacity. The ed specs do not address the HVAC system, (some classrooms don't have heat), parking issues, and core facilities such as the gym and hallways. There should also be safety provisions.

Ms. Kelly Crisp, Papermill Lane, thanked Dr. Title and the administrators for meeting with parents and reviewing the materials. She respectfully asked for the new schedule to be posted on web to provide meaningful comments. Ms. Crisp asked that parents be included that have some level of expertise.

Ms. Trish Donovan, Taintor Drive, thanked Dr. Title and the Board for listening to parents and stated that transparency and engagement goes a long way.

Ms. Lauren O'Brien stated that her twins are different and are telling her that math time is not productive. They are frustrated that teachers will not answer questions and this takes away from instructional time. Students shouldn't teach students.

Ms. Dawn Llewellyn, Sturges Road, thanked Dr. Title and the Board members. She stated that she supports teachers and respects them. She stated that Mansfield is in the first year of implementation and has multiple levels and groups. Mansfield has 90 minutes for math and Fairfield has 45.

Mr. John Llewellyn, Sturges Road, thanked the Board and Dr. Title. Mr. Llewellyn noticed money slated for math books and said there are many other books coming out; given the budget we should hold off on that purchase and review other books. Mr. Llewellyn encouraged the Board to hold off on that investment.

Suzanne Miska, Rygate Road, stated that her son went through Riverfield school, and she is now nervous listening to the PTA presidents at Fairfield Ludlowe High School. There is no way that an addition will be built in time for her son. She stated that redistricting might be a more creative solution.

13. Open Board Comment: None

14. Adjournment

Ms. Iacono moved, seconded by Mrs. Kennelly, the recommended motion "that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education adjourn at 11:12 p.m."

Motion Carried: 9:0:0

Jessica Gerber
Secretary
Fairfield Board of Education