

**Regular Meeting Notes
Fairfield BoE; January 30, 2014**

Voting Summary

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 7:35PM. Present were members Eileen Liu-McCormack (arrived 7:45), John Convertito, Donna Karnal, Jessica Gerber, Philip Dwyer, Paul Fattibene, Jennifer Maxon-Kennelly, John Llewellyn and Marc Patten. Others present were Dr. Title, members of the Central Office Leadership Team, student representatives Danielle Clarke, Ethan King and Bill Moeder and approximately 100 members of the public.

Chairman Dwyer asked the Board for unanimous consent to move agenda items 3 and 7 to follow after agenda item 8. The Board agreed.

New Business

Approval of Plan and Specifications for Riverfield Project 051-0125EA.

Mrs. Gerber moved/Mr. Patten seconded the recommended motion “that the Board of Education approve the plans and specifications for the Riverfield Project Number 051-0125EA. ” Motion passed 7-0-2 (Mr. Convertito, Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten in favor; Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Llewellyn abstained).

Adoption of a Recommended Budget for the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved/Mr. Convertito seconded the recommended motion “that the Board of Education approve an operating budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year in the amount of \$----- as presented, to be forwarded to the Town of Fairfield.

Amendments

Mr. Patten moved/Mr. Convertito seconded “to eliminate World Language in grades 4 & 5 and to increase the instruction from 2 x 25 minutes to 4 x 25 minutes in grade 6. The net savings to the proposed budget for this change is \$75,029 (\$66,109 salary, \$8920 benefits)”. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded to postpone this amendment to a date certain. Motion passed 6-3 (Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn and Mr. Patten in favor; Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Convertito, Mr. Fattibene against).

Mrs. Liu-McCormack moved/Mr. Llewellyn seconded “to increase the proposed budget by adding \$353,553 for the purpose of restoring the World Language program in grades 4, 5, 6 to the instructional levels in 2010-11”. Mr. Patten moved/Ms. Karnal seconded to postpone this amendment to a May discussion; motion failed 4-4-1 (Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Patten in favor; Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn against; Mr. Convertito abstained). The original amendment failed 3-6 (Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mr. Llewellyn in favor; Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten against).

Mrs. Liu-McCormack moved/Mr. Llewellyn seconded “to increase the proposed budget by adding \$34,000 for the purpose of reinstating the second 5th grade general music class by adding a .5 teaching position”. Mr. Fattibene moved/Mr. Convertito seconded to amend this amendment to read, “I move to increase the

proposed budget by adding \$34,000 for the purpose of enhancing 5th grade general music.” This amendment failed 2-7 (Mr. Fattibene, Ms. Karnal in favor; Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. Patten against). The original amendment passed 6-2-1 (Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Convertito, Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Llewellyn in favor; Mr. Dwyer, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly against; Mr. Patten abstained).

Mr. Fattibene moved/Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded “to eliminate the sports facility rental fees collected from participants resulting in a loss of \$56,000 in revenue in the operating budget”. Motion passed 9-0.

Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded “to reduce the high school parking fees to their 2012-2013 levels at a net loss of \$20,000 of income to the operating budget”. Motion failed 4-5 (Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Convertito, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Llewellyn in favor; Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten against).

Mr. Patten moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded “to increase the budgeted cost for custodial services by approximately \$20,000 to permit PTAs to be exempt from reimbursement of overtime fees effective July 1, 2014”. Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded to amend this amendment to read, “to increase the budgeted cost for custodial services by \$10,000 to permit PTAs to be 50% exempt from reimbursement of overtime fees effective July 1, 2014.” Motion failed 2-6 (Mr. Convertito, Mr. Dwyer in favor; Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. Patten against; Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly was not in the room for this vote). The original amendment passed 7-2 (Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. Patten in favor; Mr. Convertito, Mr. Dwyer against).

Mr. Fattibene moved/Mr. Dwyer seconded “to increase account or object code 319 – Conference & Travel, sub-account 69 Board of Education Services, line item 54490 Workshops & Conferences in the proposed budget from \$0 to \$2400 for the purpose of paying the cost for Board of Education members to attend the annual CABE/CAPSS conference, with the priority of payment being given to the Board of Education members last elected and with any remaining balance being apportioned among the remaining attending Board of Education members, if requested”. Motion passed 8-1 (Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. Patten; Mr. Convertito against).

Mr. Fattibene moved/Mr. Patten seconded to suspend the rules and extend the meeting to 1:00AM.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack moved/Mr. Llewellyn seconded “to increase the proposed budget by adding \$9500 for the purpose of increasing testing for gifted and talented students in middle school”. After discussion and public comment Mrs. Liu-McCormack withdrew her motion.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack moved/Mr. Llewellyn seconded “to increase the proposed budget by adding \$10,000 to enhance the MS Gifted & Talented Program”. Motion failed 3-5-1 (Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Llewellyn in favor; Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten against; Ms. Karnal abstained).

Original motion, as amended:

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved/Mr. Convertito seconded the recommended motion “that the Board of Education approve an operating budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year in the amount of \$157,022,051 as presented, to be forwarded to the Town of Fairfield”. Motion passed 7-1-1 (Mr. Convertito, Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten in favor; Mr. Llewellyn against, Mrs. Liu-

DRAFT

McCormack abstained).

Adjournment

Mr. Convertito moved/Ms. Karnal seconded the recommended motion “that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education adjourn”. Motion passed 9-0. Meeting adjourned 12:05AM.