

**Special Meeting Notes
Fairfield BoE; March 4, 2014**

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

Chairman Philip Dwyer called the Regular meeting to order at 6:07PM. Present were members Eileen Liu-McCormack, John Convertito, Jessica Gerber, Philip Dwyer, Paul Fattibene, Jennifer Maxon-Kennelly, John Llewellyn and Marc Patten. Donna Karnal was absent. Others present were Dr. Title, members of the central office leadership team, and approximately 10 members of the public.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes of January 14, 2014.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion "that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 14, 2014." Motion passed 8-0.

Approval of Minutes of January 14, 2014.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion "that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 14, 2014." Mr. Llewellyn and Mrs. Liu-McCormack questioned whether the Board recorded a unanimous vote or simply adjourned the meeting. After further discussion Mr. Fattibene moved/Mr. Llewellyn seconded to postpone approval of these minutes. Motion passed 8-0.

Approval of Minutes of January 23, 2014.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion "that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 23, 2014." Motion passed 8-0.

Approval of Minutes of January 28, 2014.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion "that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 28, 2014." Motion passed 7-1 (Mr. Llewellyn against).

Approval of Minutes of January 30, 2014.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion "that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 30, 2014." Mr. Llewellyn said he would not support these minutes as he wished to have the record reflect the questions and not reflect a bias. Motion passed 7-1 (Mr. Llewellyn against).

Update on 2013-2014 Operating Budget

Dr. Title stated that the projected deficit to the budget, initially at approximately \$1,400,00, which was reduced down to \$700,000 after initial adjustments, and is now down to approximately \$470,000, thanks in part to a higher SPED reimbursement of approximately \$125,00 and the fact that electric transmission rates are down, saving approximately \$108,000. Mr. Fattibene asked about the hiring freeze and the increase in legal fees. Mr. Llewellyn asked about the line items regarding schools, instruction and legal fees. Mr.

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Convertito asked about reductions in maintenance and technology. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly asked about the reductions in the teacher, para and sub accounts, and about the curriculum development. Dr. Title said that the latter would be postponed until after July 1. He then clarified that almost all of these reductions were simply deferring costs to next year's budget. Mr. Llewellyn asked Mrs. Munsell for a clarification of and numbers on the wage and benefit numbers, Mr. Dwyer said they would be provided. Mrs. Liu-McCormack asked about the reduction in subs and whether or not this would impact classroom instruction; Dr. Title said no.

Board Discussion regarding the grievance filed by Fairfield Custodians-Maintenance Local 1779 of Council #4, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO

Mr. Patten moved/Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded the recommended motion "that the Board of Education hereby moves to enter into Executive Session to discuss the employment, performance and/or termination of an employee of the Fairfield Public Schools in accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes 1-200(6). The Board of Education further invites into Executive Session the following individuals:

Attorney Stephen Sedor

Lisa Bennett

Ann Leffert

Robert Larocque

Jeff Pressler

Tom Cullen

The Employee who is the subject of this proceeding; and

The Representative of the Employee who is the subject of this proceeding"

Motion passed 8-0.

Convene to Public Session

Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion "that the Board of Education convene to Public Session and act on the grievance filed by Fairfield Custodians-Maintenance Local 1779 of Council #4, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO"

Motion passed 8-0

Motion to Deny the Grievance

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved/Mr. Patten seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education hereby move that the employee who is the subject of this proceeding committed the acts alleged by the school administration and submitted false information on his time-cards. As a consequence, the grievance is denied and the decision of the school administration to terminate the employee is sustained and upheld."

Motion passed 8-0.

Scheduling of By-Laws Special Meeting

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Mr. Dwyer asked all Board members to please get back to him with dates that they are available.

Discussion on Board Goals Process

Mr. Dwyer said he would move this topic to the 3/11/14 meeting. Mrs. Liu-McCormack asked for clarification regarding what type of goals the Board was looking to set.

Discussion on Board Self-Evaluation Topics

Mr. Dwyer asked Board members to get back to him with possible topics for this meeting, which will take place in Executive Session. In answer to Mr. Patten's question, Mr. Dwyer stated that the topics discussed at this meeting were different from the topics covered under Board Goals, and that the latter would take place during a public meeting, not executive session.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly took a moment of personal privilege and stated that she is planning on bringing up the topic of the 2014-15 school calendar at the March 11 meeting. Mr. Dwyer said he would place the item on the agenda.

Adjournment

Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion, "that this Special Meeting of the Board of Education adjourn." Motion passed 7-0 (Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly had left the meeting at 8:06PM).

Meeting adjourned at 8:07PM.