

VOLUNTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

195 Main Street Voluntown CT 06384

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS: Adam S. Burrows

Board Chair – Diana Ingraham

Barbara Gileau
James Hutchins, Vice-Chairperson
Vikki Smith

Cathy Grant, Secretary
Robert Iovino
April Woodcock

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BOARD MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Board of Education Meeting Room - 7:00 p.m.

- CALL TO ORDER** The Board Chair Diana Ingraham called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE** **Present:** Barbara Gileau, Cathy Grant [Secretary], James Hutchins [Vice Chair], Diana Ingraham [Board Chair], Robert Iovino, Vikki Smith, and April Woodcock
- Also Present:** Superintendent Adam Burrows, Dr. Elaine Lee, Director of Special Education, and Alycia Trakas, Principal
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Recited
- CONSENT AGENDA** **MOTION #1 2/27/14:** made by Cathy Grant **SECONDED BY** Vikki Smith that the Board of Education remove correspondence regarding a leave of absence from the consent agenda and place it under New Business *
- VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES**
- MOTION #2 2/27/14:** made by Vikki Smith **SECONDED BY** Cathy Grant that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda
- VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES**
- CITIZEN COMMENTS** The Board welcomed those in attendance.
- GUESTS** The Board recognized Hailie Davis as the SRBI Teacher and welcomed Katelyn Stockford, Special Education Teacher, to Voluntown Elementary School.
- PRINCIPAL REPORT** Alycia Trakas presented information about Teacher Evaluation, Common Core State Standards (CCSS), the CMT Science Test and the "SBAC" or Smarter Based Assessment Consortium.
- SPECIAL EDUCATION REPORT** Dr. Elaine Lee presented information about 504 populations, goal setting, and the School Climate Plan.
- SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** Superintendent Burrows reviewed his Calendar of Events for January and February 2014, and the Enrollment Report as of February 7, 2014 (there are 312 students (Pre-K through 8th Grade) plus 123 High School Students) and the Voluntown 10-Year Budget History.
- COMMITTEE REPORTS** **Youth Services Bureau/Local Prevention Council:** The Board reviewed the Voluntown Juvenile Review Board Policies & Procedures. **Transportation:** The Board reviewed the Vehicle Mileage Report: January 2, through January 31, 2014. Quotes are continuing to be reviewed for replacement of the oldest van. **School Readiness:** Superintendent Burrows spoke about the possibility of receiving a School Readiness grant in 2014-2015 with an estimated amount of \$107,000. **Professional Development and Teacher Evaluation Plan:** The Board reviewed components of the mandated change due to the State Department of Education. Further review will take place at the Regular Meeting of Board of Education scheduled for Thursday, March 13, 2014. **High School:** Superintendent Burrows spoke about publishing a Student-Parent Handbook for 6, 7, and 8th graders that would include information about sending schools for high school students.
- BUILDING COMMITTEE** Barbara Gileau and Superintendent Burrows updated the Board about the roof project.
- 2014-2015 BUDGET PREPARATION** Mr. Burrows presented the updated and adjusted budget proposal for 2014/15 for \$6,552,670 that represents an increase of \$183,714 or 2.88% over the 2013/14 approved budget of \$6,386,956. The goal is to again make every effort to develop a budget proposal with a sincere understanding of the cost impact to local property taxes. The Board will review an updated budget for approval at the March 13, 2014 meeting to be sent to the Town Clerk on March 21, 2014 for public dissemination.

- SCHOOL CALENDAR 2014-2015** The Board performed a third reading. A fourth reading will take place at the March 13, 2014 Board of Education meeting in order to consider adjustments due to the trend of school closings in 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 due to inclement weather.
- STRATEGIC PLAN 2014-2018** Board members continue to review the plan. Possible approval of the plan will be placed on the March 13, 2014 Board of Education agenda.
- RETIREMENT JOAN HARRIS** **MOTION #3 2/27/14:** made by Cathy Grant **SECONDED BY** Jim Hutchins that the Board of Education accept the retirement of Joan Harris on June 30, 2014
VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES
- SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER** **MOTION #4 2/27/14:** made by Cathy Grant **SECONDED BY** Barbara Gileau that the Board of Education approve Katelyn Stockford as a Special Education Teacher
VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES
- ADMINISTRATOR .2 POSITION** **MOTION #5 2/27/14:** made by Barbara Gileau **SECONDED BY** Cathy Grant that the Board of Education validate the appointment of Jim Ward as a .2 Administrator
VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES
- HEALTHY FOOD CERTIFICATION** **MOTION #6 2/27/14:** made by Robert Iovino **SECONDED BY** Cathy Grant that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education Chairperson to sign the Healthy Food Certification for 2014-2015
VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES
- FIELD TRIP REQUEST 1ST GRADE** **MOTION #7 2/27/14:** made by Cathy Grant **SECONDED BY** Robert Iovino that the Board of Education approve a first grade field trip to Roger Williams Zoo in Providence, RI, on Tuesday, April 29, 2014
VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES
- 2015 ADULT EDUCATION GRANT APPLICATION** **MOTION #8 2/27/14:** made by Cathy Grant **SECONDED BY** Robert Iovino that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent of Schools to sign a 2015 Adult Education Grant Application
VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES
- * LEAVE OF ABSENCE** **MOTION #9 2/27/14:** made by Cathy Grant **SECONDED BY** Jim Hutchins that the Board of Education approve a Pregnancy Leave and a Childbearing Leave of Absence for Hillary Sirois on or about June 2, 2014 to January 5, 2015
VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES
- SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING** 2014-2015 Budget, Strategic Plan, Non-Renewal of Non-Tenured Teacher, Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC)
- EXECUTIVE SESSION** **MOTION #10 2/27/14:** made by Cathy Grant **SECONDED BY** Barbara Gileau that the Board of Education enter into Executive Session at 8:34 p.m. for the purpose of discussing Superintendent Evaluation, School Security and Negotiations
VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES
- MOTION #11 2/27/14:** made by Robert Iovino **SECONDED BY** April Woodcock that the Board of Education move out of Executive Session at 9:08 p.m.
VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES
- ADJOURNMENT:** **MOTION #12 2/27/14:** made by Barbara Gileau **SECONDED BY** Robert Iovino that the Board of Education Adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m.
VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS; MOTION CARRIES

APPROVED BY THE BOARD AT THEIR MARCH 13, 2014 MEETING

Respectfully Submitted
Sherry Pollard, Board Clerk