

Pending Consent Agenda Approval

October 25, 2007
Special Meeting
Waterford Board of Education
15 Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT

PRESENT: Mr. Blevins, Mrs. Cairns, Mr. Egan, Mrs. McCarty, Mrs. Nazarchyk, and Mr. Taglianetti

ABSENT: Mr. Brunelle and Mrs. Ogden

STAFF: Dr. Collins, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Seroussi, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Mr. DeRay, Business Manager, Mrs. Lowther, Director of Human Resources, Mr. Powers, Director of Curriculum and Special Projects, Mrs. Cumming, Administrative Asst., Dr. Dexter, Cohanzie Elementary School Principal, Mrs. Fedor, Great Neck and Southwest Elementary Principal, Mrs. Macione, Oswegatchie Elementary School Principal, Mr. Lovetere, Clark Lane Middle School Principal, and Mr. Macrino, Waterford High School Principal

LIAISON/TOWN AGENCIES: Mrs. Shoemaker, WFCT President, Mrs. Macione, WASA President, and Mrs. McLaughlin, Board of Education Candidate

Mrs. McCarty established a quorum, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., and led the pledge of allegiance. Dr. Collins introduced guests and visitors.

Mrs. McCarty called for questions or comments on the consent agenda.

Motion: That the Waterford Board of Education approves the consent agenda consisting of: Minutes of September 24, 2007 Special Meeting, Fiscal 2006-07 Year End Budget Transfers, and Financial Report for September 2007.
Nazarchyk, Egan—Unanimous

Mr. Blevins reported on the CABA Delegate Assembly scheduled for November 15, 2007. Mrs. McCarty received information from CABA including Policy Highlights to be included in the next district update, and Success Strategies for Leadership which Board Members should have received directly from CABA. The district photography calendar has earned an Honorable Mention to be awarded at the CABA Convention on November 16-17. Mrs. Nazarchyk reported that Youth Services Bureau is holding a canned food drive and will be collecting holiday gifts for families in need. Mrs. McCarty reported that the Waterford Education Foundation will host an adult spelling bee on March 12, 2008. Also, WEF has approved a grant request for “Art Brings Us Together,” a collaborative art project for students at Great Neck and Southwest Schools. Lastly, Mrs. McCarty reported that the Policy Committee met on October 22 and reviewed Policy #6142.101, Student Wellness. The committee is not recommending any changes to the policy.

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The Superintendent announced that The Friendship School was accepted as complete by the School Building Committee. The project must now be accepted by the Board of Education.

Motion: That the Waterford Board of Education accepts as complete, Project #152-0079 MAG/PS, Magnet New London/Waterford Early Childhood Center.
Blevins, Taglianetti—Unanimous

Dr. Collins reviewed the proposed calendar changes for the current school year and subsequent years through 2009-2010. The changes include moving staff orientation and professional development days and changing the last three days of school to early dismissal days. The rationale of moving the professional development days was to improve continuity of instruction by consolidating days off. Early dismissal days would remain full work days for teachers to focus on completing students' final grades, meet with receiving teachers, move time, etc. Discussion followed on possible increase in absenteeism due to early dismissal on the last three days of the year. Errors in number of instructional days for January in 2009 and 2010 were noted as well as cumulative day totals which were off as a result. A suggestion was made to approve the proposal as a pilot program for three years, review the data, and make any necessary changes as a result.

Motion: That the Waterford Board of Education approves the revised school year calendars for 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-2010 as a pilot program with the understanding that the early dismissal days at the end of the school year will be re-evaluated for the 2010-2011 school year and beyond.
Taglianetti, Egan—5-1 Opposed: Cairns

Dr. Collins reported that a subcommittee of the Board met recently for the purpose of interviewing law firms. The committee is recommending the law firm of Shipman & Goodwin to the Board of Education. Brief discussion followed.

Motion: That the Waterford Board of Education approves and accepts the recommendation of Shipman & Goodwin as the law firm for the Waterford Board of Education.
Cairns, Taglianetti, 5-0-1 Abstention: Nazarchyk

Dr. Collins explained that the proposed pupil-personnel matter will not be heard by the Board of Education this evening but will be scheduled for a hearing by a subcommittee of the Board of Education at a future date.

Motion: That the Waterford Board of Education moves to Executive Session at 8:12 p.m. and invites Dr. Collins, Dr. Seroussi and Mrs. Lowther to attend for the purpose of contract negotiations.
Taglianetti, Nazarchyk—Unanimous

The open session of the Waterford Board of Education resumed at 8:40 p.m.

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Motion: That the Waterford Board of Education approves the Agreement Between the Waterford Federation of Classroom Teachers and the Waterford Board of Education, 2008-2012.
Cairns, Nazarchyk—Unanimous

Motion: That the Waterford Board of Education adjourns its special meeting at 8:42 p.m.
Nazarchyk, Cairns—Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Jody Nazarchyk
Secretary

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