



BOARD OF EDUCATION
COLUMBIA, CONNECTICUT

Kerry Hoffman, Chairperson
Karin Vertefeuille, Vice Chairperson
David Crim
Linette Dooley
Christopher Lent
Lisa Napolitano
Kathy Tolsdorf
Laurence Fearon, Superintendent

Approved 12/07/15

The Columbia School District is a community of learners providing rigorous programs to ensure that each student can excel as an individual.

November 2, 2015
Regular Meeting Minutes
7:30 p.m.
Horace W. Porter School Cafeteria

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kerry Hoffman-Chairman, Lisa Napolitano, David Crim, Linette Dooley, Christopher Lent, Kathy Tolsdorf, Karin Vertefeuille-Vice Chairperson

OTHERS PRESENT: Lol Fearon-Superintendent, Alyssa Gwinnell-Principal, Mike Kenyon-Assistant Principal, Mary-Kate Farley-Director of Special Services, James Chakulski, Dolores Marcous, Carla Croteau, Tammy Ekstrom, Sandra Rijs.

I. Call to Order

Kerry Hoffman called the November 2, 2015, Regular Meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Recognition and Thanks to Board of Education Chairperson Mrs. Kerry Hoffman

Lol Fearon thanked Kerry for her service and presented her with a plaque.

IV. Comments from the Audience (Bylaws of the Board #9300)

Time allotted for public participation is twenty (20) minutes; time allotted for an individual speaker is three (3) minutes.

Dolores Marcous, a fifth grade teacher at Porter, wanted to let the BOE know that fifth grade teachers are passionate about their jobs and want to continue being a part of the middle school model.

K. Hoffman thanked them for coming and speaking at the meeting.

V. Presentation

a) Technology Update – Mr. Fearon & Mrs. Gwinnell

Mr. Fearon introduced Mrs. Gwinnell. Mrs. Gwinnell presented the Technology Update with a slide presentation. There was some discussion and any questions were answered by Mrs. Gwinnell and Mr. Fearon.

VI. Action Items (Consent)

To be read by Board of Education Chairperson prior to taking action:

A consent agenda is presented by the Chairman at the beginning of a meeting. Items may be removed from the consent agenda on the request of any one member. Items not removed may be adopted by general consent without debate. Removed items may be taken up either immediately after the consent agenda or placed later on the agenda at the discretion of the assembly.

a) *Approval of October 5, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes*

b) *Approval of October 26, 2015 Special Meeting Minutes*

c) *Approval of Payment of Bills*

d) *Approval of 2014/15 Expenditure Report as of 10/30/2015 Including Line Item #3 Transfers*

K. Tolsdorf **MOVED**, C. Lent **SECONDED** to approve action items a-d with an adjustment to item a, removing the last sentence in paragraph X.
MOTION CARRIES 7:0.

VII. Action Items – Discuss and Act Upon

a) *Second Reading - Policy 1300.1 – Community Relations/Community Engagement*

K. Hoffman **MOVED**, K. Tolsdorf **SECONDED** to approve action item (a) as presented.
MOTION CARRIES 7:0.

b) *Approval of Columbia Board of Education 2016 Regular Meeting Dates*

L. Napolitano **MOVED**, C. Lent **SECONDED** to approve action item (b) with the adjustment of changing the June 6th date to June 7th, 2016.
MOTION CARRIES 7:0.

c) *Approval of 2016-2017 Budget Approval Timeline*

K. Vertefeuille **MOVED**, C. Lent **SECONDED** to approve item (c).

K. Tolsdorf **MOVED**, D. Crim **SECONDED** to approve item (c) with the amendment that all budget meetings have the same 6:30 p.m. start time.
MOTION CARRIES 7:0.

d) *Appointment of 2015/16 Co-Curricular Appointments*

C. Lent **MOVED**, L. Napolitano **SECONDED** to approve item (d) as presented.
MOTION CARRIES 7:0.

e) *First Reading of Policy 3171.1 – Non-Lapsing Education Fund*

There was discussion and it was decided that the language should match, copying paragraph 3 on the first page to item #3 on Memorandum of Agreement.

f) *First Reading Policy 3240 – Tuition Fees*

Mr. Fearon will be making sure there is language in #5118 stating that there is no transportation included and/or add sub-policy numbers that do reflect no transportation.

g) *First Reading Policy 5118.211 – Tuition for Children of Faculty and Staff*

K. Tolsdorf stated she believes education is too expensive to just give away for free. Discussion continued and Mr. Fearon will get clarification on “shall exceed five” in the second paragraph.

VIII. Correspondence/Communications

- a) *Legislators Honor Columbia Teachers – October 22, 2015 Courant Community Reminder News*
- b) *Famous Scarecrows – October 22, 2015 Willimantic Chronicle*

IX. Board of Education Subcommittees

- Future Meeting Dates:
 - December 7, 2015 – Budget Subcommittee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. H.W.P. LMC Conference Room
 - December 7, 2015 – Regular Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m. H.W.P. Cafeteria
 - December 16, 2015 – Tri-Board Meeting with BOS, BOE & FIPAC, 7:30 p.m. Town Hall
 - January 4, 2016 – Budget Subcommittee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. H.W.P. LMC Conference Room

Board of Education Subcommittees - continued

- Future Meeting Dates:
 - January 4, 2016 – Regular BOE Meeting with Public Budget Input, 7:30 p.m. H.W.P. Café
 - January 11, 2016 – Budget Subcommittee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. H.W.P. LMC Conference Room
 - January 19, 2016 – Budget Subcommittee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. H.W.P. LMC Conference Room

X. Superintendent's Report

a) Board of Education Retreat Proposed Dates and Agenda

The BOE chose Monday November 30th and Tuesday December 15th 5pm-8pm for BOE Retreat dates. Mr. Fearon asked the BOE if they have any additional topics to those in the Superintendent's Report to email him. The retreat will be posted.

b) Long-Range Plan – Update

Mr. Fearon presented as stated on the Superintendent's Report dated November 2, 2015.

c) VERIP Update –

Mr. Fearon informed the BOE that VERIP has been approved by both the BOE and CTA, and has gone out to all professional staff. The end date is January 1, 2016

XI. Future Regular and Subcommittee Agenda Items (Tentative)

None.

XII. Columbia Board of Education Member Remarks

L. Napolitano stated that she was glad that Kerry Hoffman was the chairman the last two years and that she will be missed.

K. Hoffman stated she will miss being on the BOE and that she has learned a lot during her tenure and thanked the BOE.

XIII. Adjournment

K. Vertefeuille **MOVED**, K. Tolsdorf **SECONDED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m.
MOTION CARRIES 7:0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karin Vertefeuille,
Columbia Board of Education Vice Chairperson