



Columbia Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes November 3, 2014

7:30 P.M.

Horace W. Porter School Cafeteria

Board Members Present: David Crim, Kerry Hoffman-Chairperson, Linette Dooley, Christopher Lent, Lisa Napolitano, Karin Vertefeuille-Vice Chairperson

Board Members Absent: Kathy Tolsdorf

Others Present: Lol Fearon-Superintendent, Mary-Kate Farley-Director of Student Services, Alyssa Gwinnell-Principal, Bev Ciurylo-Finance Director, Mr. Robert Miller, MPH, RS-Director of Health Eastern Highlands Health District

I. Call to Order

Kerry Hoffman called the November 3, 2014, regular meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

Mrs. Hoffman welcomed Mrs. Dooley and thanked her for volunteering to be a Board member.

Addition to agenda:

K. Hoffman **MOVED**, D. Crim **SECONDED** to add VI.f. Appointment of Amy Zaikarite, Girls Basketball Coach to the November 3, 2014 regular meeting agenda.

MOTION CARRIES 7:0.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. 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.

IV. Presentations

a) **Enterovirus and Ebola Preventative Steps – Mr. Robert L. Miller, MPH, RS – Director of Health Eastern Highlands Health District**

Mr. Miller provided a brief update on Enterovirus; explaining it is a common virus with some abnormally severe cases. In Connecticut there have been 23 lab-confirmed cases. It is typical for viruses to peak during the summer and fall. To protect communities and children it is important to consider responsible etiquette with the washing of hands at appropriate times, staying home if sick, in conjunction with common sense prevention. This seasonal respiratory illness has had a handful of deaths but the numbers are nowhere near the number of deaths from influenza each season. Every child over 6 months of age should get a flu shot. He asks that we keep Enterovirus in perspective and practice common sense.

The deadly infection, Ebola, has caused tremendous anxiety. There have been over 10,000 cases with 5,000 deaths. 100% of travelers coming from West Africa are being directed to 5 locations in the United States. There are approximately 150 travelers coming into the U.S. each day and 1 or 2 travelers into CT each week. Connecticut's governor has mandated all 32 CT hospitals to conduct Ebola drills. Local health departments in CT have 9 quarantine cases with an additional 6 cases that are being monitored. Risk assessments are conducted by the State Health Department with direction and implementation provided by local government. Proper training and protective measure guidelines for EMS responders are ever changing. There is a

very low probability that there would be an Ebola case in Columbia. The international travel tracking system is working well. Because of this there has been little guidance to school nurses. The Eastern Highlands Health District will continue to share information with town leaders and EMS responders.

b) Aligning With Connecticut Core Standards – Mr. Lol Fearon, Superintendent

In 2010 the CT State Board of Education adopted the Common Core Standards to align with the CT Language Arts framework. Standards-based curriculum, student assessment practices, NCLB and TEVAL are significant to the program development. The Administrators responded by creating a schedule which focuses on curriculum during team time, meeting with Curriculum Team Leaders to discuss after school curriculum meeting formats with continued expectations of monthly summaries, facilitated professional development in the areas of performance task creation using the GRASP method, creation of formative assessments, rigorous questioning and other areas as identified as needed, with monthly review of progress and adjustments made as necessary.

Mr. Fearon acknowledged the work being done to align curriculum and assessment by Mrs. Gwinnell and Porter's teachers. These changes in Language Arts and Math are designed to bring programs in line with CT Core Standards.

V. 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 6, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes

b) Approval of Town of Columbia–Columbia Board of Education Budget Approval Timeline 2015-2016

C. Lent **MOVED**, K. Vertefeuille **SECONDED** to approve consent action items a) Approval of October 6, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes and b) Approval of Town of Columbia–Columbia Board of Education Budget Approval Timeline 2015-2016 as presented.

MOTION CARRIES 7:0.

VI. Action Items – Discuss & Act Upon

a) Approval of Payment of Bills and Budget Update

K. Hoffman **MOVED**, K. Vertefeuille **SECONDED** to approve the payment of bills and budget update as presented.

MOTION CARRIES 7:0.

b) Approval of Columbia Board of Education 2015 Meeting Dates

K. Vertefeuille **MOVED**, L. Napolitano **SECONDED** to approve the Columbia Board of Education 2015 Meeting Dates as presented.

MOTION CARRIES 7:0.

c) Approval of Tobin Morey, Boys Basketball Coach

D. Crim **MOVED**, C. Lent **SECONDED** to appoint Mr. Tobin Morey as Boys Basketball Coach.

MOTION CARRIES 7:0.

- d) **First Reading Policy 5141.27 – Use of Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs)**
- e) **First Reading Policy 6141.3291 – One-to-One Tablet Program/iPad Acceptable Use**
- f) **Appointment of Mrs. Amy Zaikarite, Girls Basketball Coach**
L. Napolitano **MOVED**, C. Lent **SECONDED** to appoint Mrs. Amy Zaikarite as Girls Basketball Coach.

MOTION CARRIES 7:0.

VII. Correspondence/Communications

- a) Chairperson Kerry Hoffman to Lauren Perrotti-Verboven – Letter of Thanks 10/15/2014
- b) Two-Week Trip to Kenya Results in Lifelong Bonds – Album, the Chronicle, Saturday, 10/18/2014
- c) Bolton Superintendent Kristin Heckt to Mr. Fearon – 10/30/2014
- d) Mrs. Kathy Mattessich Dedication Ceremony – November 5, 2014 @ 1:30 p.m.
- e) Veterans' Day Ceremony – November 6, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m.

VIII. Board of Education Subcommittees

- Columbia Board of Education Member Listing
- Columbia Board of Education Committee membership
- Future Meeting Dates:
 - November 12, 2014 – Steering Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. LMC Back Classroom Area
 - November 17, 2014 – Special Meeting, 6:30 p.m. H.W.P. LMC Conference Room
 - November 24, 2014 – Negotiations Subcommittee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. LMC Conference Room
 - December 1, 2014 – Policy Subcommittee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. H.W.P. LMC Conference Room
 - December 1, 2014 – Regular Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m. H.W.P. Cafeteria

IX. Superintendent's Report

- a) **Steering Committee Update** – Mr. Fearon reported that the Steering Committee met on October 27th and will meet again on November 12th. NESDEC's Betty Osgood has led the committee in looking at program restructuring. The Committee has identified core values, reviewed consistency with Vision and Mission statements and will present the long range plan to the Board of Education on December 1. Representatives attended Eastconn's October 27th Understanding Student-Centered Learning. Additional workshops are scheduled for November 12th (Achieving the Common Core Standard & Beyond Through Deeper Student-Centered Learning) and on November 19th (District Conditions for Developing Competency-Based learning Systems within a Personalized Environment).

Mrs. Hoffman said Mr. Fearon has done a great job facilitating this committee.

- b) **Food Service Program** – Mrs. Conway has reduced food costs by making use of Eastconn's cooperative bidding and careful ordering, developing more food from scratch, having a second lunch choice each day and switching to PowerLunch.

Mrs. Vertefeuille congratulated Mrs. Conway for achieving some great goals so early on.

- c) **October 1, 2014 District Enrollment** – Mr. Fearon reviewed the Columbia – October 1, 2014 District Enrollment Report. Horace Porter, High Schools, Outplaced and Magnet School - Tuitioned and Non-Tuitioned students as well as budgeted enrollment numbers were explained.

X. Future Regular and Subcommittee Agenda Items (Tentative)

- Collection of Board of Education Self Evaluations – Special Meeting Date TBD
- Schedule Special Meeting with Executive Session for Board of Education Self Evaluation -11/17/14 @ 6:30 p.m.
- Schedule Negotiations Subcommittee Meeting - 11/24/14 24th @ 6:30 p.m. to discuss non-certified contract negotiations.

XI. Columbia Board of Education Member Remarks

Mrs. Vertefeuille reported that the district website committee will meet this Friday to finalize the design and schedule training for administrators and staff.

XII. Adjournment

K. Vertefeuille **MOVED**, L. Napolitano **SECONDED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 p.m.

MOTION CARRIES 7:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin Vertefeuille
Columbia Board of Education Vice Chairperson