



**Columbia Board of Education**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**January 3, 2011**  
**7:30 P.M.**  
**Horace W. Porter School Library Media Center**

Board Members Present: Paula Belekewicz, Lisa Jurovaty, William Mulcahy, Lauren Perrotti-Verboven, Nelson Petrone, John Schroder, James Thorn

Administration Present: Francine Coss-Superintendent

Staff Present: Marian Lowry, Jan Stice, Sandy Rijs

Citizens Present: Carol Coley

**I. Call to Order**

Lauren Perrotti-Verboven called the January 3, 2011 regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Proclamation**

**• Mr. Nelson Petrone, Columbia BOE Member – Appreciation for Service as Board Chairperson**

Mrs. Perrotti-Verboven noted Mr. Petrone's involvement and leadership in seven completed budget processes, four certified contract negotiations and the successful hiring of the current superintendent, Mrs. Francine Coss. The new Chairperson thanked Mr. Petrone for the personal time taken away from his family to do all this and recognized his work as being the foundation to the current Board's future successes. She presented a plaque in honor of his work as Board Chairperson. On behalf of Columbia's Certified Union, Co-President Janet Stice thanked Nelson for bridging a huge chasm between the Board of Education and certified faculty by taking the time to get to know Porter teachers. The union presented Mr. Petrone with a John Harvard's gift card. (Applause) Mr. Petrone thanked the Board and highlighted two major accomplishments: the last teacher negotiations and the recruitment and hiring of Mrs. Francine Coss.

**• Windham High School National Honor Society Inductees**

Mrs. Perrotti-Verboven recognized Windham High School National Honor Society inductees:

- Timothy Bright
- John Ciurylo
- Sarah Donahue
- Emily Kohn
- Kelley Leist
- Michael McMorrow
- Heather Ritchie

**• Windham High School's High Honor Roll and Honor Roll Students**

A letter signed by all seven Board members will be sent to each high honors and honor roll students congratulating them on their achievement.

**IV. Approval of December 13, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes - Take Action**

L. Perrotti-Verboven **MOVED** and N. Petrone **SECONDED** to approve the December 13, 2010 regular meeting minutes as presented.

**MOTION CARRIES: 7-0**

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

*Time allotted for public participation—30 minutes, time allotted for an individual speaker—3 minutes*

**VI. Correspondence/Communications/Information**

**A. Shipman & Goodwin to King, King & Associates, CPAs – 12/08/2010**

**B. Board Chairperson Lauren Perrotti-Verboven to Allen P. Smith – 12/15/2010**

**C. Mr. Allen Smith to the Columbia BOE – Request for Codes and Self Help Descriptions – 12/20/2010**

**D. Board Chairperson Lauren Perrotti-Verboven to Allen P. Smith – 12/31/2010**

**VII. Financial Review**

- A. Payment of Bills**
- B. Actual & Budgeted Expenses and Encumbrances**

**VIII. Reports/Discussion**

**A. Board of Education Chairperson**

1. 2011 Committee Membership
2. December 22, 2010 Lebanon Negotiations Update – The Superintendent and Board Chairperson met with the new Lebanon BOE Chairperson and Superintendent. Columbia will not be renewing the current contract as it stands. Lebanon will allow current students to continue through their graduation, as well as any grade 8 students entering Lyman for the 2011/2012 school year.

**B. Board of Education Subcommittees**

1. December 21, 2010 Region 19 Negotiations Meeting Update – Mr. Mulcahy, Mrs. Jurovaty, Mrs. Perrotti-Verboven and Superintendent Coss met with Region 19 officials. Region 19 is very interested in receiving Columbia high school students. Topics to be finalized are regular and special education costs and the number of students they will accept. A special meeting will take place on January 10, 2011 to finalize this topic.
2. January 10, 2011 – Budget/Mission Statement/Negotiations Subcommittee Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. Porter LMC
3. January 18, 2011 – Budget Subcommittee Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. Porter LMC
4. January 19, 2011 – Tri-Board Meeting 7:30 p.m. in the Adella G. Urban Offices Conference Room
5. January 24, 2011 – Negotiations Subcommittee Meeting @ 5:30-7:30 p.m. Porter LMC
6. January 31, 2011 – Negotiations Subcommittee Meeting @ 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Porter LMC

**C. Superintendent's Report**

1. Lebanon Public Schools to Superintendent Coss – Tuition Audit Confirmation – 10/25/2010
2. Bolton Public Schools to Superintendent Coss – Tuition Audit Confirmation – 11/01/2010
3. CT Consortium for Cooperative Purchasing 2011/2011 District Membership
4. Katharine L.W. and Winthrop M. Crane, 3D Charitable Foundation Grant Award
5. Cafeterium lights were replaced over the holiday break. This will be a cost savings in energy and replacement parts. In the case of emergency, the cafeteria will now be able to be run on generator power.

**IX. Action Items/Discussion**

**A. Policy 5117 School Attendance: Designated High Schools and Tuition for Non-Designated Public High Schools – 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading**

J.Thorn **MOVED** and P. Belekewicz **SECONDED** to table this motion until completion of Region 19 negotiations.

**MOTION CARRIES: 6-1-0**

P. Belekewicz, L. Jurovaty, W. Mulcahy, L. Perrotti-Verboven, J. Schroder, J. Thorn **VOTED FOR THE MOTION**

N. Petrone **VOTED AGAINST THE MOTION**

**X. Future Agenda Items**

- January 18, 2011 Budget Subcommittee Meeting – 2011/2012 Budget & Non-Certified Contract Discussion
- February 7, 2011 Regular Board of Education Meeting – 2011/2012 Budget Presentation & School Improvement Plan
- February 14, 2011 Policy/Facilities/Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting – Technology Plan & Math Textbook Samples
- March 7, 2011 Regular Board of Education Meeting – Board of Education Approves Budget
- March 14, 2011 Policy/Facilities/Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting – Math Update and Curriculum Calendar
- March 21, 2011 Budget/Negotiations Subcommittee Meeting – Administrators' Contracts

**XI. Board of Education Member Comments**

**XII. Adjournment**

P. Belekewicz **MOVED** and L. Jurovaty **SECONDED** to adjourn the January 3, 2011 meeting at 8:09 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIES: 7-0**

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Jurovaty  
Columbia Board of Education Vice-Chairperson