



Columbia Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes July 16, 2013

5:30 P.M.

Horace W. Porter School Conference Room

Board Members Present: Kerry Hoffman, Lisa Napolitano, Lauren Perrotti-Verboven-Chairman, James Thorn-Vice Chairman entered the meeting at 5:39 p.m., Kathy Tolsdorf

Board Members Absent: Sondra Montesi, John Schroder

Administration Present: Mark Winzler-Interim Superintendent

Staff and Citizens Present: Tom Doyle, Chris Lent, Laurie Rogers

I. Call to Order

Lauren Perrotti-Verboven called the July 16, 2013, special meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

Time allotted for public participation is thirty (30) minutes; time allotted for an individual speaker is three (3) minutes.

Mrs. Perrotti-Verboven welcomed Interim Superintendent Mark Winzler. She explained that he has come to Columbia with glowing references including those from Bolton and E.O. Smith.

Laurie Rogers asked about Governor Malloy's flex waiver for 2013/14 testing. She also stated that she does not agree with the mandatory student state testing.

IV. Financial Review

- 2012-2013 Payment of Bills
- 2013-2014 Payment of Bills

Board members had numerous questions pertaining to the payment of bills for 2012/13 and 2013/14.

- Columbia School Expenditure Report for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 as of 07/11/13
- Columbia School Grant Status Actual & Budgeted Expenses as of 06/30/13

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 Payment of Bills
- b) Approval of May 6, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes
- c) Approval of May 14, 2013 Special Meeting Minutes
- d) Approval of June 10, 2013 Special Meeting Minutes
- e) Approval of June 18, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes
- f) Approval of 2013/2014 Co-Curricular and Extra Curricular Appointment
- g) Approval of 2013/2014 Non-Certified Union Reps
- h) Acceptance of Resignation of Windy Petersen, PASS Special Education Teacher
- i) Acceptance of Retirement of Laurel Albair, Math/SRBI Teacher

L. Perrotti-Verboven **MOVED** and K. Tolsdorf **SECONDED** to accept as presented action items a through i:

- a. Approval of Payment of Bills
- b. Approval of May 6, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes
- c. Approval of May 14, 2013 Special Meeting Minutes
- d. Approval of June 10, 2013 Special Meeting Minutes
- e. Approval of June 18, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes
- f. Approval of 2013/2014 Co-Curricular and Extra Curricular Appointment
- g. Approval of 2013/2014 Non-Certified Union Reps
- h. Acceptance of Resignation of Windy Petersen, PASS Special Education Teacher
- i. Acceptance of Retirement of Laurel Albair, Math/SRBI Teacher

MOTION CARRIES: 5-0

VI. Correspondence/Communications

- June 1, 2013 Horace W. Porter School Enrollment
- Mrs. Perrotti-Verboven to Mrs. Leslie Poulos, Thanks for Focused and Superb Action as PTO President – 06/03/2013
- CT Chief Financial Officer to First Selectman Carmen Vance - MBR Request Rejection – 06/07/2013
- CABE Executive Director to Mrs. Perrotti-Verboven – Thanks for CABE Membership – 06/25/2013
- Superintendent Coss to Certified Union Co-Presidents – 2013/14 Calendar Concern – 06/20/2013

The Interim Superintendent is looking into the union's 2013/14 calendar concerns.

VII. Reports/Discussions

- **Board of Education Chairperson** – *Mrs. Perrotti-Verboven thanked the Interim Superintendent for the great job updating the Board with his Friday Update. The Board will now get back to subcommittee and policy work. Policy series 3000 will be the next series for Board review. Mrs. Hoffman will be handling marketing for the school district. Mr. Winzler will work with E.O. Smith and Bolton High Schools negotiating contract addendums.*
- **Board of Education Subcommittees**
 - Future Meeting Dates:
 - August 19, 2013:
 - Policy Subcommittee Meeting, 6:00 p.m. Horace W. Porter School Conference Room
 - Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Horace W. Porter School Conference Room – *Mr. Thorn is interested in feedback from 9th grade Columbia parents. Mrs. Tolsdorf would like to be involved in the high school visits. (the August 19th Curriculum Subcommittee meeting has been cancelled.)*
 - Budget/Security Subcommittee Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Horace W. Porter School Conference Room
 - Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Horace W. Porter Cafeteria
 - September 3, 2013 (Tuesday):
 - Policy Subcommittee Meeting, 6:00 p.m. Horace W. Porter School Conference Room
 - Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Horace W. Porter School Conference Room
 - Budget/Security Subcommittee Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Horace W. Porter School Conference Room
 - Building Walk-Through
 - Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Horace W. Porter Cafeteria
- **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Winzler reported that the security building walk through was conducted approximately one month ago. The auditor's report, which is needed for the security grant, will be ready Monday morning. The projected cost for 33 exterior doors, necessary hardware, painting and installation, not including key fobs, will be over \$348,000. The Board will need to decide where this money will come from. The grant is not a given thing and if the district receives this money it will not be a

large amount. The new doors will not be installed for the start of school. The project will be prioritized.

Mr. Winzler informed the Board that Grade 7 Math interviews are taking place this week. This is a replacement position. The Special Education Teacher is also a replacement position. The Elementary World Languages position is new and interviews will be held next week.

Mrs. Hoffman asked about prek enrollment numbers. Mr. Winzler reported there will be 3 prek classes; 1 morning and 2 afternoon. There are 42 children enrolled in kindergarten. When enrollment gets to 45 students, another kindergarten section will be added.

The band instrument information provided by Mrs. Hoffman will be considered for students whose families cannot afford the purchase of instruments. Maintenance and repair is a concern should the Board of Ed do this.

A special meeting will be called at the end of July or early August for end of the year budget transfers. It is possible that the Board will also approve hiring and the door replacement project at this meeting.

VIII. Future Regular and Subcommittee Agenda Items (Tentative)

- August 19, 2013
 - CMT Performance Review
- September 3, 2013 (Tuesday)
 - Recycling Plan
 - Facility Walkthrough

IX. Columbia Board of Education Member Remarks

Mrs. Perrotti-Verboven thanked Mr. Luiz for his help submitting the security grant. She also stated each time she spoke with Jennings and Smith's William Smith he mentioned how impressed he was by Judy Zemantic-Monitor Receptionist, Fayne Sears-School Nurse and other Porter staff members who were very caring and concerned for student safety.

X. Adjournment

J. Thorn **MOVED** and L. Napolitano **SECONDED** to adjourn the July 16, 2013, special meeting at 6:35 p.m.
MOTION CARRIES: 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

James Thorn
Columbia Board of Education Vice Chairman