



## Columbia Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes December 2, 2013

7:00 P.M.

Horace W. Porter School Cafeteria

Board Members Present: David Crim, Kerry Hoffman, Christopher Lent, Lisa Napolitano, Lauren Perrotti-Verboven, Kathy Tolsdorf

Board Members Absent: Karin Vertefeuille

Administration Present: Mark Winzler-Interim Superintendent

Others Present: John Schroder, Maria Gratton, Grace Tuohy Family, Ty Bulley Family and Cameron Villanueva Family

### I. Call to Order

Lauren Perrotti-Verboven called the December 2, 2013, regular meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. She welcomed new Board of Education members: David Crim, Christopher Lent, and Karin Vertefeuille who could not be in attendance.

### 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.

John Schroder thanked Mr. Winzler and said it was awesome working with him.

### IV. Proclamation

- Congratulations to Porter's CAPSS 2013/2014 Superintendent Award Winners:
  - *Adam Ruchalski & Grace Tuohy*, Grade 6
  - *Ty Bulley & Cameron Villanueva*, Grade 8

Mr. Winzler explained that this award is sponsored by the CT Association of Public School Superintendents. It is based on community service and service to others, academic prowess relative to ability and leadership service to the school community. Adam, Grace, Ty and Cameron were recognized on November 6, 2013 at RHAM High School along with students from Ashford, Chaplin, Colchester, Coventry, Hebron, Lebanon, Marlborough, Regional Districts 8 and 11, Scotland, Stafford, Tolland and Windham.

### V. Executive Session for the Purpose of Negotiations Update

L. Perrotti-Verboven **MOVED** and K.Hoffman **SECONDED** to enter into executive session for the purpose of teacher negotiation update and discussion. Interim Superintendent Mark Winzler and John Schroder were invited to join Board of Education members in executive session.

**MOTION CARRIES: 6-0**

K. Hoffman **MOVED** and L. Napolitano **SECONDED** to adjourn executive session at 8:10 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIES: 6-0**

**VI. Possible Action on the Professional Agreement Between the Columbia Board of Education and the Columbia Teachers Association**

L. Perrotti-Verboven **MOVED** and K. Hoffman **SECONDED** to ratify the Professional Agreement between the Columbia Board of Education and the Columbia Teachers Association from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017.  
**MOTION CARRIES: 6-0**

**VII. Presentation – School Performance Index for Porter School – Alyssa Gwinnell, HWP Principal**  
The State has embargoed the School Performance Index information. The SPI will be presented at a future meeting.

**VIII. Discussion and Possible Action on Adhoc Committee MBR Recommendations**

L. Perrotti-Verboven **MOVED** and K. Hoffman **SECONDED** to approve the purchase of additional security cameras with the cost not to exceed \$11,000.  
**MOTION CARRIES: 6-0**

L. Perrotti-Verboven **MOVED** and K. Hoffman **SECONDED** to authorize Porter administrators to research the cost involved to refresh Porter's website and to report back to the Board of Education at the January 7, 2014 regular meeting with this information.  
**MOTION CARRIES: 6-0**

**IX. 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 November 4, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes
- c) Approval of November 13, 2013 Special Meeting Minutes
- d) Acceptance of Resignation – Diane Nolette, Kindergarten Paraeducator

L. Perrotti-Verboven **MOVED** and K Hoffman **SECONDED** to accept and approve consent action items a-d as written and presented.

**MOTION CARRIES: 4-0-2**

K. Hoffman, L. Napolitano, L. Perrotti-Verboven, K. Tolsdorf **VOTED FOR THE MOTION**

D. Crim, C. Lent **ABSTAINED**

**X. Correspondence/Communications**

- a) 2014 Columbia Board of Education Regular Meeting Dates
- b) Mr. Mark Winzler to Dr. Sarah Barzee – Columbia's Professional Learning & Evaluation Plan

**XI. Reports/Discussions**

- **Board of Education Chairperson**
  - **Superintendent Search Update** – The Superintendent Search is going well. There has been a first round of interviews and on Wednesday evening there will be two second-round interviews and one first interview.
  - **Security Update** – The doors have been delivered, cameras approved.

- **High School Update** – A meeting with Bolton is being scheduled. Today Porter 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students went to BHS for team building. The E.O. Smith contract has been extended to 2024, the cap removed and transfer students are now allowed. Mr. Winzler will be meeting with Windham Superintendent Ortiz on Thursday morning to discuss allowing current WHS students to continue and graduate without a contract. It is hoped a sibling clause will be added.
  - **Columbia Board of Education Member Listing** – This will be finalized for the next meeting.
  - **Columbia Board of Education Subcommittee Membership** – The list was distributed. Mrs. Perrotti-Verboven explained the duties of each subcommittee and the work that is done in subcommittee. It is then voted on at a regular meeting which saves the full Board time and work.
- **Board of Education Subcommittees**
    - Future Meeting Dates:
      - January 6, 2014
        - Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Horace W. Porter Cafeteria
  - **Superintendent's Report**

## **XII. Election of Board of Education Officers**

The meeting was turned over to Interim Superintendent Mark Winzler. He explained that the floor was open for Board members to make Board of Education Chairperson nominations.

K. Tolsdorf **NOMINATED** Lauren Perrotti-Verboven as Board of Education Chairperson.

D. Crim – Nay

K. Hoffman – Nay

C. Lent – Nay

L. Napolitano – Nay

L. Perrotti-Verboven – Yea

K. Tolsdorf – Yea

**NOMINATION FAILS: 2-4**

L. Napolitano **NOMINATED** Kerry Hoffman as Board of Education Chairperson.

D. Crim – Yea

K. Hoffman – Yea

C. Lent – Yea

L. Napolitano – Yea

L. Perrotti-Verboven – Nay

K. Tolsdorf – Nay

**NOMINATION CARRIES: 4-2**

Interim Superintendent turned the meeting over to the new Board of Education Chairperson. Kerry Hoffman asked Board members for Board of Education Vice Chairperson nominations.

L. Perrotti-Verboven **NOMINATED** Karin Vertefeuille for Board of Education Vice Chairperson.

D. Crim – Yea

K. Hoffman – Yea

C. Lent – Yea

L. Napolitano – Yea

L. Perrotti-Verboven – Yea

K. Tolsdorf – Yea

**NOMINATION CARRIES: 6-0**

Mrs. Hoffman thanked Mrs. Perrotti-Verboven for her excellent work serving as Board of Education Chairperson. It is much appreciated.

**XIII. Future Regular and Subcommittee Agenda Items (Tentative)**

- **K. Tolsdorf** asked about scheduling a goal setting session. Mr. Winzler suggested waiting until the new superintendent is appointed.
- **L. Napolitano** asked if parents have been surveyed to see why kids are withdrawing and going to magnet schools. Mr. Winzler said a good survey has to ask some pointed questions. The response might not be the best since parents have already left the district.
- **D. Crim** thanked Mr. Winzler and said it has been great working him. Mr. Winzler rescued the BOE and has steered the Board of Education in the right direction.
- **Board members** thanked Mr. Winzler for his part in this healing process and wished him well in his new interim superintendent position.

**XIV. Columbia Board of Education Member Remarks**

**XV. Adjournment**

L. Perrotti-Verboven **MOVED** and K. Hoffman **SECONDED** to adjourn the December 2, 2013, regular meeting at 9:25 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIES: 6-0**

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry Hoffman  
Columbia Board of Education Chairperson