

**CANTERBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
45 WESTMINSTER ROAD
CANTERBURY, CONNECTICUT**

Approved 10-10-2017

Board of Education Meeting **September 12, 2017**
Location: Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle Media Center **Time: 7:00 pm**

A. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER:

In Attendance from the Board of Education (BOE): Walt Petruniw Chairperson; Stephen Brown, Vice-Chairperson; Nancy Duvall, Secretary; Vivian Thumser

Absent: John Gentry, Christopher Lippke, Leticia Velasquez

Others Present: Dr. Lois DaSilva-Knapton, Superintendent; Ryan Earley, BMS Principal; Sarah Cary, Principal CES, and Janice Thurlow, Finance Director

Mr. Petruniw, Chairperson, called the Canterbury Board of Education (BOE) meeting to order once a quorum was established at 7:00 pm.

B. SPECIAL PURPOSE/RECOGNITION

1. Introduction of New Hires

Sarah Cary, Principal of CES introduced the new teachers.

CES

Heidi Aforismo, 3rd grade teacher-replacement

Elizabeth Boots, 1st Grade Teacher-Teacher-replacement

Rachel Borden, Kindergarten

Stacy Harrington, Art Teacher-replacement

Ryan Earley, Principal of BMS introduced the new teachers.

BMS

Kaitlyn Shafer, 7/8th Grade Science Teacher-replacement

Mariah Rae, School Psychologist-replacement

Dr. Knapton, Superintendent introduced the following new hires:

District

Gary Lussier, .5 Maintenance/Grounds

Sabrina Porter, Bus Driver

C. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

None

D. PRESENTATION AND ACTIONS

1. 2016-2017 Unaudited End of Year Balance

The Superintendent discussed and presented the unaudited end of year balance.

The end of the school year we were able to give back \$236,882 to the Town, due to High school tuition, Special Education tuition and insurance.

2. CIP 2017-2018 Reductions

The Superintendent discussed the CIP budget reductions:

- 6th grade heater replacement \$10,000 - line 5003
- Security upgrade \$3,000 - line 5164

Motion: To accept the above reduction of \$10,000 from line item 5003 and \$3,000 from line item 5164 from the 2017-2018 CIP budget.

By: Stephen Brown

Second: Vivian Thumser

All in favor

Motion passes

3. 2017-2018 Budget Reductions

The Superintendent stated the Board was asked to cut the school budget by \$511,618. The reduction discussion included:

- Regular education tuition
- Special Education tuition-one child could cost from \$10,000 to \$90,000
Most of the saving or deficits will occur in Special Education tuition
- Summer school for special education students
- Transportation for Special Education

The above reduction in regular and special education is in the amount of \$195,100.

Motion: To accept the reductions to the 2017-2018 regular and special education tuition budget in the amount of \$195,100.

By: Stephen Brown

Second: Nancy Duvall

All in favor

Motion passes

The Superintendent continued the discussion regarding budget reductions:

Salaries

Superintendent stated we have a \$33,018.49 saving in salary breakage

Motion: To accept the reduction in salary of \$33,018.49 in the 2017-2018 salary line item.

By: Stephen Brown

Second: Vivian Thumser

Mrs. Thumser, BOE member asked if there is a base salary for new teacher. The Superintendent stated "yes" the union contracts are on the website

under Human Resources. Mr. Petruniw, BOE Chairperson asked if there is a law that a teacher has to have their master's degree in a certain amount of time. The Superintendent stated "yes".

All in favor

Motion passes

The Superintendent stated there was a 17% increase in insurance.

Motion: To accept reductions from medical insurance line item in the amount of \$33,718.78 from the 2017-2018 budget.

By: Stephen Brown

Second: Vivian Thumser

All in favor

Motion passes

Janice Thurlow, Finance Director discussed liability insurance.

Motion: To accept reductions in the 2017-2018 budget from liability insurance/workmans compensation line item in the amount of \$28,103.00.

By: Stephen Brown

Second: Vivian Thumser

All in favor

Motion passes

The Superintendent stated there was an increase in the Title 1 funding this year. She stated that we are going use some of the increase to move a paraeducator from the general fund budget and use the para to help our students with Title I needs. There was also a reduction in staff; a paraeducator resigned in the spring and she was not replaced.

Motion: To accept reductions to the 2017-2018 budget in the amount of \$125,452 from personal staffing cuts and related benefits.

By: Stephen Brown

Second: Vivian Thumser

All in favor

Motion passes

The Superintendent stated these reductions total \$420,392, which is a 3.66% cut.

She asked the unions to reconsider their vote for 2 furlough days. If we cannot get the furlough days we will have to consider personnel cuts. We have looked at our stipends, sports, and adding a use of facilities fee.

Parents asked the Board and Superintendent to look into other reductions and not to take away from the students. Comments were made that the CAA has donated over \$200,000 (sound system, gym floor, basketball hoops) to the school. Mr. Molkenthin stated how important sports are to the students to prepare them for high school sports. Another parent stated he felt education is far more important than sports.

Motion: To reduce the 2017-2018 budget in the amount of \$420,392 and present the revised budget in the amount of \$11,050,667 to the BOF on September 13, 2017 making the budget a 3.66% cut below zero.

By: Stephen Brown

Second: Vivian Thumser

All in favor

Motion passes

4. Retirement/Resignation Letters-Bus Drivers

Motion: To accept the resignation letters from bus drivers Cathleen Marsh and Lori Savino.

By: Walt Petruniw

Second: Stephen Brown

All in favor

Motion passes

5. CIP Procedure Discussion

The Superintendent suggested that she give the Board some background information on CIP procedures and they can discuss this at their next meeting. The Superintendent read minutes from the last CIP Committee meeting minutes and how the CIP Committee is cutting monies from the CIP budget without the Board's approval.

6. CABA Journal Article Discussion

Second discussion is the CABA article and line items transfer. She handed out the CABA Journal Article and would like the Board to have a discussion regarding this at the next BOE meeting.

E. Committee Reports/Correspondence to the Board

1. Roof Committee

There was a meeting on June 27, 2017, there was no quorum so they decided to use the time as a workshop for the presentation at the Town meeting the next day June 28th. Mr. Petruniw did a presentation at the town meeting on the condition of the roof.

He did state the earliest we could do anything on the roof would be next summer.

2. Policy Committee

The next Policy Committee is October 5th.

3. Facility Committee

Schedule a meeting soon.

4. Letter from Regional District #11, June 29, 2017

Requesting that we send our 7th and 8th grade students to their district. Dr. Knapton wrote a letter to District 11 regarding this matter. There was an article in the paper and it appears they are going to regionalize their district..

Parish Hill letter requesting we consider Parish Hill as an options for our students high school choice.

5. Ad Hoc Administration Staffing

The Chairperson for the Ad Hoc Committee was not present at the meeting. The Superintendent suggested we add the Ad Hoc Committee Staffing to the next BOE meeting.

Mr. Petruniw read the following communication to the Board:

- letter from CABE thanking us for continuing using their services.
- letter from CABE stating he is certificated
- letter from a BOF member requesting we come together as a town.

6. Superintendent's Comments

a. Enrollment

Holding steady - enrollment as of September 1st is 738,
June 2017 enrollment was 734 this is an increase of 4 students

b. Administrator's Report

The Superintendent stated there is a new format for the Administrators reports.

c. Congratulations Walt Petruniw, earned 20 credits

Mr. Petruniw earned 20 credits from CABE.

d. CABE BOE Recognition Award

The Superintendent stated Canterbury did not meet the criteria for the CABE Recognition Award this year.

e. RD11 Dissolution Committee Letter

Discussed above.

f. Additional Comments

None

F. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Regular meeting minutes – June 13, 2017
The regular meeting minutes were approved as printed
2. Ad Hoc Administrators minutes, June 13, 2017
The Ad Hoc Administrators minutes were approved as printed
3. Roof Committee minutes, June 27, 2017
The Roof Committee minutes were approved as printed
4. Special Meeting minutes BOE with BOF & BOS-September 6, 2017
To amend the Special Meeting minutes by adding Christopher Lippke name as “In Attendance”.

G. Comments from Visitors

None

H. Executive Session (Anticipated)

Motion: To enter into Executive Session at 9:17 p.m. to discuss:

1. Board of Education Relations
2. Superintendent’s Salary 2018-2019

By: Stephen Brown

Second: Vivian Thumser

All in favor

Motion passes

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:41 p.m.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn at 9:41 p.m.

By: Stephen Brown

Second: Vivian Thumser

All in favor

Motion passes

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Duvall, BOE Secretary