

**New Hartford Public Schools
TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Thursday April 7, 2016 at 7:00 PM Antolini
School – Gymnasium
80 Antolini Road, New Hartford, Connecticut**

Present: Josh Adams, Jen Benaitis, Cindy Duval, Sue Lundin, Penny Miller, Mary Misiorski, Pat Spaziani, Jen Zenuh, Stacie Cull

Absent: None

Chair to Open Meeting: Chairman Sue Lundin called the meeting to order at 7:02PM.

Opportunity for Public Comment:

Mr. Tom Buzzi– Expressed concern over lack of rescission of the December 8th, 2015 vote to close the Bakerville School, requested that a decision be made in this meeting.

Mr. Glenn Philips – expressed need for a rescission this evening in regards to the December 8th, 2015 vote to close the Bakerville School

Ms. Alecia Bouchez – questioned the placement of children once the redistricting of students is established.

Ms. Rebecca Carter – Asking for a vote of rescission this evening in regards to the December 8th, 2015 vote to close the Bakerville School

Order Business: Remains the same

Old Business:

1. Discussion and possible action concerning the consolidation/closing of the school and relinquishment of school to Town:

Motion by Josh Adams, 2nd by Pat Spaziani - *to rescind the December 8th 2015 vote that relinquished control over all the buildings, land, apparatus and other property, located at the site of Bakerville Consolidated School, to the Town of New Hartford, pending approval of budget referendum vote on May 3rd 2016.*

After much discussion around implications of a budget referendum pass/fail, board voted. Those in favor of the motion - Josh Adams, Jen Benaitis, Cindy Duval, Sue Lundin, Mary Misiorski, Pat Spaziani, Stacie Cull. Those opposed - Penny Miller and Jen Zenuh.

Motion passes.

Motion by Cindy Duval, 2nd by Pat Spaziani – *to keep the school open for 2016-2017 school year, closing the school all together at the end of 2016-2017 school year.*

After discussion about minimizing impact on the children with the shifting from one school to another along with an opportunity for additional planning of the eventual closing, the board voted. Those in favor of the motion – Cindy Duval. Those opposed Josh Adams, Jen Benaitis, Sue Lundin, Mary Misiorski, Pat Spaziani, Stacie Cull, Penny Miller, Jen Zenuh.

Motion fails.

Motion by Josh Adams, 2nd by Pat Spaziani - *to rescind the December 8th 2015 vote that closes Bakerville Consolidated School starting with the 2016-2017 school year, pending approval of budget referendum vote on May 3rd 2016.*

After much discussion around implications of a budget referendum pass/fail, board voted. Those in favor of the motion - Josh Adams, Jen Benaitis, Cindy Duval, Sue Lundin, Mary Misiorski, Pat Spaziani, Stacie Cull. Those opposed - Penny Miller, Jen Zenuh.

Motion passes.

2. Budget 2016-2017:

Superintendent Murphy informed the Board of two line item changes to the budget as follows:

Health Dental – decrease of \$10,000.00

Special Education Bus Leases – decrease of approximately \$8,700.00

The budget was reviewed by the Board with an additional line item change as follows:

Postage – decrease to \$2,000.00

Superintendent Murphy agreed to a freeze on his Salary, forgoing an increase for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year.

Motion by Josh Adams, 2nd by Mary Misiorski – *to accept the 2016-2017 Board of Education Budget in the amount of \$7,988,025.00.* Unanimous, all in favor.

Motion passes

Superintendent Report:

1. Stem/Robotics Presentation:

Katie Justus (Media Specialist) presented the districts new “Markerspace” program. This is a pilot program that supports a STEM approach to teaching.

Amanda Shaw (Antolini Principal) along with 3 students gave a presentation to the Board about what they have been learning as part of the Robotics Program that she has developed this school year.

2. School Play:

Superintendent Murphy reported on the 6th grade play “Statler and Waldorf Proudly Presents: A Half Century of American Life”.

3. Approval of Healthy Food Certification:

Motion by Sue Lundin, 2nd by Stacie Cull - *to authorize Superintendent Murphy to apply for the annual Healthy Food Certification.* All in favor

Motion passes

Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes – March 28, 2016

2. Financial Report

Motion by Mary Misiorski, 2nd by Pat Spaziani to remove both the Minutes of March 28th and the Financial Report from the consent agenda for further discussion. All approved

Motion passes

Motion by Jen Benaitis, 2nd by Pat Speziani, *to table the minutes of March 28th for further clarification.* All approved

Motion passes

Motion by Sue Lundin, 2nd by Pat Speziani, *approved the Expenditure Report.* All approved

Motion passes

3. Personal Report:

Superintendent Murphy reported that Diana DelGuidice will be the long term substitute nurse at New Hartford Elementary School for the remainder of the school year.

Communications to the Board:

None

New Business:

1. School Calendar change (2015-2016):

Superintendent Murphy recommended making the last day of school Friday, June 10, 2016.

Following some discussion about the importance in keeping the 2015-2016 calendar as originally presented, a motion was put forth.

Motion by Jen Zenuh, 2nd by Penny Miller – *to amend the 2015-2016 calendar to reflect the last day of school as Friday, June 10th a 1:00 release time allowing teachers to utilize June 13th and 14th as Professional Development days.*

Reports:

1. Policy Subcommittee:

The Policy Subcommittee reported on and reviewed with the Board the following Polies and Regulations:

Second reading: Policy/Regulation 5141.1 (Administration of First Aid)

Policy/Regulation 5114.1 (Physical Restraint/Seclusion)

First reading: Policy 5114.12 (Student Handbooks)

Policy 5114 (Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

2. Wellness Committee -

Penny Miller reported on the work of the Wellness Committee

Adjournment:

Motion by Josh Adams, 2nd by Stacie Cull to adjourn the meeting at 9:22. All in favor

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Misiorski
Secretary for the New Hartford Board of Education