

Minutes of Meeting

Board of Education Liaison Committee

February 3, 2016

The Board of Education Liaison Committee conducted the regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday February 3, 2016 in the Board Room of the Board of Education Administration Building, 1000 East Broadway, Stratford, CT pursuant to notice duly posted.

1. Call to Order: 6:30 p.m.
2. Selection of Chairman — Council chairman Daponte assumed the chair per statement that the Town Attorney made the ruling. Mr. Dumas called for a point of procedure.

Committee Members in Attendance: Council members Beth Daponte, Tina Manus, Alan Llewelyn and Mark Dumas; Board of Education Members Jim Feehan and Len Petruccelli

Others in Attendance: Supt. of School District Dr. Janet Robinson, COO Clarence Zachery, Former Board Chairman Andrea Veilleux, Board of Education member Eric Lazaro, Town Council members J. Vincent Chase and Marianne Antezzo

Document distributed during meeting Sports Programs/Athletic participation numbers for Stratford and Bunnell High Schools.

3. Approval of minutes – None
4. Stratford High School Renovations — Chairman Daponte will call a special Council meeting for February 18 at Stratford High School followed by a public forum. Mr. Llewelyn stated that the subcommittee will meet just prior to the special meeting. The consultants and sub-consultants will present the plan and development of the plan. Ms. Daponte will solicit comments, concerns and question from Board members and Council Members in order to develop an agenda. Discussion took place re: bonding, state criteria, change orders, hazardous material compliance. School building work orders will be forwarded to Council members.
5. Center School — It is noted that Economic Development is looking for a place to house the “Stride Program”. Discussion went on re: neighborhood schools, special needs students, short-term cost vs. long term benefits of Center school.
6. International Baccalaureate — Dr. Robinson stated that she will eventually look into the plan.
7. Data on student involvement in sports at High School and middle school levels — The above-cited document was reviewed. It was mentioned that the total unique athlete count for Bunnell was 366; for Stratford 316. Mr. Feehan said that Students also participate in Sterling House and Stratford Recreation sports activities.

8. Bunnell High School Field House — Mr. Feehan asked Council members not to oppose this project. He gave a bit of background info that the field house was privately funded and has never been upgraded. The kitchen and rest rooms are not up to code. A propane tank provides fuel for the house. Discussion went on to say that \$300,000 was originally approved for renovations; cost has now increased significantly. Funding source was discussed. The past upgrade/renovations to Penders field house was discussed.
9. CIP — Mr. Zachery explained the need for modular classrooms. He stated that several were obtained free of charge from Trumbull. A safety feature needs to be added and will be included in the next CIP.
10. Nichols Parking — Traffic congestion during student drop off/pickup in the Nichols School area was discussed. Mr. Zachery explained the utilization of a town owned field indentation next to the school (North Ave.) for drop off/pick up.
11. Penders Field – netting problem — Mr. Feehan explained how a neighborhood home on numerous occasions has windows broken with the balls from school sports events. The Town pays for the broken windows. The problem needs a long-term preventive solution.
12. Teachers' Contract — Ms. Daponte said that the item is on the Council agenda for Monday, Feb. 8. Dr. Robinson and Mr. Feehan said that the issue was settled in arbitration. Discussed: state healthcare for retirees is a cost-saving for Stratford.
13. Adjournment — Hearing no other business to discuss, Mr. Petruccelli made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Llewelyn and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Cabral, Secretary