

Minutes of Meeting

Board of Education Liaison Committee

March 2, 2016

The Board of Education Liaison Committee conducted the regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday March 2, 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. by chairman Beth Daponte

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

2. Approval of minutes – Minutes of regularly scheduled meeting of Feb. 3, 2016. A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. LLEWELYN, SECONDED BY MS. MANUS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES. THE MOTION PASSED.
3. Stratford High School Renovations — Mr. Llewelyn presented an update. Final plans and sign-offs are forthcoming, the Bonding Ordinance has been forwarded to Council for final approval, Board of Zoning Appeals has a few approvals forthcoming and Zoning Commission has to approve the site plan. Ms. Manus asked if the Avco site was ever considered for a high school building. Mr. Llewelyn responded that he is uncertain. Discussed: the SHS renovation workshops/special Council meeting, flexibility for future addition of rooms, indoor/outdoor Physical Education, width and size of bridge, adding space at the bridge, school pathways. School pathways will be an agenda item at the next meeting.
4. Center School — Mr. Feehan said that Center School is certified as a learning facility, not as a school. Mr. Zachery said that recertification is not in the budget. The building is not up to code. Discussion went on re: neighborhood schools, cost feasibility study required to reopen Center School as a school.
5. Bunnell High School Field House — The funding for project remains at \$600,000. Bids for renovations have come back. Mr. Feehan reviewed the final plans. Discussed re: naming of the field house. A policy does exist for naming a building.
6. Plans for professional development — Program for professional development follows state statutes.
7. Time of the schoolday and school calendar — New times for teacher development days have been communicated to parents (advanced notices).

8. Strategic Profiles — Accountability Index replaces strategic profiles. The demographics of Stratford have drastically changed.

9. Budget Process

Mr. Petruccelli said that the Board of Education budget is not complete. The Board of Education budget will go to the Mayor's office prior to forwarding it to Town Council. The estimated amount is a \$7.8 million increase.

It was mentioned that 16 new special Education students have entered the school system since January; none have left. Math coaches are needed (to coach teachers) for elementary school teachers for approx. 3 years. Reading coaches that were previously set up have worked well. Questions were posed to Dr. Robinson which fostered discussion re: creating/building common core groups, plans for tutors, issues with high school math, evaluation of math/reading coaches, SGP's schools performance. Reporting students from outside the district (non-residents) enrolled in Stratford schools. Administration will forward phone numbers to report the students.

Mr. Feehan requests a budget and district snapshot presentation for Council members. Dr. Robinson requests a state-of-the school presentation in October.

10. Adjournment — Hearing no other business to discuss, Mr. Llewelyn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Petruccelli and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Cabral, Secretary