

Westport Central School District
Budget & Regular Board of Education Meeting

Place: Library

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Time: 5:00 PM

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

at: 5:05 PM

by: President LaRock

A. Roll Call

√ Alice LaRock √ Kathleen carterMartinez (arrived 5:15 PM) √ David Goldwasser
√ Dwayne Stevens √ Jim Carroll (arrived 5:06 PM)

B. Introduction of Attendees

Also Present: John W. Gallagher, Ed. D., Interim Superintendent Visitors: George Maffey
Jana Atwell, District Clerk Rick Hoffman
Michele Friedman, Principal Barbara Breyette
Cindy Moody, District Treasurer Cathy Brankman
Robert King, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds Theresa Lindsay
Sheila Borden
Daniel McCormick
Nancy Page
Gigi Carroll
Cheryl Phillips
Sean Davis
Kim Matthews
Paul Mudie

C. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Budget Discussion

A budget powerpoint presentation was provided by Dr. Gallagher which explained this year's roll over approach, a look at where WCS is at and what WCS will be struggling with over the weeks to come including revenue sources and basic increased costs. WCS is currently looking at a \$328,639 or a 6% budget increase from the 2008-2009 school year. Dr. Gallagher stressed his goal to keep the school going forward as an excellent professional learning community. However, possible cuts still may need to be considered. Dr. Gallagher's presentation concluded with a list of suggestions which included the Board providing him with a budget target, meeting with constituent groups for suggestions and coming back to the Board with a preliminary budget recommendation on March 10, 2009. Each Board member shared their thoughts and concerns regarding the 2009-2010 budget. All present agreed an invitation extended to the community to host an open budget discussion at the March 10th budget meeting was an excellent idea.

RECESS: 5:57 PM – 6:30 PM

3. Public Comment (5 minutes)

Our agenda offers two Public Comment sections, one at the beginning of the meeting and the other at the end. At this time we have set aside a 5 minute period giving anyone in the audience time to share their thoughts with us. Your opinions, ideas and concerns will be considered and taken under advisement. Questions or concerns needing an explanation or further information will be addressed at our next regular meeting.

Gigi Carroll stated the WCS Drama Club had originally scheduled the showing of their production for the first weekend in April. However, due to several conflicts the performance was moved back to the last weekend in March. The rescheduled dates also presented another conflict for a Thursday evening performance due to the Senior Classic basketball game. Ms. Carroll presented two options for the Board's consideration in determining performance dates: one performance on Friday, March 27th and two performances on Saturday, March 28th (She advised the possibility of doing two shows on one day with a young group of performers was not feasible as the production is a musical and the students may find this very difficult.) or an evening performance on Friday, March 27th and Saturday, March 28th and an afternoon matinee on Sunday, March 29th. Ms. Carroll thanked the Board for their time and consideration.

Rick Hoffman advised that he liked the budget presentation and approach to achieve budget targets that was presented this evening. Mr. Hoffman explained that he had prepared a letter to be sent to the taxpayers requesting that they address the Board with their concerns as a community. He stated that he would hold off sending this letter, but may consider sending in the future. He also requested the Board still consider the suggestion of a shared superintendent.

4. Financial

Resolved that the Board of Education accepts and approves the following financial reports:

- Warrant Report 6D
- Warrant Report 7A
- Warrant Report 7B
- Warrant Report 7C
- General Ledger Report From 7/1/08 To 1/25/09
- Treasurer's Report for Multi-Fund Month of July 2008
- Treasurer's Report for Multi-Fund Month of August 2008
- Treasurer's Report for Multi-Fund Month of September 2008
- Treasurer's Report for Multi-Fund Month of October 2008
- Treasurer's Report for Multi-Fund Month of November 2008
- Treasurer's Report for Multi-Fund Month of December 2008
- Multi-Fund Bank Account Reconciliation as of 7/31/08
- Multi-Fund Bank Account Reconciliation as of 8/31/08
- Multi-Fund Bank Account Reconciliation as of 9/30/08
- Multi-Fund Bank Account Reconciliation as of 10/31/08
- Multi-Fund Bank Account Reconciliation as of 11/30/08
- Multi-Fund Bank Account Reconciliation as of 12/31/08

Motion: David Goldwasser Seconded: Kathleen carterMartinez Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

5. Senior Trip Presentation

Resolved that the Board of Education approves the Class of 2009 Senior Trip to New York City as presented departing April 13 and returning April 16, 2009.

Motion: Dwayne Stevens Seconded: David Goldwasser Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

6. CSE Recommendations

Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the approval of the CSE recommendation for the following student number 504-03-07, 006-08-09, P01-08-09 and P03-08-09. (Recommendations attached.)

Motion: Jim Carroll Seconded: Kathleen carterMartinez Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

7. Reports/Presentations

A. Superintendent's Report

- The next meeting of the Clinton/Essex School Boards will be held on Thursday, March 5, 2009 at Cricket's in Peru. Please advise if you plan to attend this meeting.

B. Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds Report

- Parts for the spare boiler will be here within the next few weeks.
- A representative from Conroy & Conroy has examined the chimney and will be giving us a second quote for repair of the chimney which is less than the original.
- We are currently waiting for valve replacements parts for the heating system in two areas of the building.

C. Board Committee Reports

Youth Commission - February 2, 2009 – The ski program is going well. A WCS student council representative was present for this meeting. The Youth Commission would like to use the school facility for their summer program and have been advised to contact Principal Friedman. They were informed that the school will not be hosting a summer program this year. A bus will not be needed this summer for Youth Commission baseball.

Joint Study - January 13 & February 5, 2009 – Discussion included designing a different (non-structured) faculty meeting in order to share and discuss teaching philosophies, the accessibility of the Reading First room after hours and appreciation to the new superintendent for a seamless transition and feeling of open communication.

Technology Committee - January 14, 2009 (February 12th cancelled) – Discussion included surveying staff for technology needs, use of the additional laptop and a log for use, new server is up and running, and grades 3 & 4 are sharing a smartboard.

Buildings & Grounds/Safety Committee (February 11th cancelled)

Character Education - January 12, 2009 (February 9th cancelled) – Principal Friedman was unavailable for this meeting therefore a very brief discussion occurred.

8. Minutes

Resolved that the Board of Education does hereby approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Education held on

- **January 6, 2009** (Budget & Regular Meeting) as presented
- **February 2, 2009** (Special Meeting) as presented

Motion: Dwayne Stevens Seconded: David Goldwasser Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

9. Unfinished Business

A. **Twenty Day Emergency Fingerprint Clearance**

Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the approval of a twenty day emergency conditional fingerprint clearance for the following:

- Kathleen Desjardins
- John Gallagher

Motion: Jim Carroll Seconded: Kathleen carterMartinez Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

10. New Business

A. **Personnel**

1. Appointment – Desjardins

Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the appointment of Kathleen Desjardins to the full-time position of Guidance Secretary/ Assistant Treasurer (civil service position typist) with a one hundred twenty (120) day probationary period effective February 5, 2009 through July 28, 2009.

Motion: Dwayne Stevens Seconded: Kathleen carterMartinez Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

2. Extracurricular Appointment – Markwica, Hudson, Wolinsky

a) Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the extracurricular appointment of Donald Markwica as Varsity Baseball Coach for the 2008-2009 school year at the stipend per the current WEA contract.

Motion: Jim Carroll Seconded: David Goldwasser Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

b) Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the extracurricular appointment of Stephen Hudson as Modified Baseball Coach for the 2008-2009 school year at the stipend per the current WEA contract.

Motion: Dwayne Stevens Seconded: Kathleen carterMartinez Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

c) Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the extracurricular appointment of Vicki Wolinsky as Tennis Coach for the 2008-2009 school year at the stipend per the current WEA contract.

Motion: Kathleen carterMartinez Seconded: Dwayne Stevens Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

3. Intent to Retire (none at this time)
4. Tenure (none at this time)
5. Child Rearing Leave (none at this time)
6. Leave of Absence Request (none at this time)
7. Termination (none at this time)
8. Elimination of Position (none at this time)
9. Request to End Employment (none at this time)

B. **Miscellaneous**

1. 2008-2009 Westport Central School Tax Roll Correction

Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the approval of the application to correct the 2008-2009 Westport Central School Tax Roll for Clayton Reaser account #725J105811. (Application attached.)

Motion: Dwayne Stevens Seconded: Kathleen carterMartinez Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

2. Facility Use Requests

a) Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the approval of the *Facility Use Request* as submitted by Carol Schwoebel on behalf of the Dr. Thomas Tanneberger Alumni Basketball Tournament for the use of the gym and rooms 006 & 007 on Saturday, March 21, 2009 from noon to 10 PM for the purpose of hosting a basketball tournament for the Tanneberger Scholarship Fund.

Motion: David Goldwasser Seconded: Dwayne Stevens Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

b) Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the approval of the *Facility Use Request* as submitted by Irwin Borden on behalf of the Westport Fire Department for the use of the kitchen and cafeteria on Saturday, March 21, 2009 from noon to 9 PM for the purpose of hosting a spaghetti dinner.

Motion: Jim Carroll Seconded: Kathleen carterMartinez Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

c) Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the approval of the *Facility Use Request* as submitted by Carol Schwoebel on behalf of the Dr. Tomas Tanneberger alumni Basketball Tournament for the use of the gym on Friday, March 20, 2009 from 7 PM to 9 PM for the purpose of pre-game practice.

Motion: Dwayne Stevens Seconded: Jim Carroll Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

d) Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the approval of the *Facility Use Request* as submitted by Eric Gay on behalf Bidy Basketball for the use of the gym on the following dates: February 24, March 3, March 10 and March 17, 2009 from 3 PM to 4:30 PM and February 28, March 7, March 14 and March 21, 2009 from 8 AM to 12 PM.

Motion: Dwayne Stevens Seconded: Jim Carroll Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

C. Policy

1. Summer School – 1st Reading
First reading.

11. Additional Items to Discuss

Resolved that the Board of Education approves this year's Drama Club production be held as evening performances on Friday, March 27 and Saturday, March 28 and a matinee performance on Sunday, March 29, 2009 (non-precedent setting).

Motion: Dwayne Stevens Seconded: Kathleen carterMartinez Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

A resolution acknowledging the 75th Anniversary of Westport Central School was received from Governor Paterson and shared with the Board. The citation will be displayed.

A letter was received from Dorothy Schroeder, Therapy Dog International Evaluator recognizing Susan Satloff and her enrichment class for teaching Bailey, a therapy dog, the various components of a Therapy Dog Test and Canine Good Citizen Test.

12. Public Comment (5 minutes)

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Mr. Hoffman questioned whether or not payment could be received from organizations requesting the use of the building. He also requested the availability of minutes from previous Board meetings.

Dwayne Stevens advised he had recently been on a trip to Maine where he had the opportunity to discuss school issues with the Maine Commissioner of Education.

13. Executive Session

The medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

In: 7:48 PM Motion: Kathleen carterMartinez Seconded: David Goldwasser Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0
Accept

Out: 8:40 PM Motion: Jim Carroll Seconded: Dwayne Stevens Yes: 5 No: 0 Abstain: 0
Accept

Dr. Gallagher was invited into executive session at 8:20 PM.

No action taken.

14. Adjournment

Time: 8:45 PM

Motion: Jim Carroll

Seconded: Dwayne Stevens

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 26, 2009 Special Meeting (Superintendent Search) 6:30 PM Library
Tuesday, March 10, 2009 Budget Meeting 5 PM & Regular Meeting 6:30 PM Library

Date approved by the Board of Education: March 10, 2009

Jana Atwell, District Clerk