

West Hartford Public Schools
Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
March 5, 2013

Present: Ms. Katz, Mrs. Ma, Dr. Overmyer-Velazquez, Mr. Putterman, Mr. Sarzen, Mr. Schmitt, Mr. Zydanowicz, Superintendent List, Student Representative Kendall Teare (Hall), Tyree Seymour (Conard)
Regular Meeting – Town Hall – Legislative Chamber

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The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance/Revision to Agenda Order

Dr. Karen List introduced Be S#arp from Conard High School. The student led choral group performed for the Board.

Student Participation

Dr. List presented the Superintendent's 2013-2014 Budget Recommendations. The goal of the budget to support the mission framework, district goals and district development and performance plan and ensure the exceptional education of all students was emphasized. The focus to incorporate three perspectives, the needs of the professionals, the wants of parents and the affordability to the community was stated. The continuous pursuit of the mission was reviewed and the current graduation rate and the high number of participants in college level courses were highlighted. The district as a large organization was summarized and the percentage of the budget allocated to the salaries and benefits of employees and the demographics of the student population was reviewed. Some historical perspective on per pupil expenditures, high test scores and comparison to other districts was presented. Successful results towards reducing the achievement gap were reviewed. An overview of the proposed changes and costs was presented. The Superintendent's overall budget was summarized as a \$140.06 million budget. The 0.93% increase represented the lowest increase in over 30 years. The budget includes increased spending for school security, the implementation of the new teacher evaluation system, support for the continued implementation of the CCSS, and an increase in substitute pay. Dr. List outlined the next steps in the budget process including the Board workshops, public hearings, adoption by the Board of Education and the presentation to and vote by the Town Council. The efforts of all involved were recognized.

Presentation of the Superintendent's 2013-2014 Budget Recommendations

Ms. Katz moved, seconded by Mrs. Ma:

Motion to Receive the Budget Recommendations

THAT the Board of Education receive the Superintendent's recommended 2013-2014 Education Budget and begin the

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process of reviewing and modifying for final approval and adoption as the Board of Education Budget at the April 9, 2013 Board of Education meeting

The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Katz reported that lights for athletic fields at the high schools were approved at a recent Zoning Committee meeting.

Mr. Zydanowicz commended the Be S#arp performance.

Mr. Schmitt provided a reminder about the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education 'Day on the Hill' and extended his good wishes to Dr. List and Mr. Putterman for their upcoming presentation to the State Department of Education on the Charter Oak and Smith plan.

Mr. Sarzen requested information on the status of the multiple principalship searches and received assurances from Dr. List that all leaders will be in place effective July 1, 2013.

Mrs. Ma provided a reminder about The Foundation for West Hartford Public Schools annual fundraiser, 'West Hartford's Cookin'' scheduled for March 23, 2013.

Tyree Seymour (Conard) reported on the CAPT testing, winter sports wrap-up and preparation for spring sports and announced upcoming events, workshops, fundraisers and musical performance schedules.

Kendall Teare (Hall) reported on the CAPT testing and AP test preparations, provided sports updates and announced the Pops 'n Jazz performance dates.

Mr. Putterman announced the following meeting dates:

1. Budget Workshops/Public Hearing: All to be held in room 314 at 7:00 p.m.
March 13: Budget Workshop #1
March 14: Budget Workshop #2
March 27: Public Hearing Followed by Budget Workshop #3
2. Tuesday, March 19, 2013, Regular Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, Legislative Chambers, room 314

Dr. Overmyer-Velazquez moved, seconded by Mr. Sarzen:

*Board Members:
Communications and
Reports*

*Report from Student
Board Representative*

*Announcement of
Meeting Dates*

Adjournment

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That the Board adjourn at 7:35 p.m.

The motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST:

Bruce Putterman, Chairperson

Naogan Ma, Secretary

Respectfully submitted by: Ms. K. Lawrence, Clerk of the Board

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