

West Hartford Public Schools
Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
February 22, 2017

Present: Mrs. Blanks, Ms. Exum, Dr. Greenberg, Dr. Overmyer-Velazquez, Mr. Pauluk, Mr. Sarzen, Mr. Zydanowicz, Superintendent Moore, Student Representatives Hugo Barrillon (Conard), Sarah Berman (Hall)

Regular Meeting – Town Hall – Legislative Chamber

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<p>The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.</p>	<p><i>Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance</i></p>
<p>No Student Participation at this time.</p>	<p><i>Student Participation</i></p>
<p>No Public Communication at this time.</p>	<p><i>Public Communication</i></p>
<p>No Unfinished Business at this time.</p>	<p><i>Unfinished Business</i></p>
<p>Dr. Greenberg moved and Ms. Blanks seconded:</p>	<p><i>New Business</i></p>
<p>THAT the Board of Education review as a first reading the proposed calendar for the 2018-2019 school year.</p>	<p><i>Proposed Calendar for the 2018- 2019 School Year</i></p>
<p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>	
<p>Mr. Zydanowicz moved and Ms. Exum seconded:</p>	
<p>THAT the Board of Education approve the following policies which were reviewed by the Board Policy Subcommittee: Policies 3310, 3320, 3330, 3420, 3430, 3431, 3440, 3510, 3512, 3513, 3514, 3520, 3531, 3540, 3541, 3550, 5520.</p>	<p><i>Policy Review</i></p>
<p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>	

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Ms. Blanks moved and Ms. Exum seconded:

Revised Policy

THAT the Board of Education accept as a First Reading the following policy which was revised by the Board Policy Subcommittee:

3530 – Property and Casualty Insurance

Motion passed unanimously

Superintendent Tom Moore spoke on the budget and concerns since hearing the governors proposed budget, stating West Hartford was hit hard by cuts in educational aid as well as the Excess Cost Grant (ESC). The superintendent's budget presentation will be held on March 7th, 2017. It was also mentioned that on March 9th, 2017, the Legislative Delegation will be holding a night meeting at Charter Oak to hear constituents discuss the budget. Superintendent Moore congratulated the National Merit scholar finalists and semi-finalists stating Connecticut has the highest average of finalists. West Hartford is very proud to have two finalists from Conard and nine finalists from Hall. Congratulations also went out to the Hall High School boys indoor track team which won the Class L State Championship.

*Staff Communications
and Reports
Superintendent's Report*

Mr. Paul Vicinus, Ms. Kerry Jones, and Ms. Anne McKernan presented the third in a series of commissioned reports on Curriculum. This final report provided focus on instructional practice. The visuals for the presentation are authentic examples of West Hartford teachers and students engaged in work. The goal is to develop not only knowledge and skills but to support the development of conceptual understanding. Ms. McKernan highlighted the eight effective instructional practices noting that while examples provide emphasis on mathematics instruction, practices share universal application across all content areas. Ms. McKernan emphasized the means by which teachers engage students to work collaboratively, to ask questions and solve problems. To facilitate meaningful discourse, teachers pose purposeful open-ended questions and encourage students to pose similar questions with meaningful dialogue with the teacher skillfully facilitating the direction and scope of the discussion. Students learn critical thinking skills by exercising opportunities to challenge each other and own the conversation. Ms. Jones spoke on professional learning and a commitment to the professional growth of all educators. She noted that with this model a change in teacher's classroom practice creates a change in student learning outcomes and a change in teacher's beliefs and attitudes. Professional

*Curriculum: Focus on
Instructional Practice*

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Development highlights included choice in learning targets, individual or team planning for instruction, workshops, collaborative inquiry teams, Leadership Academy, and feedback on instructional strategies. Ms. Jones added emphasis to the fact that professional learning is targeting shifts in instructional practice. Key components include building capacity of teacher improvement, assessment of teacher professional learning needs, and data support to measure progress. The Board commented on the great detail contained within the report commending that state mandates were not mentioned. The Board was appreciative of the report contents and the training of staff. The Board asked questions with regard to the CT Core and how successful outcomes are measured, how the needs are addressed based off the data, mastery based learning, and homework.

Mr. Sarzen moved and Mr. Pauluk seconded:

THAT the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Education meeting of February 7, 2017

The motion passed unanimously.

Student representative Hugo Barrillon reported on the blood drive at Conard and the indoor state track meet. He also mentioned that Conard acting students held fictional character day in which they dressed in and stayed in their respective character for the entire day and that it was well received by all. He also mentioned the jazz dance to be held in the Conard Cafeteria. Student Representative Sarah Berman mentioned the Hall boys track team, the girls basketball team which won the CCC West Blue Title with Glastonbury, and the wrestling team which came in 5th place at the state tournament. She also mentioned that Pops and Jazz tickets will be on sale with show dates March 10th through 18th and the Chocolate Café which will be held at Town Hall on February 25th. Sara also mentioned the student association helped to raise \$1,000 for the CCMC fundraiser.

Dr. Overmyer-Velazquez announced the following meeting dates:

1. Tuesday, March 7, 2017, Presentation of the Superintendent's Budget, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, Legislative Chamber, room 314
2. Wednesday, March 15, 2017, BOE Budget Workshop #1, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, Legislative Chamber, room 314
3. Tuesday, March 21, 2017, regular Board of Education meeting, 7:00 pm, Town Hall, 50 South Main Street,

*Approval
Of Minutes*

*Information and
Reports*

*Announcement of
Meeting Dates*

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Legislative Chamber, room 314

4. Wednesday, March 29, 2017, Public Hearing followed by BOE Budget Workshop #2, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, room 314, Legislative Chamber

David Simon, 168 Westland Avenue, teacher at Hall High School, spoke on the positive outcomes with regard to the Curriculum Focus on Instructional Practice.

*Comments from
Visitors*

Mr. Zydanowicz moved and Ms. Blanks seconded:

Adjournment

THAT the Board adjourn at 9:00 p.m.

The motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST:

Mark Overmyer-Velazquez, Chairperson Carol A. Blanks, Secretary
Respectfully submitted by: Mrs. C. Rogers, Clerk of the Board

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