

Sterling Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
November 20, 2024
Community Room - 6:00pm
“EXCELLENCE WITH KINDNESS”

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by the Board Chair, Courtney Langlois at 6:00pm
Present at the meeting: John Brady, Catherine Malo, Victoria Robinson-Lewis
Absent from the meeting: Jennifer Mossner, Dorothy Capobianco
Also present at the meeting: Theodore Friend, Heather Nickerson, Sara Howley,
Christine Chandler, Paul Brenton

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comment

Mr. Paul Brenton, Superintendent of Plainfield District Schools, came to invite the Sterling Board and Sterling residents to attend a program their PTO is sponsoring. They are bringing in Scott Driscoll of Internet Safety Concepts to give a presentation to parents on December 4, 2024 at 6:00pm at Plainfield High School - the presentation is for adults only.

IV. Reports and Communications

A. Correspondence

B. Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of Meeting October 16, 2024
2. Superintendent's Report
3. Special Education Director's Report
4. Principal's Report
5. Clinical Supervisor's Report
6. Monthly Check Register

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by J. Brady to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
 - Vote: All in favor
 - Motion: Passed

C. Budget and Expense Report

S. Howley gave the Board an update on the following: The 23-24 Audit, tuitions for the 2024-2025 SY, the Excess Cost Grant is ready to submit on Friday, the SEA contract was ratified and brought to the town hall, and that the major focus has been on the preparing the budget for the 2025-2025 SY - which will be ready to present at the December 18th Budget Sub-Committee Meeting.

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by J. Brady to approve the Budget and Expense Report as presented.
 - Vote: All in favor
 - Motion: Passed

D. Plainfield Board of Education Liaison

Paul Brenton spoke about material presented at the Plainfield Board of Education meeting on December 13, 2024 - presented a large report on the Dalia Foundation on disconnected youth in Eastern CT and they presented findings that they had of communities where based on socioeconomic factors and other pieces they were finding that high school students were becoming more disconnected. Killingly, Thompson, Putnam, Plainfield, and Sterling were all communities in Eastern CT that were listed as places where students were at risk to become disconnected based on socioeconomic factors. He will share the report with Sterling.

They also had their first preliminary discussions regarding the addition of a School Resource Officer at the high school.

E. Personnel - Resignation/Retirement

- **New Hire** - Allison Young - Paraeducator

T. Friend noted that we are fully staffed.

V. Unfinished Business

A. Review, discussion, and possible approval of Silver Brooks Energy (Eversource NRES) incentive offer available to the school.

- T. Friend noted that he had shared the contract with the Board Attorney and that there were just a few word changes that needed to be made to the contract, no changes would be made to the content of the contract. He noted that the Attorney felt that it was a fine contract and we would be good to go. T. Friend recommended moving forward with the contract.
- A motion was made by J. Brady and seconded by C. Malo to approve the Silver Brooks Energy (Eversource NRES) incentive offer.
 - Vote: 3- in favor
1-opposed
 - Motion: passed

VI. New Business

A. Review, discussion, and possible approval of the SEA MOA.

C. Langlois and T. Friend noted that when the new SEA contract was created these items were missed in the contract. The following items needed to be added through the MOA: Stipend positions - Volleyball, Esports (Fall), and Esports (Spring) at \$1748. Also being added is After School Activity Programs rate of pay for \$42.89/hr. T. Friend noted that all programs are contingent on the budget.

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by C. Malo to approve the SEA MOA as presented.
 - Vote: All in favor
 - Motion: Passed

B. Review, discussion, and possible approval of the Board Meeting dates for 2025.

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by C. Malo to approve the Board Meeting dates for 2025 as presented/with changes.
 - Vote: All in favor
 - Motion: Passed

C. Policy - 1st Reading

P4000.1,5145.44 - Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified/Students - Sexual Harassment/Title IX (mandated policy)

R4000.1, 4200.1, 545.44 - Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified/Students Sexual Harassment/Title IX

P0521 - Mission - Goals - Objectives - Nondiscrimination Policy and Notice (mandated policy)

P3171.1 - Business and Non-Instructional Operations - Non-Lapsing Education Fund (Non-Regional School Districts)

P5114 - Students - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (mandated policy)

R5114 - Students - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

VII. Committee Updates

- A. Policy
- B. Budget
- C. Negotiations

VIII. Recommendations, Questions and/or Comments

IX. Public Comment

No one spoke at this time

X. Executive Session

A. Director of Student Services Contract

- A motion was made by C. Malo and seconded by V. Robinson-Lewis to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Director of Student Services Contract and to invite T. Friend.

Entered Executive Session: 6:40 pm

Exited Executive Session: 6:55 pm

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by C. Malo to approve the Director of Student Services Contract as presented.
 - Vote: All in favor
 - Motion: Passed

XI. Adjournment

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by J. Brady to adjourn the meeting.
 - Vote: All in favor
 - Motion: Passed
- Meeting adjourned at: 6:57 pm