

Sterling Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
December 18, 2024
Community Room - 6:00pm
“EXCELLENCE WITH KINDNESS”

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Courtney Langlois, Board Chair at 6:00pm

Present at the meeting: Jennifer Mossner, Vice Chair; Dorothy Capobianco, Treasurer; Victoria Robinson-Lewis, Vice Treasurer; Catherine Malo, Board Member; John Brady, Board Member

Also present at the meeting: Heather Nickerson, Principal; Laura Smith, Clinical Supervisor; Kristen Lanzillo, Director of Student Services/School Psychologist; Sara Howley, Business Manager; Christine Chandler, Board Clerk

Absent from the meeting: Theodore Friend, Superintendent

II. Pledge of Allegiance

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by J. Brady to move New Business A. Susan Nash-Ditzel, Superintendent of Killingly Public Schools to before the Consent Agenda.

III. Public Comment

No one commented at this time

New Business

- A. Susan Nash-Ditzel, Superintendent of Killingly Public Schools. Dr. Susan Nash-Ditzel, Superintendent, Michael Lafevre, Assistant Principal, and Chad Neal, Career Center Coordinator attended the meeting and presented all of the opportunities that Killingly High School has to offer. They highlighted their Career Pathways Program which includes: Agricultural Education, Arts & Communication, Construction & Industrial Design, Education, Government & Public Administration, Information Technology, Business & Finance, and CNA. They are currently looking into offering Phlebotomy. They spoke about the various sports programs and the clubs that are offered. They also covered academics and student safety.

IV. Reports and Communications

A. **Correspondence**

B. **Consent Agenda**

1. Minutes of Meeting November 20, 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 with the following changes to the Minutes of November 20, 2024:
 - Agenda should read Minutes
 - Correction John Brade should read John Brady
 - Vote: 4 in favor 2 abstentions: D. Capobianco, J. Mossner
 - Motion: Passed

C. **Budget and Expense Report**

S. Howley gave an update on the budget and expense report. She also stated 25/26 budget is being worked on at this time.

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

D. **Plainfield Board of Education Liaison**

C. Langlois let members know that the Tuition Agreement between Sterling and Plainfield had passed. She also noted that through a Coop Pride Football Agreement other schools were going to be able to join the football team giving them the opportunity to rebuild their football team.

E. **Personnel - Resignation/Retirement**

Resignation - Matthew Guevara -Music Teacher

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by D. Capobianco to accept the resignation of Matthew Guevara with regret.
 - Vote: All in favor
 - Motion: Passed

C. Langlois gave the floor to H. Nickerson to introduce our new Music Teacher, Julie Griffin. Julie will start on January 2, 2025.

V. **Unfinished Business**

A. Policy - 2nd Reading

P4000.1, 5145.44 - Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified/Students - Sexual Harassment/Title IX

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

P0521 - Mission - Goals - Objectives - Nondiscrimination Policy and Notice

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

P5114 - Students - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

R5114 - Students - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by J. Mossner to approve (P4000.1, 5145.44) (R4000.1, 4200.1, 545.44) (P0521) (3171.1) (P5114) (R5114) as presented.
 - Vote: All in favor
 - Motion: Passed

VI. New Business

B. Review, discussion, and possible approval of MOA to add wording to the Director of Special Services/Psychologist's contract.

- A motion was made by D. Capobianco and seconded by J. Mossner to approve the MOA for the Director Special Services/Psychologist's contract as presented.
 - Vote: All in favor
 - Motion: Passed

C. Review, discussion, and possible approval of changing the 2024-2025 School Calendar making January 16, 2025 a half day of school in order to reschedule Parent/Teacher Conferences that were canceled because of the snow day.

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by C. Malo to approve the change to the 2024/2025 School Calendar making January 16, 2025 a half day of school to accommodate the rescheduling of Parent/Teacher Conferences that were canceled because of snow in December.
 - Vote: All in favor
 - Motion: Passed

VII. Committee Updates

- A. Policy
- B. Budget - 25/26 Budget is being created
- C. Negotiations - Wrapping up negotiations with Plainfield and then it will be presented to the Board.

VIII. Recommendations, Questions and/or Comments

None at this time

IX. Public Comment

No one spoke at this time

X. Executive Session

No need for Executive Session at the time

XI. Adjournment

- A motion was made by C. Malo and seconded by V. Robinson-Lewis to adjourn the meeting.
 - Vote: All in favor
 - Motion: Passed

Meeting adjourned at: 7:20pm