Sterling Board of Education

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
March 19, 2025
Community Room - 6:00pm
"EXCELLENCE WITH KINDNESS"

In honor of Board Appreciation Month members of the Sterling Board of Education were greeted with many cards of appreciation and thanks from the students of Sterling Community School.

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Courtney Langlois, Board Chair at 6:01pm

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

Also present at the meeting: Theodore Friend, Superintendent; Heather Nickerson, Principal; Kristen Lanzillo, Director of Student Services/School Psychologist; Christine Chandler, Board Clerk

Absent from the meeting: Sara Howley, Business Manager

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comment

S. Rizer and V. Stolzman were at the meeting representing the SEA in honor of Board Appreciation Month. S. Rizer conveyed the teachers thanks to the Board for everything that the Board does for the faculty and administration. Each Board member was presented with a Crumble Cookie.

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by C. Malo to move item C. Review, discussion, and possible approval of the Plainfield High School Cooperative Agreement to item IV on the agenda.
  - Vote: All in favor
  - Motion: Passed

IV. Review, discussion, and possible approval of the Plainfield High School Cooperative Agreement.

Scott Sugarman, Assistant Superintendent from Plainfield Public Schools, let the Board know how much Plainfield values the relationship with Sterling. They are looking forward to the next five years of working together to provide quality education to the students of Sterling. He also shared tickets with the Board for "The Drowsy Chaperone" being performed at the high school.

- A motion was made by J. Brady and seconded by D. Capobianco to approve the Plainfield High School Cooperative Agreement as presented.
  - Vote: All in favor
  - Motion: Passed

V. <u>Reports and Communications</u>

A. **Correspondence**

B. **Consent Agenda**

1. Minutes of Meeting February 19, 2025
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: 5 in favor
  - Abstention: (1) J. Mossner
  - Motion: Passed

C. **Budget and Expense Report**

T. Friend gave some updates on the current budget. He discussed the increasing charges to electricity, the purchase of books, and that legislation has approved the additional $40 million in funding the current FY25 bringing Sterling's projected reimbursement to $389,000.

- 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**
No one was able to attend.
It was noted that Plainfield had set a graduation date of Friday, June 13, 2025.

E. **Personnel - Resignation/Retirement**
None at this time

VI. <u>Unfinished Business</u>

A. Review, discussion, and possible approval of declaring computers/chromebooks obsolete.

- A motion was made by C. Malo and seconded by J. Mossner to approve computers/chromebooks on the obsolete list.
  - Vote: All in favor
  - Motion: Passed

VII. <u>New Business</u>

A. Presentation, review, discussion, and possible approval of the 25/26 FY School Budget.

T. Friend presented the proposed 25/26 FY School Budget to the Board.

- A motion was made by J. Mossner and seconded by V. Robinson-Lewis to approve the total of $8,502,259.00 for the projected budget and move it to the Board of Finance for their review with the contingency that the business office may make adjustments to the changes in tuitions based on high school acceptances or changes in revenue but not to go over the 2.06% overall increase.
  - Vote: All in favor
  - Motion: Passed

C. Langlois noted that the presentation to the BOARD OF FINANCE would take place THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025 AT 7:00 PM.

B. Review, discussion, and possible approval of adding Killingly High School as another traditional high school for Sterling students.

- A motion was made by C. Malo and seconded by J. Mossner to approve the Killingly High School Agreement for Sterling Students.
  - Vote: All in favor
  - Motion: Passed

C. **Moved to item IV on the agenda** - Review, discussion, and possible approval of the Plainfield High School Cooperative Agreement.

D. Review, discussion, and possible approval of the 2025-2026 School Calendar.

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by J. Mossner to approve the 2025-2026 School Calendar with a change the last day of school should read 2026.
  - Vote: All in favor
  - Motion: Passed

E. Review, discussion, and approval of the 7th and 8th Grade Field Study to Roger William Park Zoo in Providence, Rhode Island on May 22, 2025.

- A motion was made by D. Capobianco and seconded by V. Robinson-Lewis to approve the 7th and 8th grade Field Study Trip to Roger Williams Park Zoo, Providence, Rhode Island on May 22, 2025.
  - Vote: All in favor
  - Motion: Passed

VIII. <u>Committee Updates</u>

A. Policy
B. Budget
C. Negotiations

IX. <u>Recommendations, Questions and/or Comments</u>

C. Malo stated that the Sterling Garden Club was looking for volunteers. She will touch base with H. Nickerson and work on getting a flyer created to send out to the school community.

X. <u>Public Comment</u>

None at this time

XI. <u>Executive Session</u>

A. Residency Issues
B. Personnel Matters

- A motion was made byV. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by C. Malo to enter into Executive Session to discuss Residency Issues and Personnel Matters and invite Mr. Ted Friend.
    - Vote: All in favor
    - Motion: Passed
    - Entered into Executive Session at 6:45pm
    - Exited Executive Session at 6:53pm

XII. <u>Adjournment</u>

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by J. Mossner to adjourn the meeting.
    - Vote: All in favor
    - Motion: Passed
    - Meeting adjourned at 6:53pm