

FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Board of Education
By-Law Ad-Hoc Committee
Agenda

SATURDAY October 11, 2014, 9:45 AM
Fairfield Public Library (Main), Room D
1080 Old Post Road, Fairfield CT 06824

1. Call to Order
2. Attendance - Adhoc By-Law Committee Members
3. Discuss and Approve 9/20/14 Minutes (*Enclosure*)
4. Review and Discuss Amendments to Language Approved Last Meeting Amended Proposal A, 8100- Responsibilities of the Board, para B.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD 8100

B . The Fairfield Board of Education shall have the following functions:

- Building public support and understanding of public education. This means communicating and interpreting the school district's mission to the public, listening to the community, and when appropriate, incorporating citizens' views into the discussions and actions of the Board.
- Implementing state and federal legislation on the local level.
- Developing trust with municipal officials is increasingly important.
- Developing, implementing and monitoring the district's policies, including short and long-term goals. These policies serve as the road map for the school district. They give direction to the administration and staff and become the foundation for accountability.
- Selecting, retaining and evaluating the Superintendent of Schools, who serves as the district's Chief Executive Officer and implements Board policy. Perhaps no single decision a Board makes has more impact than the selection of the Superintendent.
- Developing, in collaboration with the Superintendent, approving and monitoring implementation of the budget. The budget provides resources for the educational priorities of the school district.
- Serving as the impartial hearing panel on such issues as termination and grievance.

Amended Proposal B 8450 - Short Term Goals, Objectives and Action Plans

- a. The Board of Education shall formulate and approve, no later than the first meeting in June, specific Short Term Goals and Objectives which define the District's priorities for the following academic school year, with related Action Plans formulated in collaboration with the Superintendent by the start of the academic school year.
- b. The Board of Education Short Term BOE Goals, Objectives and Action Plans shall be in alignment with the BOE mission statement, long term educational goals ("Long Term Goals"), as well as the school district's 5 year Strategic Plan.
- c. Board of Education annual Short Term Goals and Objectives shall address a) Student Achievement, b) Fiscal Management, c) Board of Education Effectiveness, d) Human Resources e) Facilities and f) Other Special Objectives.
- d. These BOE Goals, Objectives and Action Plans shall strive to be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and define a specific time frame.
- e. The Board of Ed shall in collaboration with the Superintendent review progress towards achieving the stated short term goals and objectives in each December, March, and June, respectively
- f. The Board of Education shall review every December, March and June, respectively, reports by District and individual school, to include measurable results related to School Climate and student achievement in the subjects of Math, Language Arts (Reading, Writing & Grammar) and Science.

Amended Proposal B, 8460 - Strategic Plan:

"In November of each year, the Board of Education shall review the District's Five Year Strategic Plan. The Board, in cooperation with the Superintendent, will publically assess the progress of the existing plan, discuss intended outcomes, and recommend adjustments to the Superintendent, that shall be required due to changes from year to year to include, but not be limited to, student or employee demographics, legislative and regulatory climate or educational requirements."

5. Public Comment
6. Committee Open Comment
7. Set Future Meeting Schedule
8. Motion to Adjourn

**Board of Education
By-Law Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting
September 20, 2014 , 9:45am**

Location: Fairfield Public Library – Room D
1080 Post Road

- **Call to Order:**
9:52am meeting called to order by E McCormack
- **Attendance:**
Members present- E McCormack, D. Karnel, J Llewellyn
Public present - six
- **Motion to Approve 9/13/14 minutes –**
Motion to approve by DK
Seconded ELM
Approved 3-0
- **Review and Discuss Amendments to language of By-laws approved last meeting**
Proposal A: ELM reads amendment approvals from last week. ELM advises that the revision to the Preamble should be raised at a future By-Law discussion as the current mandate does not specifically include this item. The Committee agrees.

ELM makes a motion to amend the 6th bullet point of 8100 Responsibilities of the Board by adding "in collaboration with the Superintendent" to read:

"Developing, in collaboration with the Superintendent, approving and monitoring implementation of the budget. The budget provides resources for the educational priorities of the school district"

The committee and public discuss and agree that this proposed language better emphasizes the collaboration and teamwork required to develop a sound budget.

Vote: 3-0

Amended Proposal B, 8100- Responsibilities of the Board, para B, reads:

B . The Fairfield Board of Education shall have the following functions:

- ***Building public support and understanding of public education. This means communicating and interpreting the school district's mission to the public, listening to the community, and when appropriate, incorporating citizens' views into the discussions and actions of the Board***
- ***Implementing state and federal legislation on the local level.***
- ***Developing trust with municipal officials is increasingly important***

- *Developing, implementing and monitoring the district's policies, including short and long-term goals. These policies serve as the road map for the school district. They give direction to the administration and staff and become the foundation for accountability.*
- *Selecting, retaining and evaluating the superintendent of schools, who serves as the district's chief executive officer and implements board policy. Perhaps no single decision a board makes has more impact than the selection of the superintendent*
- *Developing, in collaboration with the Superintendent, approving and monitoring implementation of the budget. The budget provides resources for the educational priorities of the school district*
- *Serving as the impartial hearing panel on such issues as termination and grievance*

Proposal B:

i) Short Term Goals, Objectives and Action Plans

ELM reads amendments from last week. There are no comments from committee or public.

Amended Proposal B, 8450 - Short Term Goals, Objectives and Action Plans , reads:

- 1. The Board of Education shall formulate and approve, no later than the first meeting in June, specific Short Term Goals and Objectives which define the District's priorities for the following academic school year, with related Action Plans formulated in collaboration with the Superintendent by the start of the academic school year.*
- 2. The Board of Education Short Term BOE Goals, Objectives and Action Plans shall be in alignment with the BOE mission statement, long term educational goals ("Long Term Goals"), as well as the school district's 5 year Strategic Plan*
- 3. Board of Education annual Short Term Goals and Objectives shall address a) Student Achievement, b) Fiscal Management, c) Board of Education Effectiveness, d) Human Resources e) Facilities and f) Other Special Objectives.*
- 4. These BOE Goals, Objectives and Action Plans shall strive to be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and define a specific time frame.*
- 5. The Board of Ed shall in collaboration with the Superintendent review progress towards achieving the stated short term goals and objectives in each December, March, and June, respectively*
- 6. The Board of Education shall review every December, March and June, respectively, reports by District and individual school, to include measurable results related to School Climate and student achievement in the subjects of Math, Language Arts(Reading, Writing & Grammar) and Science.*

ii) Strategic Plan

ELM reads the currently proposed language. No comment from Public. Committee agrees that language is fine.

Amended Proposal B, 8460- Strategic Plan reads:

“In November of each year, the Board of Education shall review the District’s Five Year Strategic Plan. The Board, in cooperation with the Superintendent, will publically assess the progress of the existing plan, discuss intended outcomes, and recommend adjustments to the Superintendent, that shall be required due to changes from year to year to include, but not be limited to, student or employee demographics, legislative and regulatory climate or educational requirements.”

- **Public Comment**

Fairfield resident shares a visual chart where the SMART concept is laid out. It was suggested to change Smart to Specific. Residents in attendance agree that such a visual would be helpful in explaining the concept for both Proposals. It was agreed that the last session might be useful to discuss best ways to convey the message clearly and simply.

- **Committee Open Comment**

ELM reminds DK and JSL to contact CES and CABE if they would like to have additional commentary from these entities. ELM asks residents to invite other interested residents to share opinions and perspectives at the last session.

- **Set Future Meeting Schedule**

ELM suggests that next meeting be held at the same time and place on Oct 11th to take final comments on the language from committee members and public and invites public attendees to invite other residents to attend and share perspectives.

- **ELM motions to adjourn at 11:30am. DK seconds. Vote: 3-0**