

Regular Meeting Notes
Fairfield BoE; August 26, 2014

Call to order of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education and Roll Call

Chairman Philip Dwyer called the Regular meeting to order at 7:40PM. Present were members Eileen Liu-McCormack, John Convertito, Donna Karnal, Jessica Gerber, Philip Dwyer, Paul Fattibene, Jennifer Maxon-Kennelly, John Llewellyn and Marc Patten. Others present were Superintendent David Title, members of the central office leadership team, and approximately 15 members of the public.

Old Business

Adoption of Board Goal(s)

Mr. Patten moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion, ***“that the Board of Education adopt Board Goal(s) # 1, 2, 3, entitled – 1) High School Schedule: Provide budget support and resources necessary to implement the administration’s new high school schedule by fall, 2015;***

2) Long Range District Improvement Plan: Approve, by June 2015, a Long Range District Improvement Plan to achieve the Board’s Mission and Educational Goals with measures of success, action plans and all budgetary impacts; and

3) Manage the schools in an efficient and cost effective manner, while maintaining and improving the quality of educational programs -- per Enclosure No. 3”

Mr. Convertito asked if the mover and seconder would change the motion to remove item #3, Mr. Dwyer asked if the Board would approve this by unanimous consent; Mr. Fattibene objected.

Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded to amend the main motion to remove item number 3 – ***“Manage the schools in an efficient and cost effective manner, while maintaining and improving the quality of educational programs”*** from the main motion and keep item numbers 1 and 2 only.

Mr. Dwyer made a ruling based on past Board practice to not allow public comment on Board Goals since they are an administrative matter. Mr. Llewellyn challenged this ruling, and the challenge failed 4-4-1 (Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Llewellyn in favor; Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten against; Mr. Convertito abstained).

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The motion **“to amend the main motion and remove item #3”** passed 6-2-1 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten in favor; Ms. Karnal, Mr. Llewellyn against; Mrs. Liu-McCormack abstained).

Mr. Fattibene moved/Mr. Llewellyn seconded to amend the revised main motion -- ***“that the Board of Education adopt Board Goal(s) # 1 and 2, entitled –***

1) High School Schedule: Provide budget support and resources necessary to implement the administration’s new high school schedule by fall, 2015;

2) Long Range District Improvement Plan: Approve, by June 2015, a Long Range District Improvement Plan to achieve the Board’s Mission and Educational Goals with measures of success, action plans and all budgetary impacts;

and remove Item #1 from the main motion.

Mr. Fattibene moved/Mr. Llewellyn seconded to amend the amendment regarding removing item #1 from the main motion, and instead of removing item #1, change the language of the goal to read, ***“to develop and implement a new High School schedule by Fall 2015”***.

Motion passed 5-1-3 (Mr. Convertito, Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer Mr. Fattibene in favor; Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly against; Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. Patten abstained).

The amended motion: ***“that the Board of Education adopt Board Goal(s) # 1 and 2, entitled –***

1) High School Schedule: to develop and implement a new High School schedule by Fall, 2015;

2) Long Range District Improvement Plan: Approve, by June 2015, a Long Range District Improvement Plan to achieve the Board’s Mission and Educational Goals with measures of success, action plans and all budgetary impacts

unanimously passed 9-0

Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded to call the main question. Motion passed 6-3 (Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Patten in favor; Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn against)

The original motion, moved by Mr. Patten and seconded by Mrs. Gerber, as amended to read ***“that the Board of Education adopt Board Goal(s) # 1***

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and 2, entitled -- 1) High School Schedule: to develop and a new High School schedule by fall, 2015; 2) Long Range District Improvement Plan: Approve, by June 2015, a Long Range District Improvement Plan to achieve the Board's Mission and Educational Goals with measures of success, action plans and all budgetary impacts -- per Enclosure No. 3"

passed 9-0.

Mr. Llewellyn moved/Ms. Karnal seconded to reopen the discussion on Board goals. Motion passed 5-3-1 (Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn in favor; Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Patten against; Mr. Convertito abstained.)

Mrs. Liu-McCormack moved/Mr. Llewellyn seconded to approve items 4 and 6 –

4) Raise Student Achievement #1 – to ensure the continuous improvement of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment,

8.1: To ensure the implementation of a measurable plan of action that ensures that all students of all levels are appropriately challenged and equipped with globally competitive learning skills to reach their full potential

8.2: To ensure the implementation of an action plan to evaluate and enhance the effectiveness of the elementary and middle school programs for children with special needs, as well as gifted, to increase student achievement

8.3: To ensure the review, evaluation and enhancement for the effectiveness of the various instructional methods and district assessments implemented in-district, including both building and district initiatives, in order to identify and implement best practices.

6) Annual Goal Setting Process: Every year the Board shall put together a comprehensive list of Board Goals and Objectives that address each of the below topics, respectively:

a) Raise Student Achievement for All Students

b) Improve the Fiscal Management of the BoE budget

c) Ensure an Effective Board of Education

d) Ensure we have the highest quality Human Resources

Mr. Convertito moved/Mr. Patten seconded to call the question to close debate on items 4 and 6. Motion passed 6-3 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten in favor; Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mr. Llewellyn against).

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The original motion on items 4 and 6, as moved by Mrs. Liu-McCormack and seconded by Mr. Llewellyn failed 3-6 (Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mr. Llewellyn in favor; Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten against).

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved/Mr. Convertito seconded to approve Goal #8 – ***“Fairfield Public Schools Advocacy: The BoE will provide timely and relevant communication to the community about the school district’s successes, its plans for improvement of student achievement and operations. In time for the 2015-16 budget review process, we will ensure community decision-makers are provided accurate information in response to questions or misleading information promulgated throughout the community”***. Motion passed 7-2 (Mr. Convertito, Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten in favor; Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Llewellyn against).

Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded to call the question and close all debate on Board Goals. Motion passed 6-3 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten in favor; Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mr. Llewellyn against).

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes of July 15, 2014 Special Meeting

Mrs. Gerber moved/Mr. Convertito seconded the recommended motion “that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the 6:00pm **Special Meeting** of July 15, 2014”

Motion passed 7-0-2 (Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. Patten in favor; Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Convertito abstained).

Approval of Minutes of July 15, 2014 Special Meeting

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion “that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the 6:30pm **Special Meeting/Executive Session** of July 15, 2014”

Motion passed 6-0-2 (Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. Patten in favor; Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Convertito abstained. Ms. Karnal was out of the room at the time).

Approval of Minutes of June 24, 2014 Regular Meeting

Mrs. Gerber moved/Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded the recommended motion “that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the **Regular Meeting** of June 24, 2014.”

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Motion passed 8-0 (Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. Patten in favor; Ms. Karnal was out of the room).

Adjournment

Mrs. Gerber moved/Ms. Karnal seconded the recommended motion "that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education adjourn". Motion passed 9-0. Meeting adjourned 10:51PM.