

**Special/Organizational Meeting Minutes
Fairfield BoE, November 15, 2016**

NOTICE: A full meeting recording can be obtained from Fairfield Public Schools. Please call 203-255-8371 for more information and/or see the FPS website (under Board Meeting Minutes) for a link to FAIRTV.

Call to Order of the Special/Organizational Meeting of the Board of Education and Roll Call

Chairman Philip Dwyer called the Special/Organizational meeting to order at 7:10PM. Present were members Anthony Calabrese, Eileen Liu-McCormack, Marc Patten, Donna Karnal, Jessica Gerber, Philip Dwyer, Trisha Pytko, Jennifer Maxon-Kennelly and John Llewellyn. Others present were Interim Superintendent Dr. Stephen Tracy, members of the central office leadership team, and approximately 10 members of the public.

Election of Temporary Chairman/Secretary

Mrs. Gerber moved, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded that in accordance with the By-Laws, Interim Superintendent Dr. Stephen Tracy will serve as Temporary Chairman/Secretary during the election of Board Officers.

Motion Passed: 9-0

Election of Board Officers

Election of Board of Education Chairman

Mr. Calabrese moved, Mrs. Gerber seconded to nominate Mr. Dwyer for Chairman.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved, Ms. Pytko seconded to close the nominations.

Ms. Karnal said after 4 years without a change in the Chairmanship, it would be nice to work with other people in other roles. She doesn't understand why the Board doesn't feel the same way and meant no disrespect.

Motion Passed: 7-2

Favor: Mr. Patten, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Calabrese, Ms. Pytko, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn

Oppose: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal

Votes for Mr. Dwyer – 6 (Mr. Calabrese, Mr. Patten, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Pytko, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly)

Votes against Mr. Dwyer– 3 (Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mr. Llewellyn)

Ms. Karnal asked why the Board felt the need to vote in the same Chairman 4 years in a row.

Mr. Dwyer is voted in as Chairman.

Election of Board of Education Vice Chairman

Mrs. Gerber moved, Mr. Dwyer seconded to nominate Mr. Calabrese for Vice Chairman.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack moved, Mr. Llewellyn seconded to nominate Mr. Patten for Vice Chair; he did not accept.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack moved, Mr. Llewellyn seconded to nominate Ms. Karnal for Vice Chair; she did not accept.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack moved, Mr. Llewellyn seconded to nominate Mrs. Gerber for Vice Chair; she did not accept.

Mr. Patten moved, Ms. Pytko seconded to close the nominations.

Motion Passed: 8-0-1

Favor: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Patten, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Calabrese, Ms. Pytko, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly,
Mr. Llewellyn

Abstain: Ms. Karnal

Votes for Mr. Calabrese – 6 (Mr. Calabrese, Mr. Patten, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Pytko, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly)

Votes against Mr. Calabrese– 3 (Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mr. Llewellyn)

Mr. Calabrese is voted in as Vice Chairman.

Election of Board of Education Secretary

Mr. Calabrese moved, Mr. Patten seconded to nominate Mrs. Gerber for Secretary.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack moved, Ms. Karnal seconded to nominate Mr. Llewellyn for Secretary.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved, Mr. Calabrese seconded to close the nominations

Motion Passed: 8-0-1

Favor: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Patten, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Calabrese, Ms. Pytko, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn

Abstain: Ms. Karnal

Votes for Mrs. Gerber – 6 (Mr. Calabrese, Mr. Patten, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Pytko, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly)

Votes for Mr. Llewellyn – 3 (Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mr. Llewellyn)

Mrs. Gerber is voted in as Secretary.

Mr. Dwyer asked Board members to submit By-Law amendments to Mrs. Brown. He welcomed discussion on By-Law topics without debate, in order to provide advance notice.

Mr. Llewellyn asked for clarification on By-Law change submissions – is it a practice or was it by Board vote?

Mr. Dwyer said the Board had voted on this.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said she is considering an amendment on public comment.

Ms. Karnal said she will send some amendments in before the next meeting.

Mr. Patten said he will also look at public comment; perhaps including public comment at the end of the meeting.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack said she will entertain public comment and may have others.

Mr. Llewellyn said he will also submit a public comment amendment.

Mr. Dwyer said 3 members may work together on a public comment amendment, but not 5; each can also submit separately. Amendments should be submitted to Mrs. Brown by noon on Wednesday before the next meeting – words to be removed should be crossed-out and added words should be in bold. Requested changes to committee or liaison assignments should be submitted to him directly.

<i>Adjournment</i>

Mrs. Gerber moved, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded to adjourn the Organizational Meeting.

Motion Passed: 8-0-1

Favor: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Patten, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Calabrese, Ms. Pytko, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn

Abstain: Ms. Karnal

Meeting adjourned at 7:27PM.

*Respectfully Submitted by Jessica Gerber
Fairfield Board of Education, Secretary*