

**CANTERBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
45 WESTMINSTER ROAD  
CANTERBURY, CONNECTICUT**

Approved 6-13-2017

**Board of Education Meeting** **May 9, 2017**  
**Location: Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle Media Center** **Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**A. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER:**

In Attendance from the Board of Education (BOE): Walt Petruniw, Chairperson;  
Stephen Brown, Vice-Chairperson; Leticia Velasquez; Vivian  
Thumser; Christopher Lippke; John Gentry

Absent: Nancy Duvall

Others Present: Dr. Lois DaSilva-Knapton, Superintendent; Ryan Earley, BMS  
Principal; Jodi Davis, Special Education Director; Sarah Cary,  
Principal CES, and Janice Thurlow, Finance Director

Mr. Petruniw, Chairperson, called the Canterbury Board of Education (BOE)  
meeting to order once a quorum was established at 7:03 pm

Motion: To change to the Agenda to reflect the following:  
Change Item E-6 to Item C-1; Item E-7 C to Item C-2; and  
interchange Item G and Item H.

By: Walt Petruniw  
Second: Stephen Brown  
All in favor  
Motion passes

**B. SPECIAL PURPOSE/RECOGNITION**

1. NJHS Inductees

Kim Waters, 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher BMS introduced the NJHS inductees:

Grade 8	Grade 7
Avery Cloke	Emily Bartoshevich
Ashley Guillot	Ashley Kasacek
Lillian Hagerman	Jackson Lee
Kameron Patenaude	Hunter Stadnicki
Avery Sabrowski	Samuel Sweeney

The Board congratulated the inductees.

2. Honoring Retirees

The Superintendent stated that the three retiring teachers have a combination of 99 years with Canterbury School District.

Joan Jette-Lotreck, Tena Merendina, and Anne Opperman

### C. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

Rosanne Kadyszewski asked if there is a need for so many administrators in the district, she added that she feels we need principal at both school.

1. 2017-2018 Budget discussion regarding new hires and reinstating non-tenured teachers.

The Superintendent stated she has attended the BOF and BOS meetings. She wrote the letter to the BOF as requested by the BOE. She asked all unions for a furlough day which would be a \$22,000 purposed cut, and removing professional development from the Superintendent's contract. The Board discussed the 2017-2018 budget and the impact of an additional 5% reduction. The Superintendent asked the Board to consider reinstating the non-tenured teachers. Mr. Lippke stated that it might be a good idea to reconsider talking to the unions about concessions.

Motion: To direct the Superintendent to communicate with the bargaining unions to open discussion for concessions for the fiscal year 2017-2018.

By: Christopher Lippke

Second: Vivian Thumser

All in favor

Motion passes

Motion: To direct the Superintendent to communicate with the nonunion employees to open discussion for possible concessions for the fiscal year 2017-2018.

By: Christopher Lippke

Second: John Gentry

All in favor

Motion passes

2. 2016-2017 Budget

The Superintendent discussed the 2016-2017 budget and stated we are giving back over \$200,000 to the town, most of that is due to special education tuition.

We had a special education student moved out of district. The Superintendent asked the BOF to include the \$200,000 in the 5% reductions. The BOF said the money goes into the town's general fund.

**D. PRESENTATION AND ACTIONS**

1. Title 1 & Title II –Consolidated Grants
  
2. IDEA Grant
  
3. School Readiness Grant
  
4. Quality Enhancement Grant
  
5. Primary Health Care Project-HUGS Board

Motion: To approve the Grants listed under D 1-5 as presented.

By: Stephen Brown

Second Christopher Lippke

All in favor

Motion passes

**E. PRESENTATION AND ACTIONS**

1. Region 11 Dissolution Study Committee

The Superintendent discussed the letter from Regional District 11 regarding a committee that has been formed to study the advisability of dissolving Regional District 11 which is comprised of Parish Hill Middle High School, grades 7-12. Asking our district if we would be able to accommodate additional middle school aged children, if so, how many seats would we offer; are there any policies or procedures in place for out of district attendance; what tuition rate would we change; how are special education services calculated, provide a course offering (which is more for high school); and what extracurricular and sports team opportunities do we offer. The Board asked the Superintendent to respond to District 11 study letter.

Motion: To ask the Superintendent to respond to the letter regarding the dissolution of Regional District 11 and to open the discussion by sharing our policy for out of district student and current tuition.

By:Leticia Velasquez

Second: Christopher Lippke  
All in favor  
Motion passes

2. Roof Committee

Mr. Petruniw sent an email to Board members explaining the procedure to investigate the possible funding of the Baldwin roof.

3. Policy Committee

Next Policy Committee is scheduled for May 22, 2017

4. Facility Committee

Facility Committee has agreed to allow the BMS bathroom renovations to commence, and updates are accruing. The building is going up behind the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade wing. The fiber optic project is moving along. The Superintendent asked the director of facility to get a current quote for a new oil tank.

5. CIP Committee

The Superintendent wanted the Board to be aware that the CIP Committee was cutting line items that the BOE was not in agreement with. They came to an agreement with the BOS to continue to come to terms with the guidelines. The Superintendent encouraged the Board to read the guidelines that were submitted, she still has issues with a set of guidelines that were approved within five (5) days when there were no guidelines for 25 years. There is no BOE input or approval for the guidelines, she would like the BOE members to voice their opinion to the BOE's CIP representative regarding the guidelines.

6. COMMUNICATION TO THE BOE

Mr. Petruniw stated he received a letter from CABA regarding the renewal of The contract for the fiscal year 2017-2018.

Motion: To renew the CABA contract for the fiscal year 2017-2018 in the amount of \$3,104.00

By:Walt Petruniw

Second: Stephen Brown

Vote:

Walt Petruniw Yay

Christopher Lippke Yay

John Gentry Yay

Vivian Thumser Yay

Stephen Brown            Yay  
Leticia Velasquez        Nay  
Motion passes

Mr. Petruniw received a letter from DHBMS regarding the 8<sup>th</sup> grade recognition ceremony on June 18<sup>th</sup>. The Board present the David Belden Award and asked the members if they want to continue with the award and all chip in. Mr. Lippke said he is willing to help fund the award and requested to talk to Mr. Petruniw after the meeting.

Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 7; 00 p.m. there will be an opioids discussion at the Town Hall.

The Board regular meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm the same day.

Motion: To change the June 13, 2017 BOE monthly meeting from 7:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>

By: Christopher Lippke  
Second: Vivian Thumser  
All in Favor  
Motion passes

## 7. Superintendent's Comments

### a. Enrollment

We received multiple applications for students to attend the STEM Academy and Nathan Hill Magnet School.

### b. Administrators Report

Staff appreciation week; celebration of the arts at CES; CES Spring concert May 18<sup>th</sup>, BMS/CES continuing with hiring process, end of year field trips, talent show students will visit the Senior Citizens at the Town Hall; recognition ceremony is June 14<sup>th</sup>; last day of school June 15<sup>th</sup>

### c. Additional Comments

June 13<sup>th</sup>, CABA legislative wrap-up.

## F. CONSENT AGENDA

### 1. Regular meeting minutes-April 18, 2017

The regular meeting minutes were approved as printed

## **G. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS**

Rosanne Kadyszewski just wanted to thank the Board for listening to her concerns. She stated she just wanted to be heard.

Kelly Chyko parent, commented that the Board made cuts to the students' needs (the arts, sports, and library) instead of cutting the administrators.

Mr. Farland asked the Board the thought process of hiring new positions instead of rehiring the non-tenured teachers.

Bob Droesch, member of the BOF stated the BOF position is we are in a terrible state right now, not knowing what revenue they will be receiving from the State. He does not see a vote on the budget until mid to late June.

That there will have to be some sort of budget in place by July 1, so the town can operate, the Town spends approximately 1 to 1.2 million dollars to operate. Or the Selectman will have to send out what is called a bill rate. The bill rate could be anywhere from 1 to 2 mill increase. This would be devastating to everyone.

CABE fee is this by student's population or town population. The Board did not have an answer.

Christine Petruniw asked the Board, what happens to the teachers who would be tenured at the end of the school and received their notices? She further expressed concern about teachers being laid off.

The Superintendent said that a teacher must have forty (40) months at the end of the year and offered a contract for the next year.

Rosanne Kadyszewski asked how you can interview for new teachers, why can't we move teachers around. The Superintendent said we have to have hire teachers who are qualified for certain subject areas, and they will move as many teachers around as possible.

Mr. Farland asked is there is any possibility that non-tenured teacher being hired back in July, if so do they have to start from scratch The Board said if a non-tenured teacher starts at the beginning of the school year they will not lose their tenure.

## **H. Superintendent's Evaluation (Executive Session Anticipated)**

Motion: To enter into Executive Session at 8:46 p.m. for the purpose of the Superintendents evaluation and invite the Superintendent.

By: John Gentry  
Second: Leticia Velasquez  
All in Favor  
Motion passes

The Board came out of Executive session at 9:42 p.m.

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: To adjourn at 9:42 p.m.  
By: John Gentry  
Second: Leticia Velasquez  
All in favor  
Motion passes

Respectfully submitted,  
Lois DaSilva-Knapton, Acting BOE Secretary