

Union Board of Education
Union, CT 06076
Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 6:30 pm
Union School Library

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Andrea Estell.

Attending: A. Estell, E. Fournier, J. Kavanagh, E. Perkins, M. Silbermann
Sup./Prin. S. Jackopsic, M. Powers, Rec. Secretary. A. Blank was absent.

Others Attending: A. Anthony, B. Bousquet, L. Trinqu

Approval of Minutes

E. Fournier made a motion to approve the minutes from December 11, 2024.
Seconded by M. Silbermann. Unanimously approved.

Individuals to be heard- none.

Communications: Sup./Prin. Jackopsic noted that he received a letter of acceptance from EASTCONN regarding our transportation contract for the reduction to one bus.

Administrative Reports and Activities Summary

a. Superintendent/Principal's Report- With the reduction of one EASTCONN bus we have added a bus with the M & J Bus Company. The students are back into a routine after the holiday break. The State approved our Increasing Educator Diversity Plan. We recently held a Learning Leadership session and noted that the middle school students were great role models throughout the process.

Committee Reports

a. Curriculum- Mrs. Barlow has received a few quotes for new science programs.

b. Communication- none.

c. Transportation- covered in communications.

d. Personnel- none.

e. Building- none.

f. EASTCONN- It was noted that they are facing financial challenges and restructuring.

Financial Report

a. Review of bills- The bills were reviewed and in order.

b. 2024-2025 BOE Spending Plan- Nothing out of the ordinary to report at this point.

Old Business

- a. 2025-2026 Initial Draft Spending Plan- Reductions were able to be made to special education tuition, regular education tuition and health benefits based on current projections. There is a projected additional .5 FTE para-educator need in the primary level. M. Silbermann made a motion to approve the 2025-26 Initial Spending Plan and send to the BOF. E. Fournier seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.

- b. Discussion/review of draft high school agreements/proposals and related negotiation strategies for revisions to same (Possible Executive Session)
M. Silbermann made a motion to move item b in Old Business and item b in New Business until after other agenda items are addressed. E. Fournier seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.

New Business

- a. Indoor Air Quality Checklists- Posted on the website. A short survey was also completed for the state.
- b. Superintendent/Principal Mid-Year Review/Evaluation (Possible Executive Session)- See b under Old Business.

Individuals to be heard- A parent inquired about a time frame when high school contracts will be signed. Appreciation for the cards students made for seniors in town was shared.

Old Business Item b. M. Silbermann made a motion to enter into executive session for a discussion/review of draft high school agreements and proposals, as the public interest in withholding access to such draft agreements clearly outweighs the disclosure of these items, and I hereby move to invite Steve Jackopsic, Superintendent/Principal into executive session. E. Fournier seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried. The board entered executive session at 7:11pm and exited executive session at 7:28 pm.

New Business Item b. J. Kavanagh made a motion to enter into executive session for Superintendent/Principal mid-year review/evaluation and invited Steve Jackopsic, Superintendent/Principal into executive session. M. Silbermann second the motion. The motion unanimously carried. The board entered executive session at 7:28pm and exited executive session at 7:44pm.

Adjournment

E. Fournier made a motion to adjourn. J. Kavanagh seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Michele Powers, Recording Secretary.