

Union Board of Education Special Meeting

Union, CT 06076
Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 6:30 pm
Union School Library
Also via Zoom

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:44 pm by Andrea Estell.

Attending: A. Estell, R. Fischetti, J. Garden, J. Kavanagh
Sup./Prin. S. Jackopsic, M. Powers, Rec. Secretary
Others Attending: J. Crawford

Approval of Minutes

R. Fischetti made a motion to approve the minutes from Feb. 9 and Feb. 23. Seconded by A. Estell. J. Garden abstained from the Feb. 9 meeting. The remaining members approved the Feb. 9 minutes. J. Kavanagh abstained from the Feb. 23 meeting. The remaining members approved the Feb. 23 minutes.

Individuals to be heard: none.

Communications: none

Administrative Reports and Activities Summary

a. Superintendent and Principal's report-Sup./Prin. Jackopsic reported that we are in our third week without masking and things continue to go well. He has consulted with DPH and NDDH and reports no new information from them. More test kits have come from the state. We still have plenty available to go home to families. The IEP reporting system is moving to a new system next year. Sup./Prin. Jackopsic will be engaged in eight weeks of training. We will continue to use Frontline until we migrate to the new system. There are no costs to districts for this change. In mid-April we plan to launch the new teacher websites. USA is helping to design a new logo for the school which will be incorporated in spirit wear available for purchase. Pi Day went very well. Seventh and eighth grade students were engaged in learning leadership, an SEL component. STEM teacher, Mrs. Jacobs posted video and photos from the event on the school website. Mr. Rae and Mrs. Couillard are currently planning an eighth grade field trip to Boston for May or June. The school received a \$500.00 Amazon gift card donation from a parent who wanted to celebrate the good happenings at the school. Eastford School has reached out to us to possibly join them for a field trip to Mystic Seaport. The staff continues with professional development from EASTCONN. We may be eligible to upgrade our water system infrastructure through the Town of Union with the American Rescue Plan funding. Stafford Mechanical is scheduled for annual maintenance of our ventilation system. This includes replacing the air filters for the HVAC system. The front door has been repaired and is functioning well now. There is a team building activity scheduled for April 1 for staff. The BOE/Staff Collaborative is scheduled for March 31 from 3:15-4:15 pm.

b. Staff report- Preschool/Kindergarten teacher Jayzel Crawford presented a PowerPoint to the Board which outlined components of our curriculum. Highlights included writing, science (simple machines), SEL. She shared some video and photos which showed some of the

activities in class. She also recently collaborated with the first and second grade teacher which she said has been a very positive experience for the students. She stated that her experiences in her new position this year have been very positive.

Committee Reports

- a. Curriculum-none.
- b. Communication-none.
- c. Transportation- none.
- d. Personnel-none.
- e. Building-none.
- f. EASTCONN-none.

Financial Report

- a. Review of bills- The bills were reviewed and in order.
- b. 2021-2022 Board of Ed Budget- Sup./Prin. Jackopsic reported that we are still looking at a surplus. He is exploring various improvements that those funds may be used for. Possibilities include sealing the parking lot, technology updates, items for the building/grounds.
- c. 2021-22 Board of Ed Spending Plan-Plans to meet with the Board of Finance (The last meeting was cancelled.). The budget hearing is scheduled for April 12 at 7:30 pm.

Old Business

- a. BOE Goals and Process- Self-evaluation process continues. The Advisory group will be meeting again.
- b. Meet and Greet/New Staff Collaborative Session- Scheduled for March 31, 2022 from 3:15 to 4:15 pm.

New Business

- a. Formation of Policy/Communication Committee- The goal will be to make policy reading process effective. The Board expressed interest in going back to reviewing policy during the second meeting of the month.
- b. 2022-23 School Calendar- Sup./Prin. Jackopsic presented the 2022-23 calendar to the Board members and reviewed the highlights. The Union School calendar closely mirrors The Woodstock Academy calendar. J. Garden made a motion to adopt the Union School 2022-23 calendar. R. Fischetti seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the Union School 2022-23 calendar unanimously carried.
- c. Rockville Vo-Ag Committee Representative- Nancy Kaplan expressed interest in representing the Town of Union. The Board was in agreement that Sup./Prin. Jackopsic invite her to a future meeting to introduce herself and present her qualifications before the Board votes to accept her as a representative.
- d. Tuition Students- Sup./Prin. Jackopsic presented the members with the current policy for resident/non-resident students. He then opened a discussion with possibilities for taking in

tuition students. He will enlist more information and legal help to present to the Board at future meetings to continue the discussion.

e. **Preschool Structure-** Discussion about the differences in development between PreK and Kindergarten. Possibility of a PreK class with focus on three and four year olds to meet children's needs. Discussion may continue during the Curriculum meeting. The advisory group can also be utilized for feedback.

f. **Budget Transfers-** Sup./Prin. Jackopsic asked the Board to transfer: \$5,000.00 from Tuition to Repair/Maint.; \$2,000.00 from Tuition to Equipment; \$3,000.00 from Custodial Cleaning to Repair/Maint.; \$2,000.00 from Custodial Cleaning to Custodial Supplies. J. Garden made a motion to transfer the requested funds as presented by Sup./Prin. Jackopsic. R. Fischetti seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.

Individuals to be heard- none.

Adjournment

Motion by to adjourn at 9:26pm. by J. Garden. J. Kavanagh seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Michele Powers, Recording Secretary.