

BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE
50 Sheffield Street
Old Saybrook CT 06475
(860) 395-3157

The Old Saybrook Board of Education met in Special Session on Tuesday, August 23, 2016, at the the Board of Education Central Office, Old Saybrook, CT 06475.

Board Members

Kelley Kennedy
Philip Broadhurst
Holly King
Eileen Baker
Karen Brodeur
George Chang
James Henderson
Joanne Sullivan
Alan Hyla

Others

Jan Perruccio, Superintendent of Schools
Julie Pendleton, Director of Operations, Facilities and Finance
Kathy Bai, Director of Pupil and Professional Services
Amity Goss, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
Sheila Riffle, Principal of Old Saybrook High School
Joseph Anastasio, Associate Principal of Old Saybrook High School
Mandy Ryan, Principal of Old Saybrook Middle School
Matt Walton, Associate Principal of Old Saybrook Middle School

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Kennedy called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

II. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Audience of Citizens

No citizens addressed the Board of Education

Correspondence

- Jeanne Proctor – Thank you note
- CABE Directory Update
- CABE – Board Member Baker recognition for becoming a Master Board Member

III. MEETING MINUTES

Baker/Sullivan

“Move to approve the July 20, 2016, Special Meeting Minutes as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-1)

Board Member King abstained

IV. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

Strategic Plan

Superintendent Perruccio discussed the work on the Strategic Plan that has taken place since January of 2016. Superintendent Perruccio thanked Dr. Osga for her help in the facilitation and creation process of the plan and she thanked the administrative team for the work they put into customizing the plan for their students and their building.

Strategic Plan Mission Statement: The mission of the Old Saybrook Public Schools is to educate and prepare students to achieve their highest aspirations, care for others and the environment, and contribute to a global society by working in partnership with families and the community, and by engaging each learner in a personalized, meaningful, and rigorous educational program.

Superintendent Perruccio discussed the three goals of the strategic plan with the Board, the action steps that accompany each plan, and the parties responsible for carrying out those action steps.

Goal 1: Consistent implementation of a well-developed, state-of –the-art and fully articulated series of standards and outcomes for learning.

Importance of the Goal: The last decade has produced an avalanche of work on national, international and state standards. These standards are not necessarily evenly developed or shelf-ready for use, thus leaving districts with the daunting task of selecting, prioritizing, organizing and implementing standards that will prepare students for the future they will live in. State-of-the art standards do not abandon the traditional foundations of reading, writing and math but rather extend the definition of “basics” to include decision-making, collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and other essential skills for success in the twenty-first century. They also usher in content that will connect students with understandings necessary to engage in and contribute to global relationships, technology advances, environmental stewardship, and scientific discoveries. This goal is closely aligned with the district’s mission.

Goal 2: Innovative and highly focused instructional design and practices that maximize student engagement while streamlining student work to that which is meaningful and essential.

Importance of the Goal: The District’s mission is also a powerful driver for this goal on instructional design and practice. Personalization and meaningfulness require that instruction be student- centered. Interests and choice enable students to own decisions, maximize their engagement in learning, link to future careers and promote emotional and intellectual growth. When teachers shift their roles to facilitation and coaching, students are empowered. Learning opportunities must break barriers of time and space that often confine students.

Goal 3: Proactive and flexible plans that respond to changing demographics including:

- declining enrollment,
- increasing numbers of students who speak English as a second language

- increasing social and emotional needs of students
- Increasing expense of education in a setting where the number of households with school-age children is declining

Importance of the Goal: Stakeholders are keenly and correctly aware that the demographics in Connecticut, including Old Saybrook, are changing. They recognize that enrollment decline goes hand-in-hand with the decreasing number of households that have school-aged children. The implications for program sustainability and support are profound. In addition to the changing numbers of children to be educated are the changing needs of these children. The increasing numbers of students with social and emotional needs and of students whose dominant language is not English are adding new challenges to schools. Proactive planning for demographic challenges makes sense for students and the community. Old Saybrook must plan to serve its changing demographics.

The Board thanked Dr. Osga for her leadership and her help in facilitating the strategic planning process. Dr. Osga said that she has confidence in the plan because we have a leadership team that models the goals that have been put forth.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Baker/King

“Move to Enter into Executive Session at for the purposes of discussing pending litigation at 8:12”

MOTION: CARRIED (9-0-0)

The Board invited Superintendent Perruccio and Director Pendleton into Executive Session.

VI. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 8:28 PM.

VII. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Audience of Citizens

No citizens addressed the Board of Education.

VIII. REMINDERS

- Convocation – August 26, 2016
- First Day of School – August 31, 2016
- Regular Board of Education Meeting – September 6, 2016 – 7:30 PM
- Regular Board of Education Meeting – September 20, 2016 – 7:30 PM

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Baker/King

“Move to adjourn at 8:31 p.m.”

MOTION: CARRIED (9-0-0)

Karen Brodeur, Secretary
Old Saybrook Board of Education

Minutes recorded and typed by:
Trent Gerbers, Executive Assistant
*DRAFT - Subject to approval at the next BOE meeting