

WINDHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES  
March 22, 2017

BOARD PRESENT: Chair Ms. Osuba, Vice-chair Dr. Sewall, Secretary Dr. Gomez, Mr. Kalajian, Ms. Lambert, Mr. French, Ms. Lessard

BOARD ABSENT: Mr. Montalvo, Mr. Flores-Alvarez

ADMINISTRATION

PRESENT: Superintendent Patricia Garcia, Assistant Superintendents Tracy Youngberg and William Chaffin; Directors: Ms. Beghetto, Mr. Pabón, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Chatey

STUDENT

REPRESENTATIVES: None

OTHERS PRESENT: General public, staff, administrators, news media

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ms. Osuba called the March 22, 2017 Board of Education meeting to order at 7:05pm in the Windham High School Library Media Center.

PLEDGE OF ALLIEGIANCE

Mr. Kalajian led the Board and the Public in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

REPORTS

Approval of Submission of Alliance Facilities Grant Application

Dr. Garcia recommended that the Board of Education approve the submission of Alliance Facilities Grant application. She indicated that this is not a new grant since the District received the funding last year from the State of Connecticut. The amount to be applied for is \$580,000. The plan is to use the funds for classroom heating at Sweeney Elementary School; security cameras at Windham High School, Windham Middle School and Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy; bathrooms at Windham Middle School and Networking at Windham High School. In response to an inquiry from Ms. Osuba, the Superintendent indicated that the grant can only be used for designated items. Ms. Lambert clarified that these funds are not to be used for upgrades to move the Compañeros Program to the Middle School.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

Approval for Submission of the Alliance Facilities Grant Application (Ref. 1)

**Motion by Dr. Sewall, seconded by Mr. Mr. Kalajian that the board approve submission of the Alliance Facilities Grant application.**

**Motion is unanimously approved**

Presentation – Redesign of Windham Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Commissioner’s Network

Dr. Garcia introduced the presentation by explaining that the plan is to move the Middle School to excellence. The middle school time is crucial to student development. She indicated that research shows that a coherent system of instruction, opportunities for students and relevant experiences are vital to provide students with a quality Middle School experience. This District is eager to provide rigorous and personalized opportunities for students. Dr. Garcia gave an overview of the plan. She introduced Mr. Joe DiMartino and Marsha McGovern from the Center for Secondary School Design; Brett Fiore, Principal Windham Middle School; and Tim McClure, Assistant Principal Windham Middle School who presented the concepts of the research, approach and plans for redesigning the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade at Windham Middle School in the 2017-2018 School year. The group responded to questions from the Board members.

## **Executive Session**

There was no Executive Session

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Mr. Montalvo, seconded by Mr. Kalajian, that the Board adjourn its meeting at 8:05 PM.**

**Motion is unanimously approved.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Jaime Gomez, Secretary