

Old Saybrook Board of Education
50 Sheffield Street
Old Saybrook, CT 06475
(860) 395-3157

The Old Saybrook Board of Education met in Special Session on Tuesday, September 11, 2018, at the Old Saybrook Board of Education Office, Old Saybrook, CT 06475.

Board Members

Kelley Kennedy
Jim Henderson
Eileen Baker
Alan Hyla
George Chang
Cindy Sultini
Jan Furman
Karen Brodeur

Others

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

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Kennedy called the meeting to order at 7:03PM.

Chairman Kennedy introduced the newly appointed Board of Education member, Cindy Sultini, and the new Student Representatives, John Gabelmann and Aliana Castro.

II. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Audience of Citizens

Chairman Kennedy reminded the audience members of the rules for addressing the Board of Education. Chairman Kennedy asked Vice Chairman Hyla to keep time for each audience member while the audience member addressed the Board.

A member of the audience of citizens stated that she is proud of the District's schools and noted her appreciation for the fact that bullying is not tolerated. She also expressed her gratefulness that the District is in compliance with state laws regarding the treatment of children in the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transexual (LGBT) Community. The audience member stressed the importance of welcoming all students into our school and declaring the schools a safe space for all students.

A member of the audience of citizens expressed concerns regarding an alleged incident involving her child and a teacher in the District during the 2017-2018 academic year. The audience member also noted disagreement with the administration's handling of the matter.

A member of the audience of citizens stated that her son was witness to the aforementioned alleged incident from the 2017-2018 academic year. She stated that she felt the situation was

poorly handled by the school and the students involved were not supported through the process.

Reports from the Student/Board of Education Representatives

Music:

- The OSHS Chamber Singers Will perform on October 27th at the ACDA choral festival.
- The Chamber Singer will also be performing October 25th alongside the First Church of Christ's Choir, and professional choir *Alchemy*.
- Student pep band will begin playing at home football games starting 9/8

Theatre:

- New director as of last year, Lenore Grunko, made changes to schedule.
- Fall show, *Much Ado About Nothing*, has been casted and rehearsals are underway
- Spring Musical, *On the Town*, will have auditions in about 2 weeks.
- CDA drama festival show will have auditions in the next month for the show *Impromptu* directed by senior Olivia Gaidry.

Sports:

- From September 6th through the 9th each sports team will compete for the first time
- First Football Game (Sept. 8th)
 - Pep Band and Color Guard Ceremony
- Cross Country: Martha's Vineyard Meet on the 9th
- Today: Boys soccer is in East Hampton, Girls Swimming is at Lyman Hall, and Girls Field Hockey is playing Farmington away
- Old Saybrook is hosting the fall sports Student-Athlete accolade night on November 12

Other:

- Revamped Freshman orientation with Link Leaders was a success
- Superintendent and Principle's advisory committee new system
- All extracurriculars and clubs hosting first meetings
- Guidance having meetings with seniors in their English classes about college planning

Superintendent Perruccio distributed a packet of information regarding protections and guidance on civil rights for transgender students to educate the members of the Board of Education.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence sent to the Board of Education.

III. MINUTES

Brodeur/Henderson

“Move to approve the June 19, 2018, regular minutes, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (7-0-1)

Board Member Baker abstained.

IV. EDUCATION ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Field Trip Request – Baseball/Softball Training

Board of Education policy requires that overnight field trips be approved by the Board of Education. The requested overnight trip will take place this spring, pending Board approval. This field trip has the support of the building principal and Superintendent.

Softball and baseball student-athletes have an opportunity to attend a 5 day, 4-night trip to Disney’s Wide World of Sports in Orlando, Florida from March 21 through March 25, 2019. While on this trip, student-athletes will practice and play in varsity level exhibition games against teams from around the country. The focus of the trip is to provide team building opportunities through competition and travel, potentially improve the Old Saybrook Baseball and Softball teams’ ability to compete with surrounding schools, promote 21st century life skills, and allow players to properly prepare for a demanding spring season.

For the full presentation, please follow the link: [Baseball/Softball Field Trip Presentation](#)

Henderson/Furman

“Move to approve the baseball/softball field trip to Disney’s Wide World of Sports, as presented, not to exceed \$1,500 per student”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

Grant/Award Acceptance

According to Board of Education Policy Series 3000 Gifts, Grants, and Bequests to the District, any gift valued over \$500.00 presented to the school district must be brought to the Board for official recognition. The Superintendent of Schools has two such gifts to be recognized by the Board of Education.

Old Saybrook Middle School:

Ms. DeAngelo applied for and was awarded a grant for Old Saybrook Middle School in the amount of \$627. This money will be used for the purchase of flexible classroom furniture to better personalize the learning environment for students in her class. The grant was awarded through DonorsChoose.org.

Inventory of Equipment Purchased with the grant:

* 2 bean bag chairs

* 3 floor seats

* 4 wobble cushions

Old Saybrook High School:

The Old Saybrook High School Science Department was awarded \$2,000.00 as part of the Regeneron Science Talent Search in 2018. This award was won by a member of the class of 2018 for his work in science and mathematics. The award must be used to further support excellence in science, math and/or engineering at the high school.

Profile of a Graduate

Amity Goss, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, presented the Profile of an Old Saybrook Graduate. This profile represents the academic skills and personal qualities our community expects from our graduates.

After two years of groundwork and input, educators worked to create a simple, memorable statement which will become our yardstick for measuring our success in educating students and preparing them for the future. With Board of Education approval, we will build and reinforce instructional systems to grow graduates in the vision of the Profile.

The Board and the Administration engaged in a discussion regarding the Profile of a Graduate statement. The Board noted that the statement was simple, memorable and captured the general ideals that they would expect to see from an Old Saybrook graduate. The Board also contemplated expanding the statement to include a broader view that includes both introspection and retrospection.

To view the full presentation, please follow the link: [Profile of a Graduate](#)

Furman/Baker

“Move to approve the Profile of a Graduate statement, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

Student Enrollment and Staffing

Superintendent Perruccio reviewed student enrollment and highlighted changes for 2018. During budget preparation, the district's projected enrollment for October 1, 2018 was 1,237 and as of the first enrollment report conducted on September 4, 2018, we have 1,217 students enrolled.

The high school has the largest class sizes right now, with incoming kindergarten classes at Goodwin having the smallest enrollment numbers. The disparity between the graduating class sizes and the incoming class enrollment numbers is the greatest factor in explaining declining enrollment across the district.

Superintendent Perruccio made a point to clarify that the enrollment projections used for the 2018-2019 academic year came from a formula developed by the New England School Development Council in December of 2015. The projected numbers are not based on year-to-year actuals from the district.

Magnet School Enrollment

Currently, there are twelve students from Old Saybrook attending Magnet Schools. On behalf of southeastern Connecticut school districts, LEARN operates a number of magnet schools. The Old Saybrook School District is responsible for tuition costs associated with student enrollment in an inter-district magnet program operated by a regional educational service center. This year the district will pay tuition costs of \$5,304 (\$2,652 per student) for two students attending the Dual Language and Arts Magnet Middle School and \$5,980 each for ten high school students attending the LEARN Marine Science Magnet High School. Last year, at this time there were eighteen Old Saybrook students attending Magnet Schools.

Additional costs are incurred by the school district for all special education services required by the student enrolled in a magnet school. The student's parent is responsible for transportation to said magnet school.

Magnet School Athletics

At a previous meeting, the Board of Education and the Superintendent discussed the practice of allowing Magnet School students who reside in Old Saybrook to participate in extracurricular activities and/or athletics at Old Saybrook Public Schools. During this discussion, concern was expressed regarding the cost and potential liability of this practice.

Historically, a staff member made the decision to allow this practice a number of years ago and the practice has continued sporadically to the present.

The Superintendent of Schools recommended that the Board discuss ending this practice, effective at the end of the current academic year. Currently, there are 4 students participating in extracurricular activities and/or athletics with Old Saybrook Public Schools. The Superintendent feels that these students should be allowed to continue with the activity and/or sports that they join this year until they have graduated from school.

The Athletic Director will notify the Magnet Schools directly about this change in practice. The Superintendent will notify the Director at LEARN and send written notification to all parties if the Board of Education is in agreement with this position. Students and families will also be notified through the District's Athletic Handbook.

Baker/Furman

“Move to adopt the Superintendent’s recommendation to limit participation in athletics and extra-curricular activities to students attending Old Saybrook Public Schools or students placed in other Districts by Old Saybrook Public Schools beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year, with the exception for students who are outside of the District and are already engaged in athletics or extra-curricular activities and will continue to be allowed to participate in their chosen sports or activities which they are currently engaged in until their date of graduation.”

Motion: Carried (8-0-0)

School Facility Update

A list of complete or nearly completed projects from the summer of 2018 includes:

- Door monitoring systems
- Panic button installations
- Camera and cable installation
- Security access swipe card systems
- Visitor management systems district wide

Projects completed at Goodwin include:

- Replacement of 3 exterior doors
- New interior door added in the guidance area
- Classrooms were painted
- Other minor repairs were made throughout the building

Projects completed at Old Saybrook Middle School include:

- Cabinet and counter top replacement
- Classroom and office furniture replacement
- Refurbishment of the canopy
- Installation of in ground sprinkler systems
- Minor repairs on ceiling and floor tile
- Painting of hallways and classrooms.

Projects completed at Old Saybrook High School include:

- Engineering study of the parking lot (still underway)
- Classroom furniture replacements
- Refurbishment of the weight room, including new equipment and painting
- Entryway repairs to the sidewalks
- Cafeteria upgrades and furniture replacement (to be completed in late September/early October)
- Other repairs and maintenance, including painting of classrooms where needed

The High School oil tank replacement project has been awarded, and the tank has been ordered. Once the tank is ready to be shipped, the ground will be prepared and the installation will begin.

2019 Meeting Schedule

The proposed meeting schedule for 2019 is as follows:

- January 8, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.
- January 22, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.
- February 12, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.
- February 26, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m. (BOE/Superintendent Leadership Meeting)
- March 12, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.
- March 26, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.
- April 9, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.
- April 23, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.
- May 14, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m. (Superintendent's Year in Review – Q&A)
- May 28, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m. (Superintendent's Annual Evaluation)
- June 11, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.
- June 25, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m. (If necessary)
- September 10, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.
- September 24, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.
- October 8, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.
- October 22, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m. (Fall Leadership Evaluation)

- November 12, 2019 @7:00 p.m.
- November 26, 2019 @7:00 p.m.
- December 10, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.

Baker/Hyla

“Move to approve the 2019 meeting schedule, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

V. DISTRICT REPORTS

Superintendent of Schools

Superintendent Perruccio reported on student and staff activities throughout the District from the first week and a half of school.

Board of Education Chairman

Chairman Kennedy reported that the Executive Director of CAFE contacted her regarding an internship program. She put the CAFE Director in correspondence with Superintendent Perruccio regarding the program.

Chairman Kennedy reported that Board Member Phil Broadhurst resigned over the summer. She publically thanked him for his service on behalf of the Board, saying that he was dedicated to the students Old Saybrook and the educational process. Board Member Broadhurst leaves two vacancies, liaison to Learn and Chairman of the Facilities Committee, which will need to be filled by the Board. Chairman Kennedy asked Board Members to consider volunteering to fill those roles.

VI. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Audience of Citizens

No citizens addressed the Board.

VII. REMINDERS

- OSHS – College Senior Planning Night – September 11 – 6:30PM
- OSHS – PTO Meeting – September 12 – 7:00PM
- OSHS – Open House – September 13 – 7:00PM
- KGS – PTA Movie Night – September 14 – 7:00PM
- OSHS – College Fair – September 17 – 6:00PM

- District – Board of Education Meeting – September 25 – 7:00PM

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Baker/Hyla

“Move to adjourn at 9:05PM”

MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)

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

