

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

The Old Saybrook Board of Education met in Regular Session on Tuesday, November 27, 2018, at the Board of Education Office, Old Saybrook, CT 06475.

**Board Members**

Eileen Baker  
George Chang  
Tara Barros  
Alan Hyla  
Karen Brodeur  
Jim Henderson  
Cindy Sultini  
Karina Julius

**Others**

Jan Perruccio, Superintendent of Schools  
Julie Pendleton, Dir. Operations, Facilities & Finance  
Amity Goss, Dir. Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment  
Kathy Bai, Dir. Pupil and Professional Services  
Sheila Riffle, Old Saybrook High School Principal  
Matt Walton, Old Saybrook Middle School Associate Principal  
Heston Sutman, Kathleen E. Goodwin School Principal

**I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Barros called the meeting to order at 7:04PM.

**II. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS**

Audience of Citizens

Chairman Barros reminded the audience members of the rules for addressing the Board of Education and asked Vice Chairman Hyla to keep time during the comment.

A member of the audience shared her experience in the front office of the Middle School with a teacher that she claimed made her uncomfortable.

A member of the audience asked for the Board to meet privately with his son regarding an alleged incident from the 2017-2018 academic year.

A member of the audience thanked the Board of Education and expressed his approval for the academics and extra curriculums within the District. He also praised the District's administrators and teachers for their efforts.

Reports from the Student Representatives

**Sports:**

- Football: 6-4
  - The boys team finished off their season the 21<sup>st</sup>. They traveled to Morgan to play under the lights. There was a lot of alumni, family, and friends in the audience. Despite the freezing weather, the rams defended the "Shoreline Cup" for the third year in a row with a win over Morgan 32-24. This was their

fourth consecutive win. According to senior captain Luke Duffy, it was an "overall great team win."

- Boys Soccer:
  - November 14<sup>th</sup>, the boys played Windsor Locks on our home turf. The Rams won with a final score of 3 to one. This advanced them to the final round of the State Championship tournament.
  - On the 18<sup>th</sup>, the Rams traveled to Middletown high school to play Morgan for the State Championship title. The first half was uneventful, but within the second half junior Shon Ryan and the junior Jack Colella scored. Morgan then made one goal. However, the boys were able to hold off the Morgan boys to take the win. This was the first Boys Soccer State title in over 30 years.

**Music:**

- 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade combined chorus concert
- Next Friday, Connecticut Drama Association Competition play will be performed. The show is directed by Olivia Gaidry.

**Other:**

- Exploramos hosts Friendsgiving at the high school
- Destiny Africa came and performed
  - A group called Destiny Africa Children's choir from Kampala Children's Center, Uganda, came to share their stories and their culture with the high school. They finished their performance by inviting the audience up on stage to join them in a dance.
- Juniors traveled to Washington DC
  - Viewed the monuments, memorials, museums, and Arlington National Cemetery. At night they went on a dinner cruise and attended the play "Shear Madness" at the Kennedy Center. After the snow on the ride down, the weather was beautiful. Overall, the trip was a great bonding trip for the class and was beneficial to occur earlier in the year.
- John Gabelmann and Bridget Souriyamath were the MSSA students of the year from Old Saybrook.
- Yale University sponsored presentations at the High School on vaping and e-cigarettes. The presentations were well received by the student body.

Correspondence

The following correspondence was sent to the Board of Education:

- National Honor Society Induction Ceremony Invitation
- CABE/CAPSS Conference Summary Book
- Professional Development Form from Board Member Sultini regarding CABE/CAPSS Conference Experience
- Three Professional Development Forms from Superintendent Perruccio regarding CABE/CAPSS Conference Experience

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Brodeur/Baker**

**“Move to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented ”**

**MOTION: CARRIED (7-0-1)**

**Board Member Henderson voted against the motion.**

**IV. EDUCATION ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

Chairman Barros asked the Board to add an item to the evening’s agenda regarding the safety measures taken in response to a vague threat made towards public schools in the state of Connecticut.

**Hyla/Julius**

**“Move to add discussion regarding District Safety Measures to the agenda”**

**MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)**

Superintendent Perruccio discussed a threat that was made regarding a possible school shooting at a public school in Connecticut. She outlined the conversations she had with the Chief of Police and emphasized the very small window of time that was available to make important school safety decisions for today. After the additional security measures were put into place, it took 30 minutes to enter all students at Old Saybrook High School and 40 minutes at Old Saybrook Middle School. Superintendent Perruccio praised the response of students and staff to the inpromtu security procedures.

Chief Spera elaborated on the specific actions that were taken to ensure student safety across the District from his perspective. Among other things, metal detectors were brought into Old Saybrook High School, metal detecting wands were given to officers for use at the school entrances, all road construction was suspended for the day, and training was given to officers so that they could quickly and safely enter students into schools as quickly as possible.

Both Superintendent Perruccio and Chief Spera emphasized the importance of collaboration between their respective agencies and timely communication with the public. Updates were sent to families throughout the day, beginning with an email about the situation, followed by an email regarding buses running late because of the enhanced safety procedures, and ending with a follow up letter from Superintendent Perruccio and Chief Spera explaining that the threat was investigated and no ties to Connecticut were found over the course of the investigation. Superintendent Perruccio also praised M&J for their work during this situation.

The student representatives commented that the added security was not a big disruption and information was given quickly. They added that the police presence helped to relieve potential anxiety and the day proceeded as normal after students entered the school.

## Capstone Project Presentation

As part of the District's graduation requirements, each senior must present a Senior Capstone Project on a subject of their choosing. These projects represent a culmination of accumulated knowledge and test each student's ability to research, interview, create and present an idea from its genesis to its final form. Old Saybrook High School Teachers Kristen Hunter and Sarah Fawcett presented on the Capstone Projects, the process students go through to create their projects, the presentation format, and other topics related to these projects.

To view the full presentation, please click the following link: [Capstone Project Presentation](#)

## **Baker/Brodeur**

**“Move to accept the Capstone Project criteria, as presented”**

**MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)**

## Seal of Biliteracy

The Seal of Biliteracy recognizes the value of learning a second language to the degree of high proficiency, and promotes educational equity of English Learners in Old Saybrook. Old Saybrook High School World Language Teacher and World Language Instructional Leadership Team Representative Manon Zumbaum, Old Saybrook High School World Language Teacher Amy Claffey, and Old Saybrook Middle School World Language Teacher Jacqueline Hakim presented the eligibility criteria for the Seal of Biliteracy, why it is important, how the process works and how the Seal ties in to current programming at Old Saybrook High School.

To view the full presentation, please click the following link: [Seal of Biliteracy](#)

## **Baker/Sultini**

**“Move to approve the Seal of Biliteracy program, as presented”**

**MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)**

## **V. REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATION**

Kathleen E. Goodwin – Principal Sutman elaborated on Grade 3 collaboration training and how teachers are helping students understand collaboration skills and recognizing if they have those skills. Principal Sutman also discussed integrated special classes at Goodwin, stating that the first unit was about weather.

Old Saybrook Middle School – Associate Principal Walton discussed the voluntary Patriot’s Pen essay contest. Two of Old Saybrook’s eighth grade students won high honors for their essays.

Old Saybrook High School – Principal Riffle clarified which students are eligible for high school’s accounting course. Principal Riffle also discussed the Discovering Differences program, which is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Southeastern, Connecticut.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment – There was no additional report.

Operations, Facilities and Finance – Director Pendleton clarified points in the Budget Transfers policy.

**Baker/Brodeur**

**“Move to add Budget Transfers as a new agenda item”**

**MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)**

**Baker/Sultini**

**“Move to approve the Budget transfers/adjustments per Board of Education policy between funds, as presented”**

The Board asked that the back up documentation for this motion be attached to the minutes.

**MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)**

Pupil and Professional Services – Director Bai expanded on Universal Screeners and how the results are used to provide resources for students and parents.

Superintendent of Schools – Superintendent Perruccio elaborated on progress being made towards exploring moving Grade 4 to Goodwin Elementary.

**VI. REPORTS BY BOARD COMMITTEES/LIAISONS**

Budget and Fiscal Committee – The joint meeting of the Board of Finance and Board of Education is December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM.

CABE – 16 students came to the CABE Conference for the Student Representatives panel and engaged in a robust discussion regarding their roles.

Facilities – Director Pendleton presented information about the oil tank, High School cafeteria renovations, and lighting at the athletic fields.

LEARN – There was no report.

Strategic Planning Committee – There was no report.

Demographics – The Committee is moving forward with some of the short term solutions presented at the last Board of Education meeting.

Personnel – There was no report.

Policy – There was no report.

Chairman’s Report – Chairman Barros reported that she attended the CABA Delegates meeting and worked with other delegates to determine what items the group would like CABA to advocate for with the legislature in the coming year.

## **VII. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS**

### Audience of Citizens

No audience members addressed the Board of Education

## **VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### Hyla/Julius

**“Move to enter into Executive Session at 9:35PM for the purpose of discussing the proposed Administrator Contract”**

**MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)**

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

## **IX. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

**The Board returned to open session at 9:55PM**

### Brodeur/Julius

**“Move to ratify the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Old Saybrook Board of Education and the Administrators’ Union for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022, as presented”**

**MOTION: CARRIED (8-0-0)**

## **X. REMINDERS**

- OSHS – National Honor Society Induction – November 29 – 7:00PM
- OSHS – Breakfast with Santa & Jingle Bell Run – December 1 – 8:00-10:00AM
- OSHS – Tuba Christmas – December 1 – 1:00PM

- District – Joint Board of Education/Board of Finance Meeting – December 4 – 6:00PM
- District – PD Half Day – December 7
- OSMS – Book Fair Begins – December 10
- OSMS/OSHS – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Open House – December 10 – 6:00-8:30PM
- OSHS – Parent Action Council Meeting – December 11 – 6:00PM
- OSHS – PTO Meeting – December 11 – 7:00PM
- OSMS – Grade 7&8 Band/Chorus Concert – December 11 – 7:00PM

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Baker/Sultini**

**“Move to adjourn at 9:57PM”**

**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