

PUTNAM BOARD OF EDUCATION

SECRETARY'S REPORT

January 19, 2021

The Putnam Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. The meeting was held via Zoom.

Attendance: Carrie Blackmar, Kevin Davis, Lauren Konicki, Michael Morrill, James Purdon (7:07 PM), Christopher Steinbrick, Marieanne Viens, Jill Zangerl

Absent: Margaret McHugh

Others: Daniel P. Sullivan, III, Superintendent of Schools; Nancy T. Cole, Business Administrator; Kristina Perleoni, Recording Secretary

Jill Zangerl called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Student Representative

Brenna Fowler gave the Board an update on activities being held across the Family Resource Center, Elementary, Middle, and High Schools.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Christopher Steinbrick made a motion to approve the December 15, 2020 regular meeting minutes and the December 21, 2020 special meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Kevin Davis and passed unanimously.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

3. PRESENTATIONS

Pride of Putnam Awards were presented to students and staff at Putnam Elementary School.

PES Students: Laila Karadeniz and Avery Meyette

PES Staff: Sara Desjarlais, Erica Pelish Sundstrom, and Teresa Ross

4. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Courtney Crofts expressed her concern about a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination. She understands precautions of COVID-19, but is concerned about the vaccination being mandatory for staff.

5. **REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEES**

a. Committee Reports

1) Policy Committee Report

No report.

2) Facilities Committee Report

No report.

3) Curriculum Committee

No report, but will be planning to meet before the February board meeting.

4) Communications Committee

Marianne Viens brought up the topic of the Board responding to the proposed ECS funding model. Superintendent Sullivan will draft a response and share it with the Board. She further reported that she and Superintendent Sullivan are working on the CAPSS proposal.

5) CABE Events Update

No report.

6) Batting Cage Ad Hoc Committee

No report.

b. Financial Reports, Nancy T. Cole

Nancy Cole updated the Board on the year-end expenditure report for 2020/2021. An excess cost report and Family Resource Center report were also presented. A quarterly report for the school facilities account was included in the packet.

c. Superintendent's Report, Daniel P. Sullivan, III

1) A Personnel Report was included in the Board packet.

2) Budget Workshop

The budget workshop will be held on January 26, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

3) State of Connecticut Department of Education Certification Compliance Report 20/21

A letter from the State of Connecticut Department of Education stating that Putnam Public Schools is in full compliance for certification compliance was included in the packet.

4) COVID-19 Update

Superintendent Sullivan stated that Putnam and Eastern Connecticut are still reporting high COVID-19 cases. 32% of all Putnam cases have occurred in the last two weeks. Due to these conditions, the start of winter sports has been delayed at the recommendation of the district's medical advisor. Although winter sports are delayed, conditioning will be allowed in groups of 2-4 with social distancing and masks. Superintendent Sullivan stated

that he will be communicating with the district's medical advisor this week to get her recommendation on the start of winter sports as well as the return to in-person learning for next Monday, January 25th.

Superintendent Sullivan touched on the subject of a vaccination for district employees. District employees will be a part of group 1B according to the VAMS program. It has not yet been reported when teachers and essential workers will be receiving the vaccine. Superintendent Sullivan gave credit to school nurse coordinator, Linda Roto for managing everything in regards to the vaccine for the district.

- 5) School Monthly Reports were included in the Board packet. Superintendent Sullivan also gave credit to Sean McNamara for doing an incredible job getting the district back on track with technology during this transition period.

d. Board Chair Report, Jill Zangerl

Jill Zangerl thanked the administrators and everyone who put together the monthly reports. She also informed the Board that they will need to replace Jeannie Dodd on the school wellness committee.

6. BUSINESS

a. Discussion Regarding the Vaccination of District Employees

The board discussed the vaccination for District employees and suggested educational materials be provided to staff.

The Board took a brief recess.

Lauren Konicki made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:50 PM to discuss a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Kevin Davis and passed unanimously. Superintendent Sullivan and Nancy Cole were invited to attend.

Chris Steinbrick made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:23 PM. The motion was seconded by Marieanne Viens and passed unanimously.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Lauren Konicki made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Carrie Blackmar and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Blackmar
Board Secretary