

WALTHAM C.C. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #185  
**OCTOBER 15, 2014 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
South Building-Board Room

Board President Jim McCabe called the Waltham Elementary School Board meeting of October 15, 2014 to order at 6:11 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Board Members present: Jason Depenbrock, Buffy Hoskins, Kathy Jereb, Michael Roebuck, Brian Shofner, Jeff Whalen and Jim McCabe  
Board Members Absent: None

**Also Present:** Mrs. Kristine Eager, Principal, Dr. Larry Carlton, Interim Supt., and Mrs. Melanie Lukacsy, Asst. Principal

**Pledge of Allegiance:** All

**Visitors:** Arch Hopkins (Hopkins & Assoc.), Pam Stack (WEEF), Kathy Schultz (Teacher Rep/Presentor), Mike & Kristen Adams (Parents), Missy George (Parent), Prudence Halm (PTCC), Alan & Rhonda Aimone (Parents), Alice Westbrook (Paraprofessional), Jill & Don Bollis (Parents), Rick Hardy (Parent), Jayne & Mark Henry (Parents), Tom Collins (News-Tribune).

**Presentation:** Mr. Arch Hopkins of Hopkins & Associates, District Auditors presented the FY14 Annual Audit to the Board. He stated the books are very well maintained and there were no adjusting journal entries. The Board thanked him for doing a good job and for his promptness in presenting the audit.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** Jeff Whalen moved, second by Brian Shofner to approve:

- Regular Budget Hearing September 24, 2014
- Regular & Executive Board September 24, 2014,
- Regular Board Retreat October 14, 2014
- Treasurer's Report,

Roll Call Vote: "Yeas" – Jason Depenbrock, Buffy Hoskins, Kathy Jereb, Michael Roebuck, Brian Shofner, Jeff Whalen, and Jim McCabe. "Nays" – None. Motion carried with 7 yeas, 0 nays.

**Reports, Updates and Informational Items:**

1. Facilities – Mrs. Eager reported there will be the first Community Engagement Meeting on Thursday, October 16, 2014 at 6 p.m. at Waltham North with tours of each building from 5-5:45 p.m.
2. Enrollment – Current enrollment is 225.
3. Teacher Presentation – Kathy Schultz: Mrs. Schultz presented samples of art work from all grade levels and explained, along with Prudent Halm, the Original Works fundraiser, which is getting underway.
4. IASB PRESS Policies – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Dr. Carlton reviewed the current policy changes.
5. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Financial Report – Dr. Carlton stated the District is in very good shape, but if Senate Bill 16 is passed, \$311,000 could be the District's responsibility towards the TRS system – and that amount will increase each year as staff receives raises in salary.
6. 2014-2015 Coaches – Mrs. Eager presented a list of the current coaching staff and stated the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> GVB Coach may change.
7. Annual Fire Marshal Reports – New regulations state there can be nothing hanging from the classroom ceilings, or within 18 inches.
8. 2014-2015 Handbook Amendment – Mrs. Eager is asking the Board to approve an amendment to the Handbook that disallows the wearing of jewelry of any kind during grades 3-8 P.E. class for the safety of all students. The Board amended it to include all students, grades K-8.
9. Bond Council – Dr. Carlton would like to seek out bids and have one or two of the Board members go over the information received in order to recommend a company to the Board.
10. Principal/Asst. Principal Report – Mrs. Lukacsy reported: the first Jr. High Dance was a success, thank you Sherri Kurtz and committee; the NED show was very exciting for the students, not only for the message but also the yo-yo tricks; congratulations to Meygan Echols for being picked for the IMEA band performance at Augustana College; thank you Nathan Pappas for allowing us to participate in McTeacher night-the school earned \$650 which will go toward the purchase of PBIS T-

shirts for all students; the Utica Fire Department brought the smoke house for the fire drills; and the Fall Festival will be Friday, October 24, 2014 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Waltham South.

**Other:** A. The Board addressed a letter from the Bollis family which was similar in content to others received regarding the District's Spring Break. Mrs. Eager reiterated the procedure she, Mrs. Lukacsy and Dr. Carlton used in planning the break-no other schools were taken into consideration, only how many weeks until the end of the school year (it was decided that seven was better than having eight), and the month of April would be more conducive to outside recess than March.

B. Mr. McCabe restated that recent staff changes are due to promotions and relocations.

C. Mrs. Westbrook asked to address the Board on the topic of staff turnovers and would they look at the number of employee's that have left the District (she stated half of the staff). She also stated that in contacting other District's, Waltham has a much higher turnover rate and she feels the Board doesn't contact the staff member to find out why they are leaving. She was informed it would be looked into.

**Action Items Prior to Executive Session:**

**7.1 Approve FY14 Annual Audit:** Kathy Jereb moved, second by Brian Shofner to approve the FY14 Annual Audit as presented by Mr. Arch Hopkins of Hopkins & Associates. Roll Call Vote: "Yeas" – Jason Depenbrock, Buffy Hoskins, Kathy Jereb, Michael Roebuck, Brian Shofner, Jeff Whalen and Jim McCabe. "Nays" – None. Motion carried with 7 yeas, 0 nays.

**7.2 Approve Handbook Amendment:** Jason Depenbrock moved, second Michael Roebuck to approve the 2014-2015 Handbook Amendment as presented with the change to grades K-8. Motion carried with 7 yeas, 0 nays.

**7.3 Approve to Let RFP for Bond Council:** Jeff Whalen moved, second by Jason Depenbrock to approve the Letting of an RFP for Bond Council as presented. Motion carried with 7 yeas, 0 nays.

**Executive Session:** Buffy Hoskins moved, second by Brian Shofner to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, performance or dismissal of specific personnel. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) at 7:34 p.m. Motion carried with 7 yeas, 0 nays.

**Closed Meeting Roll Call:** "Yeas" – Jason Depenbrock, Buffy Hoskins, Kathy Jereb, Michael Roebuck, Brian Shofner, Jeff Whalen and Jim McCabe. "Nays" – None.

**Motion to Return to Open Session:** Jeff Whalen moved, second by Kathy Jereb to return to Regular Session at 8:13 p.m. Motion carried with 7 yeas, 0 nays.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Jeff Whalen moved, second by Brian Shofner at 8:17 p.m. Motion carried with 7 yeas, and 0 nays.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan J. Hewitt  
Board Secretary

James P. McCabe  
Board President