

Board of Education Ellington, Connecticut

February 17, 2021

A regular virtual meeting of the Ellington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, February 17, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. via Google Meet.

Present were: Mr. Blanchette and Young; Ms. Dzen, Picard-Wambolt, Nord, Kupferschmid and Underwood, and Dr. Scott Nicol, Superintendent of Schools.

Administration present were: Mr. John Collins, Director of Technology; Mr. Brian Hendrickson, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Mr. Brian Greenleaf, Director of Finance and Operations and Dr. Kristy LaPorte, Director of Special

Also in attendance: Ms. Jennifer Brown, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/Human Resources Coordinator; Mr. Richard Diamond, Music/Chorus Teacher at Ellington High School and Ayushman Choudury, Appointed Board of Education Student Representative.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Mr. Purcaro, Chairman. (0:12:02)

Pledge of Allegiance (0:14:11)

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Live Virtual Performance - EHS Drop the Bass, conducted by Richard Diamond
(0:15:09)

CITIZENS AND STAFF FORUM (0:22:32)

Ms. Martha Allegue thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak at tonight's meeting in support of the district library media specialists. Ms. Allegue read a short excerpt from a letter which was sent by Connecticut Association of School Librarians President Barbara Johnson to Dr. Nicol, Mr. Purcaro and Ms. Dzen. The 2018 article, entitled *Why school librarians matter*, described years of research that explain how school librarians are in a unique position to positively affect every learner in the school building in numerous ways. First, school library impact studies have consistently shown positive correlations between high quality library programs and student achievement. Second,

school librarians also support and coach classroom teachers in using digital resources, emerging technology and other newly adopted programs. Third, students tend to thrive academically where library programs provide ready access to free and subscription based online resources alongside more traditional collections of books, periodicals and audiovisual resources. The American Association of School Librarians has updated their position statement on the effect of school libraries as well as their national standards for libraries, librarians and learners. In short, well staffed and well funded libraries offer inclusive spaces, diverse collections and are instrumental in building information literacy skills needed for lifelong learning.

Ms. Allegue shared her perspective by stating her child has been fortunate to experience the programs and activities offered in our district libraries. In addition Ms. Allegue has volunteered in the Windermere school library for about 7 years and has worked in the Windermere, Ellington Middle School and Ellington High School libraries. Ms. Allegue's first hand experience indicated how school librarians have a positive effect and the importance of library programs continuing to be offered to our students at all grade levels and allow us to take advantage of new methodology in the future.

Ms. Ramona Peretti of 19 Hall Road in Ellington addressed the Board. Ms. Peretti introduced herself as a parent and as an educator from West Hartford Public Schools. Ms. Peretti expressed her concerns regarding the sacrifice of one position for another and our district touting that it spends the least on students individually isn't something that a district should be proud of. Ms. Peretti expressed her support of the Gifted and talented teacher as having a child that early on being identified as gifted and talented and having no resources provided by the district. Ms. Peretti as an educator has worked with both librarians and library aides and feels they are an essential resource and serve a greater purpose. Ms. Peretti continued by stating that children are struggling socially and emotionally during this difficult time and librarians media specialists are another vital support system in the schools. Ms. Peretti felt that children should be our greatest resource and a possible difficult decision of sending her child out of the district to receive education. Ms. Peretti concluded by expressing her preference of paying higher taxes in Ellington to allow resources like librarians and media staff to stay in our district. Mr. Purcaro thanked Ms. Peretti for her time and the Board would take her comments into consideration.

Ms. Jeannie Zulick of 180 Porter Road in Ellington addressed the Board with her perspective and support of keeping library media specialists in schools. Ms. Zulick stated that she was a resident of Ellington for twenty five (25) years and children had

attended Ellington Public Schools. An attorney and published author, Ms. Zulick has had

the opportunity to visit schools virtually and in person across the country. Ms. Zulick has known library media aide Nancy Canavan and library media specialists Lisa Polack for many years. Ms. Zulick recently met with Ms. Polack's sixth grade class and commented on how Ms. Polack wasn't only teaching students to be great readers, but how to be great scholars, sympathetic individuals and global citizens. Ms. Zulick referenced a quote which stated that a library without a librarian was just a room full of books. Understanding that the ultimate goal is to add positions to teach enrichment and a gifted and talented program, Ms. Zulick expressed her concern that the proposal was to cut library staff who serve to enrich every student, not just students selected for the gifted and talented program. Ms. Zulick concluded, by asking the Board to consider the consequences of eliminating a library media specialist position and how it could affect students. Mr. Purcaro thanked Ms. Zulick for her time and would take her comments into consideration.

Mr. Mark Mahler addressed the Board with and acknowledged that it was a tough budget year and thanked the Board for all the hard work. Mr. Mahler confirmed his concerns regarding the proposed elimination of the library media specialist positions along with the previous speakers.

Mr. Mahler commented on the Covid-19 vaccine becoming available for teachers and staff and asked if the Board had taken into consideration staggering the vaccinations and its possible adverse reactions from the second dose presenting a demand for substitutes for teachers. Mr. Mahler asked if a clinic could be set up similar to previous flu shot onsite vaccination clinics.

Mr. Purcaro responded by explaining that the administration has been a strong advocate of getting all staff vaccinated including any staff member in a confined space with multiple children (i.e bus drivers). The plan that Ellington Public School has is outstanding, with the plan to stagger vaccinations and that Dr. Nicol, Mr. Greenleaf and the Board of Education would communicate soon once the approval of expanding Group 1B for the Covid-19 vaccine. Mr. Purcaro thanked Mr. Mahler for his comments.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT (0:39:08)

Mr. Purcaro took the opportunity to thank each and every board member for their service and announced his resignation as chairman of the Board of Education. Mr. Purcaro has accepted the Vice Chairman position with the town's Board of Finance

and looks forward to continuing to work closely with the administration and the Board of Education to help advance the current agenda. Mr. Purcaro expressed his admiration and respect for each Board member, and has believed that our schools are truly the

heart of our community and a strong relationship between the school system and the Board of Education with the town government. Mr Purcaro plans on continuing that strong relationship to provide sustainability of our school system in the future and requested by due process the Board make a motion to accept his resignation.

A motion was made to move that the Board of Education accept, with sincere regret and utmost adoration, the resignation of Michael J. Pucaro as Chair of the Board of Education effective immediately and accept the resignation of Michael J. Pucaro from the Board of Education effective March 17, 2021.

1st. J. Dzen

2nd. K. Picard-Wambolt

VOTE: Unanimous. The motion passed.

Ms. Kupferschimd expressed her pleasure of working with Mr. Purcaro and wished him well on his new position and thanked him for his hard work, dedication and leadership with the Board of Education.

Based on Robert's Rule, Dr. Nicol stepped in to be the moderator for the remainder of the meeting. (0:44:13)

Dr. Nicol publicly thanked Mr. Purcaro for his partnership as the Chair of the Board of Education, specifically with the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. Dr. Nicol commented on how well they were able to work together and communicate daily. The achievement of a successful drive in 2020 Ellington High School graduation was a great honor to work alongside with Mr. Purcaro. Dr. Nicol requested a nomination and or motion for Chair of the Board of Education and Vice-Chair of the Board of Education.

(0:46:35)

Mr. Purcaro moved to nominate Ms. Jen Dzen as Chairperson of the Board of Education.

Mr. Purcaro expressed his full support of the nomination as Ms. Dzen has demonstrated her analytical, logical and fair approach to Board discussions as Vice-Chair. Mr. Purcaro continued to applaud Ms. Dzen's accomplishments and encouraged other Board members to express their support. Ms. Socha agreed with Mr. Purcaro and commented

on how hard working, dedicated and thoughtful Ms. Dzen has been in her current role and looks forward to what will be accomplished in the future. Ms. Kupferschmid concurred with both Mr. Purcaro and Ms. Socha and also offered her full support.

1st. M. Purcaro 2nd. K. Socha

VOTE: Unanimous. The motion passed.

Ms. Dzen thanked the Board for their vote of confidence and thanked Mr. Purcaro for his years of service to the Board of Education. Ms. Dzen continued by stating that Mr Purcaro's dedication and commitment to the betterment of the district had gone above and beyond and raised that standard. Ms. Dzen looked forward to working with Mr. Purcaro as a Board of Finance liaison continuing the safety and well being of students, maintain a strong working and transparent relationship with leadership, and have collaboration with the town and stakeholders to move forward in the future.

(0:51:56)

Dr. Nicol suggested at this time the Board members in their respective parties would recess for the Caucus to discuss other nominations for the election of officers, namely the Vice-Chair of the Board of Education. A meeting link was provided for members of the Democratic Caucus and members of the Republican Caucus. Once caucus discussions were completed, Board members would return to the meeting link to resume the Board of Education meeting. Ms. Nord was the contact person for the Democratic Caucus.

A motion to recess the meeting for caucussing at 6:44 p.m. (0:54:55)

1st. J. Dzen 2nd. L. Nord

VOTE: Unanimous. The motion passed.

Ms. Dzen officially resumed the Board of Education meeting at 8:22 p.m. (2:33:07)

Ms. Dzen stated a possible motion on the table for the appointment of Vice-Chair of the Ellington Board of Education. Ms. Picard-Wambolt motioned to nominate Dr. Michael Young as the Vice-Chair of the Board of Education, seconded by Ms. Kupferschmid. Ms. Underwood motioned to nominate Mr. Gary Blanchette as the Vice-Chair of the Board of Education, seconded by Ms. Nord. Ms Dzen opened the floor for discussion.

Ms. Underwood began with the Democratic support for Mr. Blanchette, as he held the Vice-Chair position previously, has experience and would be willing to fill the position until the general election in November.

Ms. Picard-Wambolt offered her support for Dr. Young by acknowledging his many years of Board experience, his knowledge is education and expertise in curriculum, his strength in technology and procedures, and his passion to be innovative to move the district forward. Ms. Picard-Wambolt believed Dr. Young would complement Ms. Dzen as the new Board Chair and both would be an incredible team to lead the Board.

Ms. Dzen added her support of Dr. Young for the nomination of Vice-Chair, specifically his knowledge and experience to assist the Board both short term and long term. Ms. Dzen acknowledged that other members of the Board are qualified, however her choice would be Dr. Young.

Dr. Young thanked those Board members for their support but acknowledged that his colleague Mr. Blanchette would be a successful Vice-Chair, however would certainly do his part in maintaining a transparent and strong leadership for the Board.

Ms. Dzen stated that those nominated would go to a vote. A motion was made to move that the Board of Education vote in favor of electing Mr. Blanchette as the new Vice-Chair of the Ellington Board of Education.

VOTE: Ayes: Mullen, Underwood, Nord and Blanchette.

A motion was made to move that the Board of Education vote in favor of electing Dr. Young as the new Vice-Chair of the Ellington Board of Education.

VOTE: Ayes: Purcaro, Picard-Wambolt, Young, Kupferschmid and Dzen.

Ms. Dzen congratulated Dr. Young as the elected Vice-Chair of the Ellington Board of Education, and moved to return to the meetings scheduled Agenda Items.

CONSENT AGENDA (2:41:17)

1. Approval of the January 23, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes.
2. Approval of the January 27, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.
3. Approval of the February 3, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes.

4. Approval of the February 10, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes.
5. Acceptance of the resignation of Spencer Kraus, custodian at Windermere School, effective January 31, 2021.
6. Approval of the employment of Donna Durrell as a part-time Food Service Worker and Cashier at Crystal Lake School, effective February 4, 2021.
7. Approval of the employment of Elsa Hoffman as a part-time Special Education Aide at Windermere School, effective February 2, 2021.
8. Approval of the employment of Elena Filson as a full-time Special Education Aide at Windermere School, effective February 8, 2021.

Ms. Dzen asked if anyone wished to remove any item from the Consent Agenda. Ms. Dzen announced that hearing none, the Consent Agenda is accepted as written.

REPORT AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Presentation and Possible Action of Choice Declaration 2021-2022 (2:42:08)

Mr. Greenleaf reported that each year the district has to declare its participation in the Open Choice program. The three points that would be presented for the EPS Open Choice program were the financial analysis, enrollment trends and seat declaration. Mr. Greenleaf began with the major budget 2020-2021 expenditures were higher than \$600,000.00, with the estimated 2021-2022 expenditures approximately totaling \$700,000.00 which included the attendance grant. The 1:1 district chromebook cost, the offset of health insurance, the 0.4 Art teacher position moved to the General Fund, and the 0.6 Library/Media Specialist position being cut from the budget would help decrease spending in the overall budget.

Mr. Greenleaf stated that the current level would not be sustainable in the long term. The opening reserve was calculated at \$235,000.00 due to one time savings; the current revenue was \$595,000.00 and the current budget totaled \$747,000.00. The plan to drop the recommended minimum reserved threshold of \$100,000.00 by the end of 2021-2022. Currently the plan would seek grants for certain items (i.e. Teacher Resident) and help with one time costs (i.e. Windermere Building Project). If there were no change in revenue, items would need to be added to the general fund or cut from the 2022-2023 budget.

Special Education revenue was presented as another source of funding that the Open Choice Program provided, offsetting direct services per a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP). If a student required a paraprofessional, Open Choice would cover that cost. Hourly rates would be charged at the same rate that the Open Choice Program charges the district. That allowed the district to capture indirect costs within the rate (i.e. medical benefits, teachers, admistartation, facilities, etc.).

Mr. Greenleaf presented a Special Education Cost Analysis which illustrated the following:

Estimated Direct costs for the 2020-2021 school year were \$524,000.00 versus \$484,000.00 for the 2021-2022 school year.

Estimated Indirect Costs for the 2020-2021 school year were \$387,000.00 versus \$391,000.00 for the 2021-2022 school year.

The indirect costs would pay for 4.4 FTE Teachers for both 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years respectively.

The indirect percentage of the General Fund Budget would be 0.95% in the 2020-2021 school year versus 0.94% in the 2021-2022 school year.

Historical student enrollment showed there was an increase in 2009 under the previous Superintendent administration, and again in 2016 under Superintendent Nicol's administration. Mr. Greenleaf stated that there were to be no changes to the strategy and would continue to follow the current plan for enrollment. No significant increase in enrollment would occur in one year, and a goal would be set for grade level enrollment by Grade 2 in addition to natural attrition over time.

The number of Open Choice first choice applicants has increased from the 2015-2016 school year of 3 students to the 2020-2021 school year of 48 students for grades PK through 12th grade. The total enrollment varies from year to year and the February declaration varies as well. It was projected for the 2021-2022 school year that of 41 Choice students would be declared, however Mr. Greenleaf did not believe that all 41 seats would be filled. From February 2020-February 2021 the reasons for Open Choice students exiting the district were to attend either a Magnet/Tech School (6 students) or had moved to other schools with Connecticut (5 students).

Current Choice enrollment as of February 2021 is 86 students PK through the 12th grade, with 81 students after the 2021 Ellington High School graduation. The targeted range for October 1, 2021 is between 92 and 97 Open Choice students in the district. Mr. Greenleaf emphasized that if the total number of Open Choice students should drop below 81 students, and showed a less than 3.00% threshold, the incoming revenue

would be affected. At this time, the district declared 41 Open Choice students, with a projected 16-22 seats to be filled, and a projected additional attrition of 8-14 students. Mr. Greenleaf reiterated that he was not anticipating all 41 seats to be filled nor any attrition of current students year to year.

The revision of the 2021-2022 Choice Declaration was explained as follows: Windermere would have 10 seat openings for Pre-Kindergarten, 11 seat openings for Kindergarten across the district, 13 seat openings for 1st grade across the district and 7 seat openings for 2nd grade. By opening the seats earlier, the district would have the opportunity to receive more applicants for the Open Choice Program than other districts in the state of Connecticut. The district would continue to monitor enrollment projections including the Open Choice Program, by collapsing a 3rd grade class at Center School, the unassigned elementary teacher may be assigned to Center School or Windermere School for grades K through 1st grade, and the district enrollment policy would continue to ensure balance in the district. The long term Open Choice enrollment would be between 7 and 11 students in the lower grades and have the natural attrition occur over time. Mr. Greenleaf concluded with the recommendation rationale of maintaining current programming for all students, maintaining social and emotional support for all students and maintaining diverse experiences for all students in the Open Choice Program.

Ms. Nord questioned by collapsing the 3rd grade class at Center School, what would the class sizes be in which Mr. Greenleaf replied between 21-22 students. Ms. Nord inquired about the class size for the incoming Kindergarten class at Center School, in which Mr. Greenleaf replied between 21-22 students. Ms. Nord asked if students who had been home-schooled for the 2020-2021 school year would be re-enrolling into Ellington Public Schools. Mr Greenleaf responded that those homeschooled students were projected in the budget and would be spread across the district in all grades.

Mr. Greenleaf stated that Kindergarten registration would open on March 1, 2021 and more accurate enrollment would be available closer to May 15, 2021.

Ms. Underwood asked if the Open Choice students in Kindergarten and 1st grade would be included in the presented enrollment data on page 29 of the packet, and would the 69 homeschooled students return. Mr. Greenleaf responded that Open Choice students were included in the presented enrollment data and that the homeschooled students were not concentrated in Kindergarten through 2nd grade and are spread across all grade levels in all schools. Ms Underwood expressed that it appeared that the majority of homeschool students were in grades Kindergarten through 2nd grade and was concerned that would affect the class sizes across the elementary schools. Class size

has been a topic of discussion over the years, with the intent to reduce, however, it appeared that the projection still showed higher numbers.

Ms. Nord stated that last year it was settled on welcoming 28 Open Choice students and asked of those 28 how many enrolled in the district. Mr. Greenleaf reported that based on the 5 Open Choice students graduating, the strategy would be to have more seats available in order to get to the range of 92-97 Open Choice students total. Ms. Nord stated that if the strategy of 41 seats became available, there would be a possibility that all 41 seats would be filled. Mr. Greenleaf responded that looking at last year's Open Choice enrollment applications, it would be highly unlikely that all 41 seats would be filled.

Dr. Nicol added that it would be dependent on the school and the number of seats available per school and it would be monitored how many applications were for each school. Currently there are 10 rounds for the application process and it would be taking into consideration how many applicants are distributed across the district. The unassigned teacher position could be assigned to a school with a need to reduce class size (i.e. Windermere Kindergarten). Dr. Nicol explained that students residing at Autumn Chase at one point were assigned exclusively to Windermere School. However, with the enrollment policy and practices, students from Autumn Chase would be assigned to all three elementary schools to help keep class size at a manageable number.

Ms. Underwood requested clarification that the district could cap the number of applicants if necessary. Dr. Nicol responded that depending on how many First Choice Students enroll into the district, seats may become unavailable to prevent large class sizes.

Upcoming Ellington High School NEASC Accreditation Process

Postponed at this time.

Regular Board Committee Reports

(3:13:46)

Communications

Committee Chair Mullin had met with both Mr. Hendrickson and Dr. Nicol regarding resuming the recording of Behind the Scenes with the Board of Education.

Committee Chair Mullin reported the discussion of the Ellington Public Schools 2021-2022 calendar and action items still required for further discussion. Dr. Nicol added that the teachers' union was pleased with the initial calendar specifically the start of school on a Thursday in addition to the possibility of Professional Development scheduled on half days, rather than teachers being out of the classroom to receive

professional development. The three traditional snow days would remain with remote learning on the fourth snow day, however the district may receive further guidance from the State of Connecticut.

Committee Chair Mullin moved that the Board, per the recommendation of the Communications Committee, approve the Ellington Public School district calendar for 2021-2022 school year.

1st. J. Mullin 2nd. M. Kupferschmid

VOTE: Unanimous. The motion passed.

Curriculum

Committee Chair Young received a progress report from Mr. Hendrickson, Mr. Collins and Mr. Fliss regarding the rollout of the Infinite Campus program system. The district's performance data (i.e. SBAC) was uploaded with the next phase of implementing data visualization tools (i.e. Special Education, Social and Emotional data, etc). The three year rollout of Infinite Campus was on schedule at this time.

Operations

No update at this time.

Finance

No update at this time.

Policy

No update at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Superintendent's Report (3:26:04)

Dr. Nicol reported that he would be on the Ray Dunaway Show to discuss how the school year was proceeding in the current climate on Tuesday February 23, 2021.

Directors' Reports

Monthly Financial Report (3:26:39)

Mr. Greenleaf reported that included memo that object item #400 showed a negative balance due to the \$70,000.00 repair of the Ellington Middle School elevator over the summer. Additionally, projections were made to end the year with a balance of approximately \$175,000.00 that would return to the general fund balance. That amount is offset by \$150,000.00 pulling from the dental reserve account for expenditures in the current year medical account for use if the decision was made not to self-insure.

BOARD LIAISON REPORT (3:29:10)

Board CREC liaison Blanchette reported CREC gave a presentation about diversity and next month CREC would be discussing their budget for the upcoming school year.

Mr. Purcaro stated that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, from 12:00-1:15p.m. CAGE would be sponsoring a webinar to address diversity, equity and inclusion. All members were requested to check their emails for more information.

Ms. Kupferschmid reported that the 5th grade students at Center School would be participating in the Chocolate Milk Debate courthouse style in keeping with the Seeds of Civility.

ACTION ITEMS (3:31:43)

1. Move, that upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, the Board of Education holds a second and final vote to adopt the Ellington Public Schools revised Bylaw 9326 - Minutes/Taping as presented.

1st. K. Picard-Wambolt 2nd. L. Nord

VOTE: Unanimous. The motion passed.

2. Move, that upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, the Board of Education holds a second and final vote to adopt the Ellington Public Schools revised Bylaw 9132 (a) - Standing Committees as presented.

1st. K. Picard-Wambolt 2nd. L. Nord

VOTE: Unanimous. The motion passed.

3. Move that the Board of Education accept, with regret and best wishes, the retirement request of James Matroni, Technology Education Teacher at Ellington Middle School, effective June 30, 2021

1st. K. Picard-Wambolt 2nd. M. Purcaro

VOTE: Unanimous. The motion passed.

4. Move that the Board offer 41 new seats for Choice Declaration for the 2020-2021 school year as presented by the Superintendent with the understanding that the Board will be informed of any adjustments.

1st. M. Young 2nd. J. Mullin

VOTE: Ms. Nord and Ms. Socha abstained. The motion passed.

Discussion: Ms. Nord expressed her concerns regarding the 24 Kindergarten through 2nd grade First Choice Students presented to the Board. Mr. Greenleaf stated that he continued to believe that all those seats would not be filled. Ms. Nord felt that the proposed number of possible students enrolling would be high, and an adjustment may occur for those homeschooled students and distance learning students socially and emotionally.

Ms. Underwood stated that if there were to be a commitment that the district would not exceed the 41 seats for Open Choice, she would be unable to support this motion.

Ms. Socha echoed the comments of both Ms. Nord and Ms. Underwood regarding the class sizes.

Dr. Young asked Dr. Nicol to clarify the strategy of offering 41 Open Choice seats in the expectation that families would commit to Ellington early. Dr. Nicol replied that the district had never filled the total number of seats declared with the Open Choice

program. Dr. Nicol continued that it was a strategy as a district to enroll students at the lowest level and the students invested to come to Ellington. As the rounds proceed, there would be more flexibility and enrollment would continue to be monitored.

Dr. Young commented that it may not be possible to set a fixed number of students as each classroom is situational based on the student and teacher attributes.

Ms. Socha expressed her concern with the philosophy of declaring more seats that may not be filled and rather focus on the number of seats wanting to be filled in order to manage it more efficiently.

Ms. Nord agreed with Ms. Socha's comments and asked if it was correct that 28 students were declared.

Dr. Nicol responded that the process of offering more seats would give those families who prefer Ellington as their first or second choice to enroll in the Open Choice program. Therefore, those students and families who were invested in the district would most likely stay in Ellington until graduation. There has been more success with filling the seats early, rather than enrollments occurring in August overall and the probability of filling all 41 seats would be extremely rare. Ms. Dzen questioned if the number could be capped in which Dr. Nicol stated he would monitor the enrollments and would deny applications if necessary.

Ms. Mullin requested that as the application and enrollment process develops that the Board be notified of what the class sizes are presenting to be. Ms. Mullin inquired about the threshold dollar amount that the district could lose in which Mr. Greenleaf provided that the number of students that would maintain the 3.00% threshold would be 81. The dollar amount would be \$2000.00 per student in the attendance grant and in total with the other accounts could create a loss of \$350,000.00 if the 3.00% threshold is not met.

Dr. Young addressed Mr. Greenleaf for clarification regarding the district goal to increase First Choice Student enrollment year after year and that the reason why there was an increase at the Kindergarten level was due to the graduation of 5 choice students. Mr. Greenleaf responded that there was a higher turnover due the attrition. With no attrition, the district would need to enroll 9 students to break even. Dr. Young stated that if all 41 seats happen to be filled, that would provide more revenue to the district to make a decision of hiring additional teachers if needed.

Ms. Nord reiterated her apprehension of declaring 41 Open Choice students, as there could be a possibility that all 41 seats could be filled. Ms. Underwood concurred with

Ms. Mullin's comments that the Board continue to be informed and make adjustments to the total number of declared students, she would be more comfortable supporting the motion.

Ms. Dzen felt that was a reasonable recommendation and Dr. Nicol stated that would be communicated to the Board.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

NONE

CORRESPONDENCE

Communicated to the Board for their review

ROUNDTABLE

NONE

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 p.m.

1st. K. Picard-Wambolt

2nd. M. Kupferschmid

VOTE: Unanimous. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Picard-Wambolt
Secretary