

**STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Middle School Consolidation Steering Committee
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The Middle School Consolidation Steering Committee meeting of the Stonington Board of Education was called to order at 8:31 a.m., Wednesday, August 23, 2017 in the Conference Room at the Board of Education Administration Building in Old Mystic.

Members present were: Alexa Garvey, Craig Esposito, Secretary, also present Dr. Van Riley, Superintendent, Tim Smith, PMS Principal, Greg Keith, MMS Principal, Mary Anne Butler, Assistant Superintendent, Allison Van Etten, Director of Special Services, Gary Shettle, Director of Finance and Ana de Oliveira, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent.

Member Absent: Frank Todisco

Public Comments

No comments at this time.

Approval of June 7, 2017 Minutes

Minutes of June 7, 2017 were tabled for the next meeting.

Update on issues related to consolidation

Dr. Van Riley shared five handouts of information related to the consolidation. Dr. Riley explained changes in enrollment, budget implications, staff, facility issues, educational and instructional benefits. The committee spoke on the emphasis on educational and academic benefits, as well as acknowledging the economic benefits.

The committee agreed to provide opportunities for community, staff, teachers, parents, students, and voters to comment on the consolidation so that the Board of Education can make a decision as soon as possible. If this concept is approved, a possible 2019 consolidation would occur. The committee discussed timeline for presentation of this consolidation concept to the community for their comment. Administrators and teachers will collect data and meet shortly with the appropriate interest groups. The committee will reconvene after that to discuss next steps.

Adjournment

The following motion was made by Craig Esposito and seconded by Alexa Garvey:

Motion 1: To Adjourn at 9:28 a.m.

All: Aye

Craig Esposito, Secretary