

**Pomfret Community School  
Designated High School Options Committee  
Minutes  
November 5, 2018**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Designated High School Options Committee of the Pomfret Community School was held on Monday, November 5, 2018 in the Pomfret Community School Library. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. Present when the meeting was called to order were Board members: B. Tuttle, W. Bundy and K. Cerrone. Also present was S. Cullinan, Superintendent.

- Audience of Citizens

Blake Wolanin, Pomfret resident and Killingly High School student, encouraged the committee to approve Killingly High School as a designated high school so as to offer the same opportunities to other students that he has experienced.

Lindsey Verraneault, Pomfret resident, encouraged the committee to approve both Putnam High School and Killingly High School as additional designated high schools.

Gabrielle Labonte, Pomfret resident, expressed agreement with the recommendation made by Lindsey Verraneault.

Michael Morrill, Putnam, nothing at this time.

William Hull, Putnam, nothing at this time.

- Review of Updated Appendix B Committee Process

S. Cullinan briefly reviewed the meeting packet which included: 11/5/18 Meeting Agenda; Updated Appendix B: Designated High School Options Committee Process Report; Agendas of all previous meetings; Minutes of all previous meetings; Appendix A: List of Information Required from Interested Schools; Appendix A.1: List of Information Required from Interested Schools; Sample initial scoring chart; Correspondence to Woodstock Academy; October Newsletter article; Follow up to October Newsletter article; High School Options meeting schedule flyer. S. Cullinan stated that Appendix B could be used as the basis for the Final Report of the committee.

An updated version of Appendix B was included in the meeting packet. The section labeled *Selection Criteria* was updated to reflect discussion and the decision at the meeting of September 24, 2018 to continue to consider Killingly High School and Putnam High School as possible additional designated high schools. The *Public Presentation from Selected Schools*, the *Committee Site Visit to Selected Schools*, the *Communications with Community* and the *Communications with Town Officials* sections were also expanded.

- Review and Discussion of Site Visits

B. Tuttle stated that he was impressed with both schools but for different reasons. He commented further upon the recent upgrade of facilities at both schools as well as the technology available.

W. Bundy expressed a positive reaction to both site visits and stated that both were impressive. She commented that the student tour guides at Killingly High Schools were highly energized.

K. Cerrone stated that she was impressed with the facilities at both schools as well as the process to integrate students into their schools. She also expressed that she was comfortable with the curriculum at both schools, their after school activities as well as the number and variety of student clubs and organizations.

- Review of Public Presentations

Committee members stated that both schools did an excellent job in their public presentations.

- Formulation of Committee Recommendation

S. Cullinan stated that the district already provides transportation to Killingly High School. He has been in communication with the bus company and any additional transportation costs to Putnam High School, if any, should be minimal. Also, Putnam High School will assist with transportation if requested.

W. Bundy expressed concern regarding the current tuition at Killingly High School which is approximately \$1,300 higher than the district pays to Woodstock Academy. The current Putnam High School tuition is approximately \$2,000 less than that at Woodstock Academy. She suggested that the committee might consider approving Putnam High School now and consider adding Killingly at a later date if the tuition is more competitive.

B. Tuttle stated that parents have communicated to him that they would like to have both schools approved.

S. Cullinan distributed an estimated special education costs comparison. Based upon current rates, special education costs at both Putnam High School and Killingly high school would, in most cases, be significantly less than at Woodstock Academy. W. Bundy stated that the anticipated lower special education costs made her more comfortable with approving both schools.

K. Cerrone stated that Putnam High School would consider establishing a tuition rate for two years.

MOTION: K. Cerrone made a motion to recommend that the Pomfret Board of Education approve Killingly High School and Putnam High School as additional designated high schools for Pomfret resident students effective for the 2019-2020 school year. She further recommended that the Pomfret Board of Education authorize the superintendent of schools to develop a contractual agreement with each school, as required by Connecticut General Statute 10-33, subject to approval by the Pomfret Board of Education. SECOND: W. Bundy. Motion approved. ABSTENTIONS: None.

- Completion of Final Report

S. Cullinan will send a draft of the Final report to all committee members for review. The Final Report will be included in the Board of Education meeting packet for November 14, 2018.

- Items as Needed

William Hull, Putnam, thanked the committee members for their work and commended them for a process that was open and transparent.

- Adjournment

MOTION: W. Bundy made a motion to adjourn at 7:10 pm. SECOND: K. Cerrone. Motion approved. ABSTENTIONS: None.