



Education Committee - Board of Representatives

Mary Savage, Chair

Committee Report

Date: Monday, October 18, 2017
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: Democratic Caucus Room, 4th Floor Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT

The Education Committee met as indicated above. Present were: Chair Savage, and Committee Member Reps. Di Costanzo and Jacobson. Absent or excused were Committee Member Reps. Cerasoli, de la Cruz, Kolenberg, Nabel, Quinones and Wallace. There was one Student Advisory Council member present. Also present were Thomas Wuennemann and John Perrotta. Chair Savage called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. E29.054	REVIEW; Student Advisory Council 2017-18 Organizational Meeting. (at 6:00 pm.) 09/05/17 – Submitted by Rep. Savage	Report Made

The SAC Mission Statement was read by Sydney. The topic for tonight's meeting was School Safety. School parking lots are a source of concern. More monitoring would be a suggestion. In one high school, there are many doors that access in and out of the building and it is difficult to control. There are ten security guards. Most are conscientious and take their job seriously. A few are mediocre. Buses are over-crowded, making appropriate standards of behavior difficult to manage. More safety drills would be helpful. It is too easy for students/visitors to gain access and/or leave the building without being noticed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

2. E29.053	REVIEW; Police Department Provisions for Pedestrian Safety Around Stamford Public Schools. (at 7:00 pm.) 06/04/17 – Submitted by Rep. de la Cruz 06/21/17 – Report Made and Held 09/18/17 – Report Made and Held	Report Made
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Chair Savage reconvened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Director of Safety John Perrotta reviewed the report which he compiled on his visits to five schools: Stamford High, Westhill, AITE/Rippowam/Apples, Cloonan and Scofield. The role and function of school crossing guards was reviewed. There are presently 81 crossing guards employed by and supervised by the Stamford Police Department. A question was posed as to whether or not volunteers might be able to assist in this function. The suggestion did not seem to be a viable one in terms of liability. Safe Routes to School and its status was discussed. Money/budget seemed to be a primary concern for the implementation of the program. Representative Jacobson presented a plan for the Strawberry Hill Area. Included is the drop-off area in front of the school (a major problem), enforcement of the existing signals, an "all-cross" signal at Hoyt, Strawberry Hill and Grove Streets, and installation of automated speed cameras. Chief Wuennemann said he would refer to the suggestion of Sgt. Gallagher who is the crash expert for the SPD. Chief Wuennemann said that solutions to the many traffic challenges fall into the categories of engineering, education and enforcement. Each area requires budget consideration. He also has observed that at some schools, Stamford High in particular, speeding is an issue. The speeding occurs after the students have begun their day. Grid lock is a problem as parents continue to drop off their students in front of the school building. This is a problem which contributes to the grid lock. It was suggested that Mr. Perrotta continue monitoring the various schools as he has done with the five he submitted the report on.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary M. Savage, Chair

This meeting is on video ([Part 1](#)) and ([Part 2](#))