

**Suffield Board of Education  
Special Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, November 6, 2018 – 4:30 p.m.  
Central Office Conference Room**

Attendees: Board members Kendra Wiesel, Susan Mercik Davis, John Richter, Debra Dudack, Jamie Drzyzga, Matthew Service, Maureen Sattan (via phone), and Michael Sepko (joined at 4:55 p.m.); and Board attorney Jessica Ritter

Absent: George Beiter

**I. Call to Order: 4:33 p.m.**

Board Chair Wiesel called the meeting to order.

**II. Executive Session**

Mercik Davis moved, Drzyzga seconded for the Board to enter into executive session, along with Board attorney Jessica Ritter, for the purpose of discussing the employment contract of the Superintendent. All members voted in favor. The motion carried 7-0.

Board Chair Wiesel ended the executive session at 4:56 p.m.

**III. Discussion/Action Item**

Dudack moved, Richter seconded that the Board approve the proposed agreement between the Board and Karen Berasi, as discussed by the Board in executive session on November 6, 2018; that the Board accept Karen Berasi's retirement, effective June 30, 2019, based on the terms set forth in the proposed agreement; and that the Board Chairperson be authorized to execute the proposed agreement on behalf of the Board. All members voted in favor. The motion carried 8-0.

Board Chair Wiesel issued the following statement: The Board has accepted the retirement of Karen Berasi as Superintendent of Schools, effective June 30, 2019. She has, and will continue to be relieved, of all duties. The Board would like to thank Mark Winzler, our Interim Superintendent, and Michelle Zawawi, our Assistant Superintendent of Schools, for their extraordinary leadership during this time of transition. We look forward to their continued leadership of our school district as we focus on striving for educational excellence. The Board anticipates initiating a search process for a new Superintendent of Schools within the next several weeks.

**IV. Motion:** Mercik Davis moved, Richter seconded to adjourn the special meeting at 4:59 p.m. All members voted in favor. The motion carried 8-0.