

## STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 12, 2006

Mr. Bolduc, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. in the Board of Education Meeting Room. Members present were John Bolduc, Chairman, April Smith, Secretary, Sam Agnello, Rob Cary, Ed Haberek, Corinne Rossi, and Gail MacDonald.

Also present were Michael McKee, Superintendent of Schools, Jackie Garvie, Recording Secretary, members of the staff, and interested citizens.

### Communications

Mr. McKee noted that Danielle Giserman was in the latest edition of the Stonington Times and also acknowledged the article regarding schools and energy savings. Mr. McKee shared a research report from ConnCAN, which published a list of schools making progress and gains over the last year using CMT results. Mystic Middle was number three and Pawcatuck Middle School number nine in the top ten comparable schools. Mr. Bolduc thanked the class of 1956 for the endowment to PMS library. He also acknowledged Tim Chokas for serving as the Comcast Cable Access Coordinator and Clint Kennedy for all his efforts with technology in the district. Mr. McKee introduced Kelly Spooner, the new assistant principal at Deans Mill School.

### Student Government Report

Danielle Giserman reported on behalf of the student government on the following:

- Homecoming dance will be on October 28th. The theme is decades.
- Student government has invited Ruth Buzzi to visit the high school or possibly attend a rally.
- A bake sale was held on "Back to School Night" and \$300 was raised for the West Broad playground.
- Freshman elections are underway.
- Fall Feast Dinner for Veterans will be on November 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Danielle invited all Board members to attend.

### Consent Agenda

A. Minutes

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Rob Cary:

- **Motion 1: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 14, 2006.**

**Aye: All**

B. Checks and Bills

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Ed Haberek:

- **Motion 2: To approve the disbursement of checks and bills for the month of September 2006.**

**Aye: All**

C. Intra-account Transfers

The following motion was made by Rob Cary and seconded by Ed Haberek:

- **Motion 3: To approve the intra-account transfers from October 12, 2006.**

**Aye: All**

D. 2007 Board Regular Meeting Dates

The following motion was made by Rob Cary and seconded by Sam Agnello:

- **Motion 4: To approve the 2007 Board Regular Meeting Dates as presented.**

The following amendment to motion 4 was made by Rob Cary and seconded by Sam Agnello:

- **Motion 4: To approve the 2007 Board Regular Meeting Dates as presented changing the start time to 7:00 p.m.**

**Aye: All**

Administrative Assignments

The Board discussed administrative assignments. Sam Agnello shared the concerns of parents, SBIT members, and staff members who attended the special West Vine SBIT meeting on October 5 with Board members. April Smith shared the opinions and concerns of the parents and SBIT members who attended the DMS SBIT special meeting on October 5. Mr. Agnello requested that it be noted that 37 people attended the West Vine SBIT special meeting including Mr. McKee, Sam Agnello, Gail MacDonald and Ed Haberek.

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Corinne Rossi:

- **Motion 5:** Move for short-term to hire a substitute principal for West Vine as early as possible in January through June 2007 and a substitute principal for Deans Mill in March through June 2007, if a permanent replacement cannot be found, and maintain current structure; for the long-term hire a new principal for Deans Mill School and retain both principals at West Vine Street School and West Broad Street School as well as retain 0.6 assistant principal at Deans Mill School.

The following amendment to motion 5 was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Corinne Rossi:

- **Motion 5:** Move for short-term to hire a substitute principal for West Vine as early as possible in January through June 2007 and a substitute principal for Deans Mill in March through June 2007, if a permanent replacement cannot be found for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year, and maintain current structure; for the long-term hire a new principal for Deans Mill School and retain both principals at West Vine Street School and West Broad Street School as well as retain 0.6 assistant principal at Deans Mill School.

**Aye: All**

Curriculum and Instruction

A. Technology Pilot

Terry Jordan, WBSS Principal, with the assistance of Clint Kennedy, Technology Director, and WBSS 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers presented the SBIT approved pilot using hand-held technology with fourth grade students in WBSS.

The following motion was made by Gail MacDonald and seconded by Sam Agnello:

- **Motion 6:** To approve the SBIT approved pilot for using hand-held technology with fourth grade students at West Broad.

**The vote was as follows:**

**Ed Haberek – Abstained**

**Corinne Rossi – No**

**April Smith – No**

**John Bolduc – Yes**

**Sam Agnello – Yes**

**Rob Cary – Yes**

**Gail MacDonald – Yes**

**Motion carried.**

B. NEASC Report

Dr. Murphy presented a summary of the NEASC Report (SHS Accreditation Report) to the Board. Mr. Agnello commended Dr. Murphy and the SHS staff for a job well done.

Business and Finance

A. Monthly Financial Reports

Frank Connolly, Business Director, reported on the financial reports.

B. WBSS Boiler Replacement Update

Frank Connolly, Business Director, and Bill King, Administrative Intern, reported to the Board on the West Broad Street School boiler replacement project. It was reported that there was an unexpected expense of \$23,000 for a new stainless steel chimney liner.

C. PMS Fire Alarm Replacement Update

Bill King, Administrative Intern, provided a report to the Board on the recent replacement of the PMS fire alarm.

D. SHS Field Irrigation Project Update

Bill King, Administrative Intern, provided a report to the Board on the SHS Field Irrigation Project Update.

Committee Reports

A. K-12 Building Committee – Gail MacDonald reported on behalf of the K-12 Building Committee which met on October 10<sup>th</sup>. The final Certificate of Occupancy has not been issued as of this date for the high school. There continues to be a concern regarding the retention pond. Dean Beverly will be appointed as a new member by the Board of Selectman.

B. SEF – Gail MacDonald reported on behalf of the Stonington Education Fund. At the last SEF meeting it was decided to focus fundraising efforts on music programs at the schools and the distance technology center for the high school. The Blue Monday concert series sponsored by the Kepple family raised \$9,800 and they requested that the money be earmarked for music programs. Mrs. MacDonald announced that Paul Sartor stepped down as president and the new SEF president is Kathi Murphy.

- C. LEARN Report – Ed Haberek reported that at the last LEARN meeting they discussed budget and grant applications.
  
- D. WBSS Playground – Ed Haberek reported that the fashion show fundraiser will be held on October 21 at the high school. Another fundraiser that is being planned is a Fish & Chips dinner on November 17, 2006. HeadStart has donated \$10,000 towards the playground equipment and Stonington Human Services is sponsoring a dinner dance to raise funds on behalf of the WBSS playground.
  
- E. Board Goals and Self-Evaluation – Corinne Rossi reported that the committee met and has prepared a simple version of self-evaluation which will be handed out at the November Board of Education meeting. The primary goal for the Board is to incorporate more participation from community and staff with budget preparation.

Superintendent’s Report

Mr. McKee reported on the following:

A. Personnel

CERTIFIED

Certified Resignation

Janice Ginsberg	0.4 Special Education Teacher	WBSS
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Added Teaching Appointments

Robert Chiaradio	Freshmen Boys Basketball Coach	SHS
Paula Solar	Assistant Field Hockey Coach	SHS
Thomas Paige	Freshmen Girls Basketball Coach	SHS
Pauline Bruno	Freshmen Class Co-Advisor	SHS
Cathy Pellegrino	Freshmen Class Co-Advisor	SHS

- B. Mr. McKee told the Board that a grievance has been received from SEA and the Board has 30 school days to respond.

Board Comments

Ed Haberek stated he would like to clarify why he chose to abstain from voting on the WBSS SBIT approved pilot using hand-held technology. He explained there was a conflict of interest and therefore had to abstain from voting. John Bolduc thanked Dr. Murphy for the Board's complimentary passes for SHS events. Mr. Haberek thanked Dr. Murphy and the SHS staff for all their help in planning the fashion show. He also acknowledged the SHS cheerleaders and band for their participation in the Columbus Day parade.

The following motion was made by April Smith and seconded by Sam Agnello:

- **Motion 7: To adjourn at 9:45 p.m.**

**Aye: All**

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April Smith, Board Secretary