

STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 14, 2006

Mr. Bolduc, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:44 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.

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

- **Motion 1: To move Comments from Citizens to be first item on the agenda.**

Aye: All

Comments from Citizens

Barbara Hatch, Gail McLeod and Danielle Pelletier, Grade 2 DMS teachers, asked the Board to reconsider their decision regarding paraprofessional reductions.

Bob Linberk, Staff Representative AFSCME Council 4, spoke to the Board regarding the positive collaboration on behalf of all parties regarding paraprofessionals' negotiations. He also requested that the Board support the agreement.

Ken Sherwood, DMS principal, told the Board that DMS students participated in an educational study conducted by a Yale graduate student. Mr. Sherwood will share the results with the Board when they are received.

SHS Foreign Language Teachers, Alice LaBelle and Andrew Walsh, asked the Board to reconsider or waive the Board policy requiring a nurse to accompany SHS students on the Foreign Language field trip to Spain and France. They also explained that due to the small number of students signed up for the trip the travel agency has changed the trip itinerary by offering an alternative trip because they did not have the required 35 participants for the original trip. Ms. Labelle also stated that the students who would be going on the field trip did not have any known medical conditions and that the nurse who originally planned to attend the trip had changed her mind and there is no other volunteer nurse willing to go on the trip.

The following motion was made by Gail MacDonald and seconded by Corinne Rossi:

- **Motion 2: To add discussion/address the issue of the SHS Foreign Language field trip to the agenda.**

Aye: All

SHS Foreign Language Field Trip

The Board discussed the foreign language teachers request to approve the field trip without a nurse accompanying the students. The Board also reviewed the field trip policy.

The following motion was made by Gail MacDonald and seconded by Corinne Rossi:

- **Motion 3: To rescind motion requiring a nurse on the SHS Foreign Language Field Trip contingent that this decision does not alter Board policy and a staff member is trained to use an EpiPen.**

Aye: All

Communications

Mr. Bolduc had received correspondence from the custodian union president regarding a grievance. Mr. Bolduc gave a copy of the correspondence to all Board members.

Student Government Report

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

- Reindeer Games getting underway next week with ten teams competing. This fundraiser has raised \$400 which will be donated to the winning team's favorite charity.
- Next week Dr. Murphy and Pat Jeffrey will be handing out secret snacks to students as a reward for excellent student behavior at the high school. Student government will fund one day of snacks.

Consent Agenda

A. Minutes

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

- **Motion 4: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 9, 2006 with correction on page 5 and Special Meeting of December 7, 2006.**

Aye: All

B. Checks and Bills

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

- **Motion 5: To approve the disbursement of checks and bills for the month of November 2006.**

Aye: All

C. Intra-account Transfers

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

- **Motion 6: To approve the intra-account transfers from November 6, 2006 to December 1, 2006.**

Aye: All

Business and Finance

A. Monthly Financial Reports

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

B. CIP 2007-2008

The Board discussed the CIP requests for 2007-2008.

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

- **Motion 7: To move K-12 Building Committee Report on the agenda to be after CIP.**

Aye: All

K-12 Building Committee Report

Gail MacDonald reported on behalf of the building committee. She reported that the building committee had requested that the money left over from the high school project be used for a formalized report/study regarding the needs of the middle and elementary schools. The Board of Finance recommended that the money not be used for the report and that the committee should ask the Board of Selectman for the money for such a report. The committee is concerned that with the debt that the town has taken on that the middle and elementary school needs will not be addressed for several years.

- B. CIP 2007-2008 continued.....

The following motion was made by Ed Haberek and seconded by Corinne Rossi:

- **Motion 8: To approve submission of the 2007-2008 education CIP.**

The vote was as follows:

Ed Haberk – Yes

John Bolduc - Yes

Corinne Rossi – Yes

Sam Agnello - No

April Smith – Yes

Rob Cary – Yes

Gail MacDonald - Yes

The motion carried.

- C. Project Reports

Bill King updated the Board on the CIP and other projects.

- D. Perkins Innovation Grant

Bill King and Dr. Murphy gave a report to the Board regarding being awarded a \$69,000 Federal Perkins Technical Grant to be used to establish a credit union at Stonington High School.

- E. Review of Business Manual

The Board reviewed the business manual.

Budget 2007-08

- A. Review Public Budget Forum

The Board discussed the requests that were presented by citizens at the forum held on December 7, 2006. Mr. Connolly, Business Director, also distributed a handout to the Board regarding financial analysis of previous SPS budgets.

- B. Budget Goals

The Board discussed potential budget goals and set four goals. The goals are

- Maintaining Foundation Budget
- Provide Support for AT RISK Students
- Technology for Instructional Support
- K-1 Early Childhood Focus

Curriculum and Instruction

A. New SHS Courses

1. Marketing

Dr. Murphy gave an overview of the proposed marketing course.

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

- **Motion 9: To approve Sports and Entertainment Marketing as an elective course at SHS.**

Aye: All

2. Chinese

The Board discussed the proposal presented to them to add Mandarin Chinese as a world language course at Stonington High School.

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

- **Motion 10: To endorse philosophy of adding Mandarin Chinese as a world language course and to move into the direction of a formal proposal through the Curriculum Council.**

The following motion was made by Gail MacDonald and seconded by Sam Agnello after discussion that no motion was needed to rechannel the course through the Curriculum Council:

- **Motion 11: To rescind Motion 10.**

Aye: All

B. Special Education

1. Strategic School Profile

Dr. Mark Hawk, Special Education Director, reported on the SSP for special education.

2. AYP Plan

Dr. Mark Hawk, Special Education Director, gave the Board an opportunity to ask him questions regarding Adequate Yearly Progress in special education.

Science & Technology Magnet High School of Southeastern Connecticut

The Board reviewed the letter from Louis E. Allen, Jr. the Director of Science & Technology Magnet High School inviting Stonington to participate in STMHS.

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

- **Motion 12: To approve Stonington students participating in the Science & Technology Magnet High School of Southeastern Connecticut.**

The vote was as follows:

Ed Haberek – Yes	John Bolduc - No
Corinne Rossi – Yes	Sam Agnello - Yes
April Smith – Yes	Rob Cary – Yes
	Gail MacDonald - Yes

The motion carried.

Policies

- A. Revised Policy – 5111.1 – Student; Registration Requirements for Stonington Public Schools – 2nd Reading

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

- **Motion 13: To approve revised policy 5111.1 – Students; Registration Requirements for Stonington Public Schools.**

Aye: All

- B. Revised Policy – 9321 – Bylaws of the Board; Time, Place, Notification of Meeting – 2nd Reading

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

- **Motion 14: To approve revised policy 9321 – Bylaws of the Board; Time, Place, Notification of Meeting.**

Aye: All

Committee Reports

- A. Building Committee Report – Moved up on the Agenda.
- B. Stonington Education Report – No Report
- C. LEARN – No Report
- D. CABA – Next month Corinne Rossi will share materials and information from the CABA convention.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. McKee reported on the following:

A. Personnel

ADDED TEACHING

New Appointments

Brennan Phillips	Assistant Indoor Track Coach	SHS
Cheryl Brennan	Assistant Cheerleading Coach	SHS

Resignation

Michelle Wilbur	Assistant Cheerleading Coach	SHS
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Volunteer Appointments

Jerry Desmond	Volunteer Gymnastics Coach	SHS
Todd Gwaltney	Volunteer Assistant Girls Basketball Coach	SHS
Patrick McCarney	Volunteer Assistant Girls Basketball Coach	SHS
Daniel Rahl	Volunteer Assistant Girls Basketball Coach	SHS

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

- **Motion 15: To approve the volunteer appointments of Jerry Desmond as Gymnastic Coach, Todd Gwaltney, Patrick McCarney and Daniel Rahl as Assistant Girls Basketball Coaches.**

Aye: All

Citizen Comments

Mr. Dexter Murphy gave the Board a handout and asked them to consider his suggested wording change to policy 5136(b) section on transportation.

Board Comments

Rob Cary noted the Norwich Bulletin article regarding SHS student, Heather Buck. Gail MacDonald

made reference to the Sun editorial regarding Stonington teachers' contract. The Board asked the Board chairman to write a letter to the Sun regarding the editorial addressing the inaccuracies printed in the editorial.
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Administrators' Contract

The following motion was made by Rob Cary and seconded by Gail MacDonald:

- **Motion 16: To enter into executive session at 11:00 p.m. inviting Mr. McKee, Mr. Sherwood and Mr. Connolly for the purpose of discussing the Paraprofessionals' contract.**

Aye: All

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

- **Motion 17: To return to open session at 11:10.**

Aye: All

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

- **Motion 18: To adopt the Paraprofessional and Board of Education contract 2005-2008.**

Aye: All

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

- **Motion 19: To adjourn at 11:11 p.m.**

Aye: All

April Smith, Board Secretary