

STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 8, 2007

Mr. Bolduc, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. in the Board of Education Meeting Room. Members present were John Bolduc, Chairman, April Smith, Secretary, Rob Cary, and Gail MacDonald.

Late Arrival – Ed Haberek at 7:09 p.m.

Members Absent – Corinne Rossi and Sam Agnello

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

Recognitions by Board Members and Superintendent

Mr. McKee acknowledged Lisa Allen, SHS Science Teacher. Ms. Allen was awarded a grant from Pfizer which will allow her to purchase video cameras, tapes, cables, and software to create video lab reports and upload them to You Tube. Mr. Cary told the Board that Kevin Agnello was competing in a statewide track meet today.

Student Government Report

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

- Data Match, fundraiser going on this and next week for Valentine's Day.
- The next upcoming event will be the Talent Show. Theme may be Stonington Idol which will be held on April 5, 2007.

Consent Agenda

A. Minutes

The following motion was made by April Smith and seconded by Rob Cary:

- **Motion 1: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 11, 2007 with correction to page 4, Regular Meeting of February 1, 2007, and Special Meetings of January 18, 2007 and February 1, 2007.**

Aye: All

B. Checks and Bills

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

- **Motion 2: To approve the disbursement of checks and bills for the month of January 2007.**

Aye: All

consent Agenda continued..

C. Intra-account Transfers

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

- **Motion 3: To approve the intra-account transfers for the month of January 2007.**

Aye: All

Business and Finance

A. Monthly Financial Reports

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

B. Project Update

Bill King reported on the irrigation project.

Budget 2007-08

A. Discussion

The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed 2007-08 budget concentrating on proposed new programming.

The following motion was made by Gail MacDonald:

- **Motion 4: Move that the Board amend new programming by eliminating \$40,535 for school bus and reducing custodian equipment from \$55,000 to \$35,535 and using \$60,000 available funds for either a social worker or guidance counselor at SHS.**

Motioned Failed.

The following motion was made by April Smith and seconded by Rob Cary:

- **Motion 5:** Move that the Board approves the 2007-08 budget with the following changes:

Remove Chinese (Mandarin) \$13,000

Remove School Bus \$40,535

Reduce Custodial Equipment \$10,000

Allocate the monies now available \$63,535 for the hiring of a social worker or guidance counselor.

Vote was as follows:

Ed Haberek – No

John Bolduc – No

Rob Cary – Yes

Gail MacDonald – Yes

April Smith – Yes

The Motion Carried.

B. Adoption of the 2007-08 Board of Education Budget.

The following motion was made by Rob Cary and seconded by April Smith:

- **Motion 6:** To adopt the 2007-08 Board of Education budget of \$29,620,597 for submission to the Board of Finance.

Vote was as follows:

Ed Haberek – No

John Bolduc – Yes

Rob Cary – Yes

Gail MacDonald – Yes

April Smith – Yes

The Motion Carried.

Curriculum and Instruction

A. Approval of BEST Applications

The following motion was made by April Smith and seconded by Ed Haberek:

- **Motion 7: To approve John Denard, Aimee Scott and Tim Flanagan as BEST Mentors.**

Aye: All

B. Revised Curriculum Renewal Process

Mrs. Albert spoke to the Board about the revised curriculum renewal process, the concept of including metaprocesses (researched and developed by the Good Teaching Task Force) in curriculum development and the 2007-2012 calendar for renewals.

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

- **Motion 8: To approve the revised curriculum renewal process and 2007-2012 calendar for renewals.**

Aye: All

Retirements 2006-2007

Roger Robidoux – MMS – 35 years
Rob Palmer – PMS – 30 years
Deborah Carrano – PMS – 17 years
Carolyn Lombardo – SHS – 6 years

Carol Ellis – DMS – 20 years
Joseph McKernan – SHS – 37 years
Jackie Burgess – WV – 20 years

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

- **Motion 9: To accept the following 2007 retirements with regrets and appreciation for their many years of service. To spread across the minutes resolutions commemorating the retirements of Roger Robidoux, Carol Ellis, Rob Palmer, Joseph McKernan, Deborah Carrano, Jackie Burgess and Carolyn Lombardo.**

Aye: All

School Calendar 2007-08

The Board reviewed the proposed 2007-08 school calendar.

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

- **Motion 10: To accept the 2007-08 school calendar.**

Aye: All

Policies

- A. Regulations concerning use of alcohol and/or drugs by students in athletics and other extracurricular activities.

The Board formed a committee to review the policies and make possible recommendations. Gail MacDonald and Rob Cary volunteered to serve on the committee.

Committee Reports

- A. Building Committee Report

Gail MacDonald reported that the Building Committee's request to use \$30,000 for a study of the elementary schools went to the Board of Finance. The Board of Finance included the \$30,000 as a line item under the Capitol Improvement Program (CIP).

- B. LEARN

Mr. Haberek was unable to attend the last LEARN meeting.

- C. SEF

Gail MacDonald reported on behalf of SEF. She reported that the SEF Annual Appeal has been more successful this year than in the past few years. Just under \$9,000 has been raised so far.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. McKee reported on the following:

A. Personnel

ADDED TEACHING

New Appointments

Todd Gwaltney	SHS	Varsity Head Softball Coach (Interim 2007 season only)
Patrick McCarney	SHS	JV Softball Coach (Interim 2007 season only)

Volunteer Appointments

Joan Cook	SHS	Nurse for Music Dept. Field Trip to Florida
Tim Bousquet	SHS	Softball Assistant Coach
Roger Gwaltney	SHS	Softball Assistant Coach
Rachel Bogue	SHS	Field Hockey Assistant Coach (2007-08)

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

- **Motion 11: To approve the volunteer appointment of Joan Cook as a Volunteer Nurse for the SHS music department field trip to Florida and the volunteer appointments of Tim Bousquet and Roger Gwaltney as Softball Assistant Coaches and Rachel Bogue as Volunteer Field Hockey Assistant Coach for the 2007-08 season.**

Aye: All

B. SHS Music Program Field Trip to Florida

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

- **Motion 12: To approve the SHS music program's field trip to Florida February 17-21, 2007.**

Aye: All

C. Assistant Superintendent

Mr. McKee shared the timeline for the search for an assistant superintendent with the Board. He also gave the Board a copy of the recruitment ad that was advertised nationally and statewide. John Bolduc volunteered to serve as the Board rep on the search committee.

Citizen Comments

Jeannie Fiore, parent, told the Board that she was happy they did not increase the budget when considering what to keep in new programming. She also stated that regarding the need for a school bus that the information used regarding times was not accurate because many parents have chosen to transport their children to school because of the length of the ride. She also stated she was disappointed that there was a distinction made between Stonington Public Schools and Saint Michael's students riding the bus. Ms. Fiore also stated that she feels that schools are becoming more of a social service agency then academic.

Deb Wilner, parent, stated that she would like the SHS School Based Improvement Team to have some input regarding the drug/alcohol policies.

Board Comments

Gail MacDonald brought to the Board's attention the Governor's new recommendations for high school graduation requirements which include 4 years of math and 3 years of science mandatory. Another recommendation from the Governor is to reduce the reimbursement rate for school construction.

Mr. Haberek asked Mr. McKee for an update on the status of principals on leave.

The following motion was made by Rob Cary and seconded by April Smith:

- **Motion 13: To adjourn at 9:13 p.m.**

Aye: All

April Smith, Board Secretary