

STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING NOVEMBER 4, 2004

Ms. Smith, Secretary, called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. in the Board of Education Meeting Room. Members present were Ms. April Smith, Secretary, Corinne Rossi, Eugene Spaziani, Sam Agnello, and Rob Cary.

Member Absent: Jerry Murphy, Chairman.

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

Seating of New Board Member

Mrs. Smith read into the minutes a letter from the Town Clerk and one from the Board's republican members. She also informed the Board that Republican members of the Board of Education appointed Doretta M. Colburn to fill the vacancy on the Board of Education. Mrs. Colburn assumed her seat and was present for the remainder of the meeting.

Student Government Report

Matthew Collette, President, reported on the following:

- Homecoming was held at Mystic Middle School and was a great success.
- Work on the SHS Yearbook is continuing.
- Upcoming events include the Pep Club Rally and Fall Feast on November 18th.
- Drama Production "Anything Goes" will be held on November 19, 20 and 21st.

SBIT Reports

- Mr. Cary was unable to attend the West Broad SBIT meeting. He did report that the SBIT goals for the 2004-2005 school year were adopted.
- Mr. Agnello reported for the Pawcatuck Middle SBIT. He reported that the team worked on the parent involvement compact and how to increase parent involvement. Also discussed was a possible informational session for parents regarding the Panther Paws Challenge.
- Ms. Smith reported for the West Vine SBIT, which held two meetings since the last Board meeting. The team discussed the parent compact and how best to implement it. The SBIT also discussed possible activities to get parents more involved. The Budget process was reviewed. The SBIT will write goals at the next meeting. The West Vine SBIT is looking for a new member.
- Mr. Spaziani reported that the Mystic Middle School SBIT elected chairpersons at the last meeting. The team also discussed the parent compact and discussed efforts to increase parent involvement. The SBIT also reviewed the SBIT handbook.
- Ms. Rossi reported that she was unable to attend the Stonington High School SBIT.

Consent Agenda

A. Minutes

The following motion was made by Mr. Agnello and seconded by Mr. Cary:

- **Motion 1: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 14, 2004.**

Aye: All

B. Disbursement of Checks and Bills

The following motion was made by Mr. Agnello and seconded by Mr. Cary:

- **Motion 2: To approve the disbursement of checks and bills for the month of October 2004.**

Aye: All

The following amounts were approved:

October 2004

Regular Budget 2003-2004 Prior Year	\$	7,235.88
Regular Budget 2004-2005 Current Year	\$	534,734.00
VOIDS	\$	<u>(306.98)</u>
	\$	534,427.02
Federal Grants (251) 2004-2005	\$	28,970.00
State Grants (253) 2003-2004	\$	10,683.50
Collaborative (252)	\$	0.00

C. Intra-Account Transfers

The following motion was made by Mr. Agnello and seconded by Mr. Cary:

- **Motion 3: To approve intra-account transfers from October 12, 2004 through October 26, 2004.**

Aye: All

Drama Boosters Presentation

In promotion of the November 19 – 22, 2004 SHS production of “Anything Goes”, drama boosters, Drew Fritz, Kyle Metzgher, Jen Michaels and Kyla Hickey performed a dialogue and two numbers from the production for the Board of Education.

Financial Report

A. Monthly Financial Report

Mr. Connolly, Business Manager, reviewed the monthly financial report with the Board.

B. 2003-2004 Budget Status

Mr. Connolly, Business Manager, reported on the status of the budget.

C. Energy Savings Program

The Board discussed the CL&P Energy Savings Program. A representative from CONN SERV, Mr. Reynolds, was in attendance to answer questions. CONN SERV is the contractor who would conduct the energy audit for CL&P.

The following motion was made by Mr. Spaziani and seconded by Mr. Agnello:

- **Motion 4: To approve having the energy audit performed by CL&P as soon as possible.**

Aye: All

The following motion was made by Mr. Spaziani and seconded by Mr. Agnello:

- **Motion 5: To authorize the superintendent and the business manager, to proceed with letter of agreement with CL&P if energy audit determines it to be in the Board's favor.**

Aye: All

D. CIP Proposals

The Board discussed the Proposed CIP Budget for 2004-2005.

The following motion was made by Mr. Cary and seconded by Mr. Agnello:

- **Motion 6: To table CIP until next Board meeting .**

Aye: All

Committee Reports

A. SHS Building Committee Update

Mr. Agnello was unable to attend K-12 Building Committee meeting therefore there was no report.

Mr. McKee reported on the community open house held at the new building on October 30, 2004. Over 150 people attended.

B. District Athletic Committee

Mr. Spaziani reported that the committee continues to work on policies, procedures and the athletic/sports club manual.

Adult Education Enrichment Program Update

The Board discussed the Adult Education Enrichment Program and reviewed its current financial status in comparison to previous years. The Board also discussed several options in regards to funding or discontinuing the Adult Education Enrichment Program. The program director, Karen Veit, was in attendance and answered questions. The Board agreed to subsidize the program through the educational budget until the program becomes self-sustaining. The Board also agreed that Mr. Spaziani, Mr. Agnello and the superintendent will draft a policy regarding subsidizing the Adult Education Enrichment Program.

Policies

- A. Revised Policy 5132 – Students: Dress and Grooming – 2nd Reading

The following motion was made by Mr. Agnello and seconded by Mr. Cary:

- **Motion 7: To approve revised Policy 5132 – Students: Dress and Grooming.**

Aye: All

- B. New Policy 5136 – Students: District Athletics; District Athletic Policy – 2nd Reading

The following motion was made by Mr. Cary and seconded by Agnello:

- **Motion 8: To approve new Policy 5136 – Students: District Athletics; District Athletic Policy.**

Aye: All

Strategic School Profiles

The Board reviewed the 2003-2004 Strategic School Profiles which were released from the State this month.

Attendance Consortium Report

Mr. McKee reported that Stonington Public Schools has been part of a nine-town consortium funded by OPM and the Juvenile Justice Commission. He also reported that over the past four years, SPS has received over \$100,000 in grants from this commission. He also reported that a goal of the consortium is to convince the state that more emphasis should be placed on paying attention to student attendance, especially in helping school systems to measure how successful they are. The Board reviewed data for the consortium as a whole and the data for Stonington which showed improved and commendable daily attendance for the district.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. McKee reported on the following:

A. Personnel

Certified Resignations

Richard Schmidt

Biology – SHS (1.0)

David Plantz

Chemistry – SHS (0.8)

Added Teaching

New Appointment

Andrea Davis

Brown and White Newspaper Advisor

B. Smile Safe

Mr. McKee explained the Smile Safe Program as well as the Stonington Rotary Club & local PTO's agreement to purchase equipment to offer another program connected to the Amber Alert data bank. Mr. McKee also told the Board that SPS will be offering both programs to our students and parents.

C. SEF Mini-grants

The Board reviewed a synopsis of 14 mini-grants that were funded by the Stonington Education Fund.

Comments from Citizens Relative to Board Action on this Agenda

Mrs. Wilner, parent, asked if the SHS drama presentation for next spring will be at the high school or held off-site? Mr. McKee answered that the spring presentation will be held off-site due to construction. Mrs. Wilner also asked if the Athletic Committee is looking at participation in the different sports and clubs? Mr. Agnello answered that the committee has reviewed participation data.

Board Comments/Concerns

Mr. Spaziani briefly reported to the Board on behalf of the Town Retirement Committee.

The following motion was made by Mr. Agnello and seconded by Mr. Cary:

- **Motion 10: To adjourn at 10:15 p.m.**

Aye: All

Board Secretary