

STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 9, 2004

Mr. Murphy, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. in the Board of Education Meeting Room. Members present were Jerry Murphy, Chairman, April Smith, Secretary, Corinne Rossi, Eugene Spaziani, Sam Agnello, Rob Cary and Doretta Colburn.

Late Arrival: Mr. Agnello arrived at 7:55 p.m.

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

Recognitions

Mr. McKee recognized Mystic Middle School teacher, Lea Kennedy, who was asked to present at a State Conference representing Connecticut in New York City. Mr. McKee also recognized Deans Mill who had students who competed in a National Math Conference and Mystic and Pawcatuck Middle Schools who will have students participating in the upcoming State Robotics Competition at Central University.

Comments from Citizens

Gretchen Noonan, SEA President, mentioned that both CEA and SEA were sponsoring a "Holiday Bear Project" in which donations are accepted to help needy children in the area.

Student Government Report

Dan Terrell reported on the following:

- Fall Feast was a big success and leftover food was donated to the Warm Shelter.
- Pep Rally was held day before Thanksgiving and was a lot of fun.
- Students saddened by the loss of SHS Guidance Counselor, Scott Hamilton.
- Sponsoring "Lights of Love" fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House.
- Students sponsored a food drive.

SBIT Reports

- Ms. Smith reported for the West Vine SBIT, which held its meeting on November 8. The team discussed the budget process and worked on proposed staffing. The team also discussed increased paraprofessional support for grade 2, the vision for technology, and 2004-05 SBIT goals. Karen Abston is the new SBIT member. The parent compact was distributed to parents at parent conferences.
- Ms. Colburn reported for the Deans Mill SBIT. The SBIT is in need of 3 parent representatives. The team discussed the 2005-06 budget and media center enhancement. They also discussed the need for repairs and safety concern issues regarding the parking lot and school website development. The Parent Compact was distributed at parent conferences.
- Mr. Cary reported that the West Broad Street School SBIT met on November 30 and the next meeting will be on December 31. WBSS held a "Family Reading Night" which was a success. The next "Family Night" will be held on January 12. The team discussed holding a joint parent meeting with West Vine on March 1, 2005. Human Services sponsored an after-school program at West Broad.

Consent Agenda

A. Minutes

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

- **Motion 1: To approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of November 4, 2004 with correction to consent agenda motions.**

The vote was as follows:

Mr. Murphy – Abstained	Mr. Agnello – Yes
Ms. Smith – Yes	Ms. Rossi – Yes
Mr. Spaziani – Yes	Mr. Cary – Yes
Ms. Colburn – Yes	

The motion carried.

B. Disbursement of Checks and Bills

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

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

Aye: All

The following amounts were approved:

November 2004

Regular Budget 2003-2004 Prior Year	\$ 5,350.70
Regular Budget 2004-2005 Current Year	\$ 2,910,780.38
Check issued for wrong amount	\$ <u>(10,800.00)</u>
	\$ 2,899,980.38
Federal Grants (251)	\$ 6,574.86
State Grants (253)	\$ 7,264.78
Collaborative (252)	\$ 0.00

C. Intra-Account Transfers

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

- **Motion 3: To approve intra-account transfers from November 5, 2004 through December 2, 2004.**

Aye: All

D. Minority Teacher Recruitment Plan

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

- **Motion 4: To approve the updated Minority Teacher Recruitment Plan.**

Aye: All

K-8 Building Project Presentation

Town Building Committee member, Gail MacDonald, presented a preview of the power point program to be used for gaining input from townspeople about the K-8 building project. Ms. MacDonald will distribute questions from the presentation to Board members.

Committee Reports

A. SHS Building Committee Update

Ms. MacDonald updated the Board on the progress of the SHS building project. Mr. Agnello reported on behalf of the subcommittee.

B. District Athletic Committee

Mr. Spaziani reported that the committee worked on definitions and guidelines. Mr. Agnello reported that the Pawcatuck Middle School has assembled an athletic committee, which will be looking at all scholastic, inter-scholastic and intramural sports. Mr. Agnello suggested that Mystic Middle School consider doing the same.

Financial Report

A. Monthly Financial Report

Mr. Connolly, Business Manager, reviewed the monthly financial report with the Board noting that internal accounts balanced as well as with the town.

B. Business Department Manual

Mr. Connolly previewed the new business department's operating manual which will be continually updated and presented to the Board for review each December.

C. 2005-2006 Budget

Mr. Connolly reported on progress being made toward the 2005-2006 budget, highlighting areas of concern.

CIP Requests

The Board discussed 2005-2006 CIP Requests.

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

- **Motion 5: To amend CIP to reduce the MUNIS financial software from \$100,000 to \$66,000 as a result of staying with ADP for Payroll.**

Aye: All

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

- **Motion 6: To approve the educational CIP requests for the 2005-2006 budget.**

Aye: All

Adult Education Enrichment Program

The Board discussed the Adult Education Enrichment Program and the anticipated shortfall in adult education enrichment for the 2004-2005 and possibly the 2005-2006 year.

A. Committee Report

Mr. Spaziani reported on behalf of the subcommittee, which met on December 9. Mr. Spaziani recommended that the Board approve supplementing the program for this year and next year. He also explained that it is the premise that improving the marketing program and advertising the improved facility of the new high school should bring the program back to self-sufficiency within two years.

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

- **Motion 7: To approve supplementing the Adult Education Enrichment Program for the 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 school years while improvement marketing of the program is ongoing.**

Aye: All

B. Revised Policy #6200 – Adult Education/Enrichment

The Board reviewed and discussed the current policy. This was a first reading therefore no action was taken.

Curriculum and Instruction

A. Tradebook Approvals – First Reading

The Board reviewed the Language Arts Committees request to the Board for approval of the following

Tradebooks:

<i>In Cold Blood</i>	Grade 12
<i>Alive! The Story of the Andes Survivors</i>	Grade 12
<i>Born on the Fourth of July</i>	Grade 12
<i>Wit</i>	Grade 12
<i>Ordinary People</i>	Grades 11 and 12
<i>The Beggars' Strive</i>	Grade 8
<i>W;T</i>	Grade 12 AP
<i>Into Thin Air</i>	Grade 12
<i>Into The Wild</i>	Grade 12

Grasso Regional Vocational Technical School Yearbook Request

The Board discussed the request from the Grasso Regional Vocational Technical School Yearbook staff in which they request the Board to purchase an ad for their yearbook.

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

- **Motion 8: To approve the purchase of a \$90 (half page) ad in the Grasso Regional Vocational Technical School's yearbook.**

Aye: All

Policies

- A. New Policy 5141.231/4118.234 – Students/Personnel – Certified: Psychotropic Drug Use
– First Reading

This is a first reading and therefore no action was taken.

- B. New Policy 6172.6 – Instruction: Distance Education; Virtual/Online Courses – First Reading

This is a first reading and therefore no action was taken.

- C. New Policy 0521.2 – Mission/Goals/Objectives: Nondiscrimination; Commitment to Religious Neutrality (Prayer in the Schools) – First Reading

This is a first reading and therefore no action was taken.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. McKee reported on the following:

A. Personnel

Added Teaching

New Appointments

Jason Wolfradt	MMS	Boys Basketball Head Coach
Vianna McGugan	PMS	Girls Basketball Head Coach

Resignations

Todd Gwaltney	SHS	Softball Assistant Coach
Tiffany Cozzolino	SHS	Junior Class Co-Advisor

Volunteer Appointment

Joann Nicholas	PMS	Girls Basketball Assistant Coach
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The following motion was made by Mr. Cary and seconded by Mr. Agnello:

- **Motion 9: To approve the volunteer appointment of Joann Nicholas as Girls Basketball Assistant Coach.**

Aye: All

Comments from Citizens Relative to Board Action on this Agenda

Mrs. Wilner, parent, asked the Board "If there is a profit in the Adult Enrichment Program Budget, where does it go?" The Board explained that the program director has purchased computers, software and other equipment for her program, which is also used by the High School.

Board Comments/Concerns

Mr. Agnello suggested that the Board discontinue SBIT reports on the Board meeting agendas. He suggested that all the SBIT minutes for each school be included in the Board packet for Board members to review.

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

- **Motion 10: To adjourn at 9:10 p.m.**

Aye: All

April Smith, Secretary