

**Stonington High School**  
**December 19, 2006**  
**SBIT Minutes**

*SHS SBIT 2005-2006 Goal: Strengthen the school to community connection in two distinct ways: bringing the community into SHS during X-BLOCK and sending students out into the area for job shadowing and internships.*

**Members Present:** S. Murphy, L. Raffo, M. Devine, K. Donovan, M. Gillick, L. Gillick, A. Walsh, G. MacDonald, D. Willner, S. Mueller, M. McKee, P. Jeffrey, C. Moore.

**Members Absent:** L. Bolduc, N. Kepple, J. Norcross, B. Morrone, L. Conway, C. Sartor.

**Visitors:** J. Moore, K. Rolfe.

Meeting called to order at 5:04 p.m. by Luke Raffo.

**Reports**

**A. Minutes-**Approved after some spelling errors were corrected.

**B. Student Report-**Student Government has been busy with Reindeer Games which will be held on Friday, December 22 at 10:10 a.m. Ten teams are participating at \$40 a team. Money raised will be given to the student whose house burned this week. Student Government is also donating \$100 to this cause.

**C. SBIT Reports/BOE Reports/Policies Under Review-**The BOE Forum on December 7 was not well attended if you take away SBIT members! The most common concern of those in attendance was the extended hours in the Media Center. G. MacDonald listed the priorities of the BOE as: 1. Programs for at risk students. 2. Technology. 3. Early Childhood Education (class sizes in grades K and 1). M. Gillick commented that 1 and 2 are new but 3 is an old priority. Maureen asked what happens to the concerns brought up last month by this board and those brought up by other SBIT'S. G. MacDonald stated these will be brought up again at a BOE meeting before the budget is set. M. Gillick wanted to bring to the attention of the SBIT that one of the art teachers at SHS teaches three AP art classes. This is a lot for one teacher.

**D. Perkins Innovation Grant-**\$69,000 for the construction of a credit union within SHS is in the information stages. Students will receive college credit in Personal Finance and Financial Banking from Three Rivers Community College.

**E. New Course Proposal: Neuropsychology-**Mr. Hardison did a great job with the presentation. This course will be the behavioral side of neuropsychology. It will be an elective and will require no additional staff. It will be offered to 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders. This was approved by the SBIT and will be sent to the BOE for consideration.

**F. Fundraising-**P. Jeffrey spoke with L. Bolduc about her concerns. P. Jeffrey enlisted the help of the Accounting II class to collect data on the money deposited into the general school fund by all 33 club/organizations in the 2005-2006 school year. She acknowledged the following for all their hard work on collecting the data: Megan Cross, Tim Steinhoff, Mike Rathbun and Mr. Howe. They reported that \$252,452.34 was

deposited by thirty-three different organizations into the general fund. The study concluded that it could not be determined how much money came strictly from fundraising because groups like National Honor Society collect dues, yearbook has sales of the books, and some clubs have start-up funds. These figures do not include any organization (Athletic Boosters and Crew for example) that does not deposit into the SHS General Fund. Of that \$252,452.34, \$144,409.84 was spent by the various organizations. Money raised from ticket sales at the drama productions is not all fundraising because they have royalties for each performance they must pay. A fundraising form must be filled out in the office before an event. A new question on the form will be "What is the fundraising money for?" Dr. Murphy said the only way to establish where the money came from would be to use a line-item deposit slip and breakdown the funds. M. Gillick stated she believes the issue is that the community businesses are hit up too many times in one year. Maybe one letter could be sent to area businesses with a check list of where they want their donations distributed for the whole school year. P. Jeffrey added that maybe we could do an Ad campaign for the clubs that have programs. M. McKee stated there is a company that does that and he will get the name of the company for us. G. MacDonald asked Dr. Murphy if he knew of any school district that had a good handle on fundraising? He will send an email to the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) and ask. M. Gillick suggested the new credit union may be able to set up individual accounts for ads, fundraising, start-up money etc...

**G. BOE Evaluations**-The Board received 7 responses. G. MacDonald will make copies of these for next months' meeting.

#### **Visitors' Comments - None**

#### **SBIT Comments**

G. MacDonald bought an article that was in The Day newspaper recently about the Norwich Mayor establishing a committee of middle school and high school students who want to be involved in city politics. Gail thought it was a good idea and wonders whether something like this could be established in the town and linked to the BOE. M. Gillick stated that some students brought up their concerns at the BOE Forum. Maybe a Youth Council with two slots from each school could be established. P. Jeffrey stated we already have a Student Government at the high school and Student Forums at the middle schools as sounding boards. G. MacDonald thought the report from the Student Government Rep. at the BOE meetings was not a true representation of the whole school. They only report on Student Government activities. L. Raffo felt it would be the same kids that would run for this new committee. D. Willner thought the students' concerns should be brought to the SBIT first. G. MacDonald will bring this up at the next BOE meeting.

#### **Action**

New course proposal was approved and will go to the BOE for approval.

#### **Agenda**

BOE Evaluations, Y BLOCK

**Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

