

STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MARCH 13, 2008

Mr. Bolduc, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Board of Education Meeting Room. Members present were John Bolduc, Chairman, April Smith, Secretary, Rob Cary, Kevin Bornstein, and Doug Rea.

Members Absent – Gail MacDonald 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 that this was the last Board meeting for Frank Connolly, Business Director. Mr. Connolly retires on March 14, 2008.

The following motion was made by John Bolduc and seconded by April Smith:

- **Motion 1: To recognize Frank Connolly's outstanding contribution to the Stonington School System during his tenure as Director of Business and Finance and wish him the best in his retirement.**

Aye: All

Mr. McKee recognized Ginny Bitting, PMS teacher, for being named as a Writing Consultant with the National Writing Project. Ms. Bitting will be part of a panel at UConn in March at the 3rd annual Conference on the Teaching of Writing.

Mr. Bolduc recognized SHS English teacher, MaryLou Devine, for all her work and effort in publishing the SHS Sojourn.

Student Government Report

- Students from MMS and PMS were invited to visit and tour SHS on March 13th and 14th.
- On March 18th Student Government will be holding its first Mr. SHS Talent Show/Beauty Contest Fundraiser.
- The SHS Boys' Varsity Basketball team won the ECC divisional title and have gone on to compete and win in a series of eliminating games.
- The SHS Girls' Basketball Team also won the ECC divisional title.
- The Ledyard-Stonington COOP Swim Team is currently sporting a 10 and 2 record.
- All spring sports practices start Monday, March 17th.
- Heather Buck and Dylan Anderson were recognized and named as Scholar Athletes.
- Ten SHS music students, for both band and chorus, auditioned and were accepted into the All State Music Festival on April 3-5, 2008.

Student Government Report continued.....

- Ashley Fan and Jake Rathbun both received fine arts award from the Connecticut Association of Schools.
- SHS has a new Poet Laureate for 2008! Congratulations to Anna Victoria.
- On February 29th six students spoke in favor of the 17 year old voter legislation in Hartford. Connor Toole was on Channel 3 Eyewitness News and in the newspaper.
- On March 2-8th eight students represented Stonington and SHS in Washington, D.C. on the CloseUp! Washington Trip.
- On April 5th SHS's Mock Trial team is scheduled to enter state competition at New London Superior Court.
- SHS student, Michael Riordan, has been honored for his outstanding community service with a state-level Certificate of Excellence from the 2008 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program.

Consent Agenda

A. Minutes

The following motion was made by Rob Cary and seconded by Kevin Bornstein:

- **Motion 2: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 14, 2008.**

Aye: All

B. Checks and Bills

The following motion was made by Rob Cary and seconded by Doug Rea:

- **Motion 3: To approve the disbursement of checks and bills for the month of February 2008.**

Aye: All

C. Intra-account Transfers

The following motion was made by Rob Cary and seconded by Doug Rea:

- **Motion 4: To approve the intra-account transfers of March 13, 2008.**

Business and Finance

A. Monthly Financial Report

Judy Samokar presented the monthly financial report to the Board. Judy alerted the Board to the special education accounts, which continue to be over budget after posting excess cost funds.

B. Project Updates

Bill King reported to the Board that the truck purchased for maintenance through CIP was delivered today. He also reported that most of the classroom furniture purchased through CIP has arrived at the schools. Mr. King spoke about the fuel bid process and reported that he locked in \$2.09 per gallon for natural gas. No other fuel bids have been awarded. Mr. King told the Board that the Air Quality “Tools for Schools” mandated survey has been distributed. He also reported that the new time and attendance system has been installed at the schools.

C. Excess Costs Update

Judy Samokar gave the Board an update on how excess costs are calculated.

Curriculum and Instruction

A. Stonington Academy for Teaching and Learning

Leanne Masterjoseph, Assistant Superintendent, shared the Spring 2008 Stonington Academy for Teaching & Learning Offering Guide with Board members and invited them to attend a session.

B. Tradebook Adoptions

Ms. Masterjoseph presented a request for adoption of Algebra 2, a math text published by Holt, Rinehart, Winston, for use at SHS.

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

Annual Contract Non-Renewal Authorization

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

- **Motion 5: To authorize and direct the Superintendent of Schools, in his capacity as Chief Executive of the Board of Education, to make and communicate decisions concerning the non-renewal and termination of certified professional staff in the Board’s employ and to furnish written notices of non-renewal and termination and, where required, reasons therefore, to affected non-tenured teachers, as provided in provisions of the Connecticut Teacher Tenure Law applicable to non-tenured teachers.**

Aye: All

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Retirements 2007-08

The Board accepted the retirements of the following certified staff:

Paula Dyl – MMS – 35 years

Anna Greene – DMS – 37 years

Sandra Rogers – School Psychologist – 20 years

Diane Aubin – MMS – 7 years

The following motion was made by Doug Rea and seconded by April Smith:

- **Motion 6: To accept the following 2008 retirements with regrets and appreciation for their many years of service. To spread across the minutes resolutions commemorating the retirements of Paula Dyl, Anna Greene, Sandra Rogers and Diane Aubin.**

Aye: All

Cooperative Town/BOE Opportunities

Mr. King and Mr. Connolly answered questions regarding cooperative ventures between the Board of Education and the town.

Committee Reports

A. Building Committee

John Bolduc reported for the building committee, which met on Monday, March 10. The committee analyzed several proposals regarding the middle and elementary schools.

B. SEF

Mr. McKee reported that SEF is preparing for the annual fundraiser. The Dinner Dance and Silent Auction will be held on April 5th at the Mystic Marriott. Mr. McKee suggested that the Board and the Administrator's have their own table for the event.

Health Food Certification Statement

The Board reviewed the Healthy Food Certification Statement for July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

The following motion was made by Doug Rea and seconded by April Smith:

- **Motion 7:** Pursuant to section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Stonington Board of Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education will meet said standards during the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. Such certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises, whether or not school sponsored.

Aye: All

The following motion was made by April Smith and seconded by Doug Rea:

- **Motion 8:** Pursuant to section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Stonington Board of Education will exclude from certification food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that (1.) such food is sold in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend, (2.) such sale is at the event, and (3.) such food is not sold from a vending machine or school store.

Aye: All

Superintendent's Report

Mr. McKee reported on the following:

A. Personnel

CERTIFIED

Resignation

Hayden Conley	Effective June 30, 2008	WBSS
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Leaves

Elizabeth Ainscough	February 8, 2008 – May 19, 2008	PMS
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Anne O'Sullivan	January 4, 2008 – June 30, 2008	PMS
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ADDED TEACHING

Volunteer Appointments

John Bolduc	Outdoor Track Assistant Coach	SHS
Tom McCoy	Outdoor Track Assistant Coach	SHS
Bill Gibney	Boys Lacrosse Assistant Coach	SHS
Abby Gibney	Boys Lacrosse Assistant Coach	SHS
Dave Parkinson	Golf Assistant Coach	SHS
Jay Macko	Golf Assistant Coach	SHS
Michelle Gallata	Crew Assistant Coach	SHS
Ken Godfrey	Crew Assistant Coach	SHS

The following motion was made by Rob Cary and seconded by Kevin Bornstein:

- Motion 9: To approve the volunteer appointments of John Bolduc and Tom McCoy as Outdoor Track Assistant Coaches, Bill and Abby Gibney as Boys Lacrosse Assistant Coaches, Dave Parkinson and Jay Macko as Golf Assistant Coaches, Michelle Gallata and Ken Godfrey as Crew Assistant Coaches.**

John Bolduc – Abstained

Rob Cary - Yes

Kevin Bornstein – Yes

April Smith - Yes

Doug Rea – Yes

Aye: All

Superintendent's Report continued...

B. Other

Mr. McKee reported to the Board that Gail MacDonald and Mr. McKee have been visiting the Citizens in Action classes at SHS and receiving input from students regarding issues that effect them to share with the Board. Mr. McKee also reported that he has presented his China presentation to several groups in the community.

Board Comments

John Bolduc asked DMS principal, Kelly Spooner, for more information on the donation from a local family foundation of \$1,000. The donation will be used for the DMS literacy lab.

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

- **Motion 10: To adjourn at 8:30 p.m.**

Aye: All

April Smith, Board Secretary