

STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 13, 2008

Mr. Bolduc, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. in the Board of Education Meeting Room. Members present were John Bolduc, Chairman, April Smith, Secretary, Sam Agnello, Gail MacDonald, Doug Rea, and Kevin Bornstein.

Member Absent: Rob Cary.

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 recognized the delegation of 22 participants who went to China. Mr. Agnello recognized the SHS Student Government for their hosting the annual Fall Feast for Veterans. Mr. Bolduc recognized Terry Jordan, WBSS principal, and PMS for their effective response during the recent emergency evacuation. Mr. Bolduc also congratulated the SHS Cross Country team on their ECC Division Championship. Also recognized, were Student and Government teacher, Richard Walter, and SHS students for their work on the amendment of the Connecticut constitution allowing 17 year olds to vote in primary elections. Connecticut Secretary of State, Susan Byseiwicz, will be at SHS for a signing and celebration on November 25.

Student Government Report

Catherine Schmitz reported on behalf of the Student Government.

- Student Government is currently preparing for Spirit Week.
- Student Government is brainstorming ideas for Reindeer Games and hope to donate proceeds to Heifer International.
- The SHS Band played in both the Columbus Day Parade and the Veterans' Parade. They will also be playing at the school pep rally and the Thanksgiving Day football game.
- On November 22nd, twenty-five SHS band and chorus students will audition to participate in the CMEA Eastern CT Regional Music Festival.
- On November 25th, ten new juniors and seniors will be inducted into Tri-M, the Music National Honor Society.
- The Winter Band Concert is on December 8th and the Winter Chorus Concert is on December 18th.
- The National Honor Society is currently holding a winter clothing drive.

Consent Agenda

A. Minutes

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Gail MacDonald:

- **Motion 1: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 9, 2008.**

Aye: All

B. Checks and Bills

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Kevin Bornstein:

- **Motion 2: To approve the disbursement of checks and bills for the month of October 2008.**

Aye: All

C. Intra-account Transfers

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Kevin Bornstein:

- **Motion 3: To approve the Intra-account Transfers for the month of October 2008.**

Aye: All

D. Board Meeting Dates

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Kevin Bornstein:

- **Motion 4: To approve the board meeting dates for the 2009 school calendar.**

Aye: All

Finance and Operations

- A. Monthly Financial Report
Judy Samokar presented the monthly financial report to the Board.

- B. Project Updates and Operations Update
Bill King reported to the Board on the following:
 - a. Letter of appreciation delivered to Raytheon for furniture donation.
 - b. Fuel Bids opened today. Prices locked in for next year.
 - c. Transportation Bid for Busses.

- C. CIP Update
Mr. King presented the proposed CIP for FY 2009-2010. The Board discussed the proposed CIP and asked questions. The Board will take action on the 2009-2010 CIP document at the December meeting.

- D. 403b Draft Plan Document Review
The Board reviewed the plan document, which will be presented to the Board in December for adoption. ING Representatives were available for questions.

Budget

- A. Budget Process
The document discussed and amended at the October board meeting will be included into regulations with Budget Policy 3110.

- B. Budget 2009-2010
Administration asked the Board for direction in how to proceed with the proposed 2009-2010 budget. Board members were asked to email suggested goals within two weeks to Mr. McKee. April Smith stated that it was essential for the Board to re-evaluate the items that were left over from last year's possible reductions list and should be worth consideration this year.

Curriculum and Instruction

A. Professional Development Day

Mrs. Masterjoseph reported on the district's accomplishments during the November 10, 2008 professional development day.

B. Good Teaching Task Force Parent Survey

The Board reviewed the Good Teaching Task Force analysis of parent survey results.

The results were presented as one-page reflections for each school. Gail MacDonald commended the Task Force on the format of the survey.

C. Tradebook Adoption

On behalf of the Language Arts Committee, Mrs. Masterjoseph, presented two books for adoption by the Board. They were Pathways: Literature for Readers and Writers and Our Town. This was a first reading and therefore no action was taken.

D. Stonington Academy Fall Session

Ms. Masterjoseph shared the Fall 2008 Stonington Academy Offering Guide with the Board.

SBIT Policy Discussion

The Board discussed the current SBIT board policy. John Bolduc asked that the principals provide the board with an outline of what is important to the SBITs. Mr. Bolduc requested that board members review the policy and make revision suggestions before the next board meeting. Mr. McKee will collect comments and send an electronic version to board members. This agenda item will be placed on the December agenda.

Policies

A. Revised Policy and Regulations 6200 – Instruction; Continuing Education – 2nd Reading

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Kevin Bornstein:

- **Motion 5: To approve revised Policy and Regulation 6200 – Instruction: Continuing Education.**

Motion rescinded by Mr. Agnello.

Policies continued....

- A. Revised Policy 6200 – Instruction; Continuing Education – 2nd Reading

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Gail MacDonald:

- **Motion 6: To approve revised Policy 6200 – Instruction: Continuing Education as amended.**

Aye: All

- C. Revised Policy 6161 – Instruction; Selection/Evaluation of Books and Instructional Materials; Provision - 2nd Reading

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Gail MacDonald:

- **Motion 7: To approve revised Policy 6161 – Instruction; Selection/Evaluation of Books and Instructional Materials; Provision.**

Aye: All

2007-08 Strategic School Profiles

Board members were provided copies of the 2007-08 Strategic School Profiles. After reviewing the data, board members can contact Mr. McKee with any questions.

Board of Finance Request

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Gail MacDonald:

- **Motion 8: To table agenda item – Board of Finance Request.**

Aye: All

Committee Reports

A. Building Committee

Gail MacDonald reported there was no meeting and therefore no report.

B. SEF

Gail MacDonald reported that SEF held a social designed to interest new members. The event was not well attended but a list of names has been generated. SEF approved \$3,800 in mini-grant funds and is currently reviewing three Apple Grants.

C. Athletic Committee

Sam Agnello gave an overview of the 2008 SHS Spring Sports Report. John Bolduc reported that PMS parent, Mr. Wallace, approached the committee regarding the process for starting a wrestling program at SHS. Mr. Bolduc also reported that the committee reviewed an issue regarding certification and an assistant coach. The committee is looking into ways to address certification issues in the future.

D. Retirement Board

April Smith reported that returns were down 5%. The Town retirement continues to be in good shape.

Superintendent's Report

A. Personnel

Added Teaching

New Appointments

Boys Basketball Head Coach	Michael Reyes	SHS
Boys Basketball Assistant Coach	Manny MacDonald	SHS
Freshmen Boys Basketball Coach	Rob Wall	SHS
Girls Basketball Head Coach	Paulla Solar	SHS
Girls Basketball Assistant Coach	Adam Baber	SHS
Freshmen Girls Basketball Coach	Thomas Paige	SHS
Gymnastics Head Coach	Leslie Gomes	SHS
Indoor Track Head Coach	John McNally	SHS
Swimming Assistant Coach	Wayne Brusseau	SHS
Boys Basketball Coach	Dan Cawley	PMS
Girls Basketball Coach	Stephen Francis	PMS
Boys Basketball Coach	Michael Shelton	MMS
Girls Basketball Coach	Beth Quesnel	MMS

Volunteer Appointments

Boys Basketball Assistant Coach	Ben DiMario	SHS
Boys Basketball Assistant Coach	Joe Ciriello	SHS
Girls Basketball Assistant Coach	Dan Rahl	SHS
Girls Basketball Assistant Coach	Joe Ciriello	SHS
Gymnastics Assistant Coach	Jerry Desmond	SHS
Cheerleading Assistant Coach	Kristen Olivero	SHS
Indoor Track Assistant Coach	Tom McCoy	SHS
Mentor	Bruce Drake	PMS

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Doug Rea:

- **Motion 9: To approve the volunteer appointments of Ben DiMario, Joe Ciriello, Dan Rahl as Basketball Assistant Coaches, Jerry Desmond as Gymnastics Assistant Coach, Kristen Olivero as Cheerleading Assistant Coach, Tom McCoy as Indoor Assistant Track Coach and Bruce Drake as Mentor at Pawcatuck Middle School.**

Aye: All

B. China Trip

Mr. McKee spoke briefly about the China Trip in October and about achieving the goals the delegation set out to achieve.

C. Close Up Program

Mr. McKee informed the Board that SHS students will be traveling to Washington, D.C. as part of the Close Up Program from March 1 through March 7.

D. "Rigor Redefined"

Mr. McKee distributed an article entitled "Rigor Redefined" (which is a summary of a book entitled The Global Achievement Gap written by Harvard professor, Tony Wagner).

E. Facilitator Opportunity

Mr. McKee shared that the Connecticut Commission on Children and the Connecticut Center for School Change are searching for informed parents to help with these organizations facilitate meetings across the state.

F. Custodian Grievances

Mr. McKee told the board members that three separate grievances have resulted from the decision to reduce positions. The State Union Representative is requesting to bring all three grievances at one time. The board members told Mr. McKee that they were fine with that request.

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Kevin Bornstein:

- **Motion 10: To adjourn at 9:25 p.m.**

Aye: All

The Board held a non-meeting at 9:26 p.m. inviting Michael McKee, Bill King, Judy Samokar, and Frank Connolly.

April Smith, Board Secretary