

STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, JANUARY 8, 2009

Mr. Bolduc, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. in the Stonington High School Commons. Members present were John Bolduc, Chairman, Sam Agnello, Gail MacDonald, Rob Cary, Doug Rea and Kevin Bornstein.

Member Absent: April Smith, Secretary.

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

Recognitions by Board Members

Mr. Bolduc recognized the SHS girls soccer team and their coach for both athletic and scholastic excellence this year.

Mr. Bolduc also recognized Dr. Murphy for his article which will be published in the February issue of Principal's Magazine.

Student Government Report

Kayla Murphy reported on behalf of the Student Government:

- Student Government held Reindeer Games and will donate proceeds to Heifer International.
- The National Honor Society will be holding its winter blood drive Friday, January 9.
- The Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band held its concert on December 8th
- On January 9 and 10, eighteen SHS music students will perform at the Connecticut Music Educators Association Eastern Regional Music Festival.
- On January 22 -24, SHS band members will participate in the Thames Valley Wind Symphony.
- On January 31, the Jazz Band will perform at the Berklee Jazz Festival in Boston.

Consent Agenda

A. Minutes

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Rob Cary:

- **Motion 1: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 11, 2008.**

The vote was as follows:

John Bolduc – Yes

Doug Rea – Abstained

Gail MacDonald – Yes

Sam Agnello – Yes

Rob Cary – Yes

Kevin Bornstein - Yes

The motion carried.

B. Checks and Bills

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

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

Aye: All

C. Intra-account Transfers

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Rob Cary:

- **Motion 3: To approve the intra-account transfers for the month of December 2008.**

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. Met with First Student regarding 3 year extension of SPS transportation contract.
- b. K-12 Building Committee held conference call with Fletcher Thompson and electricians regarding emergency lights.
- c. Reviewing details of 5k run fundraiser to be held by SHS juniors with CIRMA.
- d. Updated board members on Alert Now update.

C. 403(b) Final Plan Document Appendix

Judy presented the amendments to the Plan Provisions Section as well as Addendum A and B.

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Rob Cary:

- **Motion 4: To approve the amendment of the Stonington Public Schools 403(b) Plan to include Oppenheimer, Putnam Investments and Security Benefit as approved investment providers.**

Aye: All

D. Lunch Program

Mr. King reported to the Board regarding the collection of payment for student lunches. He reported that many customers have begun using the electronic pay system as a charge account rather than for prepayment. Since the lunch program is not subsidized, cash flow begins to become a problem.

The following motion was made by Rob Cary and seconded by Sam Agnello:

- **Motion 5: To provide an alternative \$2.00 student meal of a choice between a peanut butter and jelly or cheese sandwich with fruit and milk if the student's lunch account balance is \$10.00 or more in arrears.**

Aye: All

Technology Report

Dr. Picard reported to board members regarding the positive qualities of technology implemented in the district and also identified several things that need short-term attention and other items that needed long-term attention. He also reported the following:

- The IT department is currently working with PowerSchool to correct some ongoing problems.
- The technology planning committee held its initial meeting and has scheduled other meetings.
- One of the goals Dr. Picard has set for the IT department is to bring the infrastructure of the network up to standards.

Curriculum and Instruction

A. Impact of the State High School Reform

Dr. Murphy, SHS Principal, Jane Giulini, PMS Principal, and Stafford Thomas, MMS Principal, spoke to the board regarding the impact that the state high school reform is going to have on SPS.

B. Middle School and High School for the 21st Century

The three principals outlined administration's vision of how the course selections will look as the reform takes place at the middle and high school levels.

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

- **Motion 6: To approve Stonington Public Schools participation in the State of Connecticut pilot program for the establishment of student goals .**

Aye: All

Budget 2009-2010

Mr. McKee presented the global budget. Board members and the public were invited to ask questions.

School Calendar 2009-2010

Two draft school calendars were presented to the board. The board asked several questions.

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

- **Motion 7: To table discussion on the 2009-2010 school calendar until the February board meeting.**

The vote was as follows:

Doug Rea – Yes

Gail MacDonald – Yes

John Bolduc – No

Sam Agnello – Yes

Rob Cary – Yes

Kevin Bornstein - Yes

The motion carried.

Committee Reports

A. Building Committee

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

B. SEF

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

C. Finance Committee

Rob Cary reported that the Board of Finance met on Wednesday, January 7. The Board of Finance set a budget calendar for 2009-2010 budget. He also reported that the BOF is interested in a Memorandum of Understanding between Board of Finance, Board of Selectman and Board of Education regarding post employment provisions.

D. Athletic Committee

Sam Agnello reported that the Athletic Committee met on Thursday, January 8. Mr. Agnello also reviewed highlights of the Fall Sports Report. He also reported that Mr. Wallace, PMS parent, gave a semi-presentation regarding the formation of a wrestling team at SHS. Mr. Agnello requested that the wrestling team request be added to the agenda for the February board meeting.

Superintendent's Report

A. Personnel

Certified Staff

New Hire

Cheryl Kadar	Long-term Substitute	PMS
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Leaves

Danielle Yates	December 22, 2008 – March 9, 2009	PMS
Faith MacDonald	February 3, 2009 – June 30, 2009	DMS

Volunteers

Volunteer Appointments

Shelby Joslin Buck	Volunteer Gymnastic Assistant Coach	SHS
Kevin Dipollino	Volunteer Boys Basketball Assistant Coach	SHS

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Rob Cary:

- **Motion 8: To approve the volunteer appointments of Shelby Joslin Buck as Gymnastic Assistant Coach and Kevin Dipollino as volunteer Boys Basketball Assistant Coach.**

Aye: All

Board Comments

Gail MacDonald shared hand-outs with board members from a CABE workshop regarding connecting schools with seniors.

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Rob Cary:

- **Motion 9: To adjourn at 8:50 p.m.**

Aye: All

April Smith, Board Secretary