

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
382 LONG HILL AVENUE
OCTOBER 27, 2010**

The Board of Education met at 6:45 p.m. in Conference Room C to discuss staff vacancies. **Win Oppel moved to go into Executive Session** at 6:45 p.m.; seconded by Thomas Minotti; vote 7-0; motion passed. Members present were Timothy Walsh, Thomas Minotti, Arlene Liscinsky, Win Oppel, Kate Kutash, Kathy Yolish, and Jay Francino-Quinn. Invited to stay were Freeman Burr, Allan Cameron, and James Brant. **Thomas Minotti moved to leave Executive Session** at 7:15 p.m.; seconded by Kate Kutash; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Chairman Timothy Walsh called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:16 p.m.

Roll Call: (alpha order)
Paula Ellis (excused)
John Francino-Quinn
Kate Kutash
Arlene Liscinsky, Vice Chairman
Thomas Minotti, Secretary
Win Oppel
Mike Pacowta (excused)
Timothy Walsh, Chairman
Kathleen Yolish

Quorum 7 present; 2 absent

Board of Education Administration present:
Superintendent of Schools, Freeman Burr
Director of Finance, Allan Cameron
Interim Director of Human Resources, James Brant
Operations Manager, William Banfe

(2 tapes on file in City/Town Clerk's Office)

The Board led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Win Oppel made a motion to move agenda item V.A. - Recognition of CAPT 2010 Advanced Level Achievers; item VII.A. - Appointments (including Addendum); and item VII.B. - Recalls to the beginning of the agenda, preceding the Public Hearing; seconded by Thomas Minotti; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Freeman Burr acknowledged the presence of the public wishing to speak and invited them to stay for the Public portion of the meeting. He informed everyone that as of this afternoon the Pom Pon Advisor position has been posted for ten days and expectations are that the process and appointment will be completed by November 15.

Recognition of CAPT 2010 Advanced Level Achievers

The following students were congratulated for achieving at the advanced level on the CAPT and were presented with certificates from the Board and letters from the Commissioner of Education:

Stephen Arena	Jessica Defelice	Karl Schif
Ryan Berman	Angela Ferro	Nicholas Shigo
John Bica	Brian Gagnon	William Taylor
Catherine Cheu	Allison Haley	Jia-Xin Teo
Dana Cho	Molly Hellauer	Michael Terry
Ryan Daiss	Heidi Keirstead	Douglas Turaj
Morgan Danowski	Kyle Packnick	Ryan Zuklie

Appointments

Arlene Liscinsky moved to appoint Maggie Szadeczky to the position of Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) advisor at Shelton High School; seconded by Kathy Yolish; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Win Oppel moved to appoint Sherie Goldstein to the position of DECA advisor at Shelton High School; seconded by Thomas Minotti; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Arlene Liscinsky moved to appoint Nancy Duffy to the position of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) advisor at Shelton High School; seconded by Kate Kutash; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Arlene Liscinsky moved to appoint Rosario Mavilla to the position of Assistant Boys' Soccer Coach at Shelton High School, due to a resignation; seconded by Jay Francino-Quinn; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Win Oppel moved to appoint Robert Ayer to the position of Social Studies Department Chair at Shelton Intermediate School as a replacement; seconded by Thomas Minotti; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Arlene Liscinsky moved to appoint Amy Corris to the position of Language Arts Department Chair at Shelton Intermediate School as a replacement; seconded by Thomas Minotti; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Win Oppel moved to appoint Eileen Victoria to the position of Administrative Secretary in Human Resources, due to a retirement; seconded by Kathy Yolish; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Win Oppel moved to appoint Melody Bowman to the position of Science teacher at Shelton Intermediate School to fill an opening; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Arlene Liscinsky moved to appoint Christine Purcell to the position of Language Arts teacher at Shelton Intermediate School to fill an opening; seconded by Kate Kutash; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Kate Kutash moved to appoint David Marchitto to the position of Assistant Director of Special Education and Support Services; seconded by Jay Francino-Quinn; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Recalls

Freeman Burr reviewed the following recalls:

Tracey Sedlock, recalled to the Grade 3 Mohegan School position, due to enrollment.

Jodi Keller, recalled to the Grade 2 Booth Hill School position, due to enrollment.

Kim Hawker, recalled to the Grade 3 Elizabeth Shelton School position, due to enrollment.

Sara Peters, recalled to the part-time Kindergarten position at Sunnyside School, due to enrollment.

Paulette Campbell, recalled to the part-time Kindergarten position at Mohegan School due to the movement of the previous teacher to a full-time position in the same school.

Public Hearing

James Oraziotti, 81 William Street, Chairman of Public Improvement Building Committee, stated he will respond to a previous request from the Board regarding the status of the high school chiller after next week's committee meeting. Mr. Oraziotti expressed gratitude to Bill Banfe for his invaluable contributions to so many projects.

Susie Jetta, 28 Whipporwill Road, senior member of Pom Pon squad, expressed dismay with the process of filling the vacant Pom Pon Advisor position.

Ron Pavlucik, 287 Eagles Landing, discussed ending the tenure system; lack of response to his FOI request concerning teacher absences, which has resulted in an investigation of his complaint; disappointment with handling of Pom Pon situation and bus issues; and called for the resignation of the superintendent.

Beth Zakarias-Salito, 82 Fresh Meadow, Trumbull, expressed her views on the Pom Pon situation and indicated she had submitted her resume for the Advisor position.

Dr. Kurt Jetta, 1 Parrott Drive, father of senior member of Pom Pon squad, expressed concern about the anxiety caused by lack of communication and requested the immediate formation of a parents club.

JoLynn Colon, 3 Fawn Meadow Lane, Pom Pon parent, requested a motion be added to the agenda to place one of the outside applicants as a temporary Advisor immediately while the search continues, allowing the girls to participate in Senior Night.

Chairman Walsh asked three times if anyone else wished to speak. There being no one, the Public session was closed.

Approval of Agenda and Addendum

Win Oppel moved to approve the agenda and addendum; seconded by Thomas Minotti; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Win Oppel moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 22, 2010; seconded by Jay Francino-Quinn; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Thomas Minotti moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of October 20, 2010; seconded by Win Oppel; vote 6-0-1 (Arlene Liscinsky abstained); motion passed.

(The Chairman called for a short recess from 8:09 – 8:22.)

Presentations

Superintendent Burr gave PowerPoint presentations and conducted in-depth discussions of Title I Overview and the Futures Study.* Kathy Bender and David Marchitto assisted in the presentation of the Futures information. Handouts were made available and questions were answered.**

*(Note: *Tape 1; Side B – 8:31 p.m. **Tape 2; Side A – 9:32 p.m.)*

Communications to the Board

There were no communications to report.

Retirements

Superintendent Burr informed the Board of the retirement of JoAnn Olearchik, school nurse at Long Hill School, after 21 years of service, effective June 20, 2011.

Resignations

Superintendent Burr informed the Board of the resignation of Ron Gydus from the stipend position of Summer School Director, effective October 11, 2010.

Instructional Update

Ken Saranich was asked to report on the status of a teacher who became ill and also a student at SIS who was struck by an automobile. Freeman Burr reflected on the loss of former teacher Ann Mestuzzi.

Approved Field Trips

Superintendent Burr informed the Board of the following approved field trips:

- SHS Wrestling Tournament in New Hampshire, January 14-15, 2011
- SHS World Language trip to France, April 15-23, 2011
- SHS World Language trip to Italy, April 16-23, 2011
- SHS Gael Winds trip to Washington, DC, March 17-19, 2011

There was brief discussion concerning security alert levels and wording stipulating the Board's right to cancel international trips, with an emphasis on advisors notifying parents and students of this possibility.

School Facilities Report

A written report was provided with agenda. Bill Banfe said from this point on, Win Oppel will report on facilities through his Buildings and Grounds report. Mr. Banfe mentioned the posting on the district website regarding green initiatives prepared by Paul Descoteaux. Bill Banfe said the high school will be totally green by the end of January or mid-February. Superintendent Burr and Chairman Walsh each commended Bill Banfe for his excellent work over the years.

Items Voted On

Thomas Minotti moved to approve the fundraising requests for Perry Hill School PTO, Perry Hill School and Elizabeth Shelton School for the 2010-2011 school year; seconded by **Kate Kutash**; vote 7-0; motion passed. Win Oppel expressed concern that not all groups have requested approval to conduct fundraisers. John Niski was asked to provide a list of clubs and organizations, and Diane Luther will list the approvals for this school year.

Win Oppel moved to approve reappointment of the stipend positions on the attachment provided; seconded by **Arlene Liscinsky**; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Win Oppel moved to approve the Board of Education Schedule of Meetings for the 2011 Calendar Year; seconded by **Thomas Minotti**; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Comments by the Board Chair

Chairman Walsh announced an invitation from CABA to attend a reception at the CABA Convention to receive the Board Leadership Award, Level 1. Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Yolish and Mr. Burr will attend the reception on November 19 in Mystic.

Mr. Walsh expressed disappointment in representation of the press at a meeting called by Tina Henckel to announce the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program. Fred Musante of The Huntington Herald was the only member of the press to attend, and his article and photographs were well done. Kathy Yolish mentioned that the next edition of *Shelton Life* will include two articles she is preparing on the space initiative, as well as an article on the enrichment program at Perry Hill. She suggested those articles could be forwarded to the local newspapers.

Chairman Walsh commended Jay Francino-Quinn for his outstanding work in successfully moving the playscape from Central Office to Long Hill and his attempts to move the Lafayette playscape to Sunnyside, which have been complicated by PTA involvement.

Reports by Standing Committees

Athletics – John Niski reported on the activities and standings of the various fall athletic teams. He said efforts are underway with Parks and Recreation, Buildings and Grounds Committee, and the City to address conditions on the varsity baseball field.

Building and Grounds – Win Oppel stated the minutes were emailed today to Board Members.

Cafeteria/Transportation – Allan Cameron invited Board Members to attend the breakfast program at Perry Hill, which starts on November 1. Mr. Cameron stated that improving transportation service remains a very high priority for the district. He

discussed the recent improvements and noted the goal is to have exclusive buses at both Shelton Intermediate and Perry Hill. Mr. Cameron said it was necessary to bring back two buses that were eliminated. In addition, there are problems with athletic runs, for which outside options are being pursued. John Niski confirmed that athletic events are being severely curtailed. Allan Cameron said suggestions from bus drivers have resulted in a more efficient plan at the Intermediate School; however, it has created congestion at Perry Hill, which is being addressed.

Policy/Curriculum/Technology – Thomas Minotti reported on the committee meeting of October 19. The proposed minutes are posted.

Personnel – A meeting will be scheduled.

Finance – Arlene Liscinsky said the committee met earlier tonight to begin the budget process and review the five-year history. At that time, budget books were distributed along with a schedule of upcoming meeting dates. Mrs. Liscinsky discussed a publication used in Trumbull as a parent guide to the budget approval process. She suggested it might be a good project for the parent groups to take on.

Reports of Special Committees

CES – Arlene Liscinsky said the report is in the packet. She discussed the appearance of the Commissioner of Education at the last meeting and some of the topics covered.

CABE – Kathy Yolish distributed a written report. Mrs. Yolish and Mr. Walsh will attend the CABE Convention in November.

Adjournment

Kate Kutash moved to adjourn at 10:09 p.m.; seconded by Kathy Yolish; vote 7-0; motion passed.

Diane Luther

Diane Luther

Recording Secretary – Board of Education

November 2, 2010