

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
382 LONG HILL AVENUE
BOARD ROOM, 2ND FLOOR
AUGUST 22, 2012**

Chairman Win Oppel called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:09 p.m.

Roll Call:

John Francino-Quinn
Mark Holden
Arlene Liscinsky, Secretary
Thomas Minotti, Vice Chairman
Win Oppel, Chairman
James Oraziotti
Mike Pacowta
Timothy Walsh
Kathleen Yolish

Full quorum of 9 present; 0 absent

Board of Education Administration present:

Superintendent of Schools, Freeman Burr
Assistant Superintendent, Lorraine Rossner
Finance Director, Allan Cameron
Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Support Services, Kathleen Bender
Human Resources Director, Carole Pannozzo

(1 tape on file in City/Town Clerk's Office)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Hearing

There were no public comments.

Approval of Agenda and Addendum

Mark Holden moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Kathy Yolish; vote 9-0; motion passed.

Thomas Minotti moved to approve the addendum; seconded by Kathy Yolish; vote 9-0; motion passed.

Timothy Walsh moved to adjust the agenda by moving forward item XIV. B Certified and Non-Certified Staff Appointments, following item V. A; seconded by Kathy Yolish; vote 9-0; motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Mark Holden moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 25, 2012; seconded by Kathy Yolish; vote 9-0; motion passed.

Presentations

John Niski, Advisor to the Robotics Program, discussed the international achievement of the SIS Robotic Revolution Team, who was a first place winner of the 2012 *First Lego League* Global Innovation Award for their Smart Sticker invention. He noted their proposal was judged against 270 other inventions by students in 13 countries. In addition, the team has applied for and received a provisional patent. The prize is a grant up to \$250,000 from Edison Nation, a company that will fully develop their idea into a product and market it. The team will be featured on the Emmy award-winning PBS television show, *Everyday Edisons*. Superintendent Burr and the Board recognized the seven team members, as well as their parents, mentors, sponsors, staff members and coaches. Team members Joseph Nisky, Keyur Shah, Sejal Bhargava, David Dzujna, Victoria O'Malley, Deraj Ganjikunta and Aravind Ravishankar will be honored at a city-sponsored recognition celebration on August 30.

Staff Appointments:

Certified Staff Appointments

Ashleigh Daddio, part-time performing arts teacher, Sunnyside School
Lindsay Breda, special education teacher, Shelton High School
Catherine Burgholzer, social studies teacher, Shelton High School
Amanda Clark, special education teacher, Mohegan School
John Danielski, special education teacher, Shelton Intermediate School
Christine do Carmo, special education teacher, Mohegan School
Jennifer Falanga, itinerant school psychologist
Lisa-Marie Liberti, special education teacher, Shelton Intermediate School
Kelly McCaffrey, grade 3 teacher, Elizabeth Shelton School
Karen Murano, Spanish teacher, Shelton High School
James O'Toole, 9-12 Mathematics Curriculum Leader, Shelton High School
Maria Pompano, 7/8 Science Department Chairperson, Shelton Intermediate School
Melissa Pulito, visual arts teacher, Shelton Intermediate School
Mia Scarpa, English teacher, Shelton High School

Non Certified Staff Appointments

Davin Jackson, Network Technician B
Denise Quinlan, secretary, Elizabeth Shelton School
Linda Simics, secretary, Shelton Intermediate School

Presentations (continued)

Freeman Burr gave a detailed presentation on 2012 CMT results. Responses were given to related questions posed by Board members. A copy of the presentation will be emailed to all Board members. Any questions or concerns should be addressed to Lorraine Rossner or Freeman Burr. Dr. Beth Smith will present information on CAPT results at the October meeting.

(Tape 1; side B – 7:56 p.m.)

Freeman Burr said the recommended goals from the District Improvement Plan and targets for School Improvement Plans will be presented to the Board for approval. Win Oppel requested an end results report on intervention be given to the Board.

Communications to the Board

Invitations to SIS Robotic Revolution City-Wide Presentation & Buffet Dinner were included in members' packets.

Instructional Update

Superintendent's Commentary - Appreciation was expressed to Kathy Bender, Tina Henckel, Kristen DiPalma, Lorraine Rossner, Kathy Yolish, Arlene Liscinsky and Tom Minotti for working together at the retreat to finalize the Vision, Mission and Core Belief Statements.

Board Action Items

Win Oppel commented that the Board reviewed the Vision and Mission Statements at the retreat and added the Core Belief Statement.

Thomas Minotti moved to adopt the Vision, Mission and Core Belief Statements as presented; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky; vote 9-0; motion passed.

Chairman Oppel asked that the statements be disseminated to employees and posted on the website.

Items Voted On

Timothy Walsh moved to approve the following 2012-2013 fundraising requests; seconded by Jay Francino-Quinn; vote 9-0; motion passed.

- **Shelton High School Quarterback Club**
- **Shelton Intermediate School**
- **Perry Hill School PTO**
- **Sunnyside School PTO**
- **Long Hill School PTA**

Comments by the Board Chair

Chairman Oppel thanked those Board members who were able to attend the retreat. He reminded members that the convocation is scheduled for August 28 at 8:30 a.m. at Shelton Intermediate School; breakfast will begin at 7:30. Win Oppel stated he asked Mark Holden and Arlene Liscinsky to serve as an ad hoc committee to meet with the superintendent regarding his contract and its extension and to present to the Board at a special meeting in the near future. The superintendent's review needs to be completed, which could be handled at the same time.

Reports by Standing Committees

Athletics – Timothy Walsh reviewed some of discussion held by the committee on August 20:

- Varsity sport captain application piloted last spring with essay requirement
- Unified basketball program – should it be a stipend position?
- Pay to Participate is \$55,000 short of goal. Committee would like to see it eliminated, but not possible at this time. Discussed making it easier for parents to pay. Debit and credit cards would carry high fees.
- Replacement of tennis courts and who would pay. Possible option of reimbursement by USTA being investigated.
- Volunteer assistant coaches will be required to adhere to same process as regular coaches with fingerprinting and background checks.
- Booster clubs – John Niski is compiling list to determine if permission to form was requested and if financial reports have been submitted.

Minutes of the August 20 meeting will be posted shortly with additional details.

Buildings & Grounds – Jay Francino-Quinn said the committee met previously on May 23 and earlier this evening. Discussion concerned resurfacing of the tennis courts; progress of dugouts; ideas for immediate remedy for front steps at high school; review of in-kind services; tabled discussion of project for front area of Central Office.

Cafeteria/Transportation – Mark Holden reported that transportation plans for opening of school are going well. A cost-saving measure being taken this year is to handle CES students under our own contract. Mr. Holden anticipates calls from parents concerning changes in cafeteria programs, due to the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2012. Changes include exclusion of peanut butter and the government's redefinition of what constitutes a meal. It was explained that if a student does not take an item from all food categories, that lunch cannot be charged as a meal (\$2.50) under the federally subsidized program and is charged at the higher a la carte rate. The a la carte purchase does not qualify for the Free and Reduced Program. Mark Holden stated flyers will be sent home with follow-up calls to parents. Win Oppel stressed the need to notify parents prior to start of school. Mark Holden said the committee will propose a policy for consideration addressing how to handle negative lunch accounts and non-payment and who bears responsibility to ensure child receives lunch. Dr. Beth Smith and Ken Saranich were asked to send Mr. Holden a reminder concerning the need for regular notification of delinquent accounts.

Human Resources – Mike Pacowta said the committee met on August 16 and continued discussion of the superintendent's goals and objectives. When they meet again on September 26, the committee expects to have the objectives in final version and ready for recommendation.

Policy/Curriculum/Technology – Thomas Minotti said the committee met August 21 and discussed a policy for volunteer coaches, brought forward by the Athletic Committee. Many questions arose which need to be addressed by the Athletic Director. The consensus of the committee was to suspend the use of volunteer coaches until those individuals have background checks. Freeman Burr said the volunteer coaches who have worked for us previously and have had no issues or problems will be allowed to participate in the upcoming fall program once they have been fingerprinted; any new coaches would not be clear until a background check is completed.

(Tape 2; side A – 8:42 p.m.)

There was further discussion concerning the wider ramifications extending to all who come in contact with students. Freeman Burr said going forward we will research through CAPSS and CAFE for a more broad volunteer policy.

Thomas Minotti discussed the idea suggested at the retreat to condense the six standing committees into three committees that are overarching: Policy Committee, Teaching/Learning Committee, Finance Committee. He said for sake of time, it is suggested that the idea of condensing the meetings be brought forward to each current standing committee chairperson to consider for the future. Any questions should be forwarded to Lorraine Rossner. The next meeting will be September 25 at 3:30 p.m.

James Oraziotti asked about his request at a previous meeting to have a policy regarding legal matters. He was advised to submit a draft policy to the Policy Committee for consideration.

Finance – Arlene Liscinsky stated the committee met August 15 and discussed the 2011-2012 FY budget, which closed out with \$3,000 remaining. The encumbrances were down to \$28,000. The committee discussed the need for a rack body truck and also talked about the photovoltaic cell report.

Reports of Special Committees

CES – Arlene Liscinsky said the CES convocation was held this morning. The next meeting will be in September.

CABE – Kathy Yolish mentioned the Connecticut STEM Conference on September 24, at the Connecticut Science Center; CABE/CAPSS Convention on November 16-17 at Mystic Marriott; NSBA Conference in San Diego, April 13-15 (registration and housing opens October 17).

New Business

Administrators were reminded to send monthly calendars/notices of various school events to Board members.

For Your Information

Report on current vacancies was included in packet. The following items were noted:

Resignations:

Michelle Goode, special education teacher, Shelton Intermediate School
Ashley Farrow Furnari, elementary teacher, Elizabeth Shelton School

Stipend Appointment:

Mark Kovacs, freshman football coach, Shelton High School

Stipend Reappointments:**Athletic Reappointments Based on Evaluations**

John Ashcroft	Assistant Girls Soccer Coach, S.H.S.
Cliff Barone	Freshman Football Coach, S.H.S.
LeAnne Bianchine	Head Girls Volleyball Coach, S.H.S.
LeAnne Bianchine	Head Boys Volleyball Coach, S.H.S.
Vincent Convertito	Head Girls Lacrosse Coach, S.H.S.
Katharine Devonshuk	Cross Country Girls Coach, S.I.S.
Cynthia Filicko	Assistant Boys Volleyball Coach, S.H.S.
Stacey Garrity	Assistant Girls Softball Coach, S.H.S.
John Kearns	Assistant Varsity Football Coach, S.H.S.
Rosario Mavilla	Assistant Boys Soccer Coach, S.H.S.
Tracy Nolan-Hussey	Unified Track Interscholastic Coach, S.I.S.
Christine Oddo Coffin	Cheerleader Co-Head Coordinator, S.H.S.
Kerri Ostrosky	Assistant Girls Basketball Coach, S.H.S.
Mark Piccirillo	Freshman Football Coach, S.H.S.
Scott Snell	Assistant Girls Track Coach
Jeff Van Scoy	Assistant Boys Baseball Coach, S.H.S.
James White	Athletic Trainer
Dana Williams	Assistant Girls Basketball Coach, S.H.S.

Back to School Nights

9/18 – Shelton High	10/1 – Long Hill
9/19 – Shelton Intermediate	10/2 – Sunnyside
9/20 – Booth Hill	10/3 – Elizabeth Shelton
9/24 – Perry Hill Grade 5	10/4 – Mohegan
9/27 – Perry Hill Grade 6	

Adjournment

Kathy Yolish moved to adjourn at 9:02 p.m.; seconded by Jay Francino-Quinn; vote 9-0; motion passed.

Diane Luther

Recording Secretary – Board of Education

August 29, 2012