

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
382 LONG HILL AVENUE
SHELTON, CONNECTICUT
SEPTEMBER 23, 2009**

The Board met at 6:30 p.m. **Motion was made by Eugene Kierce to enter into Executive Session at 6:31 p.m.; motion passed.** All Board Members were in attendance with the exception of Timothy Walsh. (Paula Ellis arrived at 6:35 p.m.) Invited to stay were Freeman Burr and Rita McDougald-Campbell. **Francis MacIlvain made a motion to leave Executive Session at 7:10 p.m.; motion passed.**

Chairman Win Oppel called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:20 p.m.

Roll Call: (alpha order)

Paula Ellis

Eugene Kierce

Arlene Liscinsky

Francis MacIlvain

Thomas Minotti

Win Oppel, Chairman

James Orazietti

Bernard Simons

Timothy Walsh (excused)

A quorum of 8-0

Board of Education Administration present:

Superintendent of Schools, Freeman Burr

Assistant Superintendent, Lorraine Rossner

Director of Finance, Allan Cameron

Director of Special Education/PPS, Valentina Parchin

Operations Manager, William Banfe

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

The Board led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing

Donald Ramia, 195 Birdseye Road, Shelton, noted Elizabeth Morse, SHS Class of 2005 Valedictorian, graduated from Holy Cross in 2009, also as Valedictorian. Mr. Ramia submitted a copy of her 2009 Valedictory Address and suggested using it as part of the high school's accreditation process this year as an example of the quality of our students. He also discussed Coach Joe Benanto's induction into the Fairfield County

Coaches Hall of Fame and asked the Board to honor and recognize him. He noted that Joe coached three different sports and discussed his many accomplishments.

Approval of Agenda

Thomas Minotti made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Eugene Kierce; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Bernard Simons made a motion to add item VIII.B.6 to the agenda, Long Hill School Ball Fields Discussion; seconded by James Oraziatti; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Paula Ellis made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 26, 2009; seconded by Eugene Kierce; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Communications to the Board

Chairman Oppel said the Board received several thank you notes from principals for the floral arrangements received on the opening day of school. A general invitation was received from Bridgeport Mayor Bill Finch, Bridgeport BOE and Superintendent John Ramos to the groundbreaking for Bridgeport Discovery Interdistrict Magnet School on September 29 at 2:30 p.m.

Appointments

Thomas Minotti made a motion to approve the appointment of Kristen Nigretti to the position of Language Arts teacher at Shelton Intermediate School, due to a transfer; seconded by Eugene Kierce; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Arlene Liscinsky made a motion to approve the appointment of Nancy Duffy to the position of Chairman of the newly formed Vocational Technical Sciences Department at Shelton High School; seconded by Francis MacIlvain; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Paula Ellis made a motion to approve the appointment of Joyce Kopac to the position of .5 FTE School Nurse at Shelton Intermediate School, due to a transfer; seconded by Francis MacIlvain; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Thomas Minotti made a motion to approve the appointment of Tara Gardiner to the position of School Psychologist split between Shelton High School and Sunnyside School, due to a resignation; seconded by Bernard Simons; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Paula Ellis made a motion to approve the appointment of Jordan Kassery to the ARRA Grant funded position of Network Technician; seconded by Francis MacIlvain. Discussion held regarding the two year duration of the grant. Vote 8-0; motion carried.

Paula Ellis made a motion to approve the appointment of Robert Yamnicky to the position of part-time General Science teacher at Shelton High School, due to a one-year leave; seconded by Bernard Simons; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Arlene Liscinsky made a motion to approve the appointment of Erica McNeil to the position of Student Council co-advisor at Shelton Intermediate School, due to a resignation; seconded by Francis MacIlvain; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Bernard Simons made a motion to approve the appointment of Jenna Nuzzo to the position of Technology Champion at Lafayette School, due to resignations; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky; vote 8-0; motion carried.

James Orazietti made a motion to approve the appointment of Katelyn Botsford to the position of girls' cross country coach at Shelton Intermediate School; seconded by Bernard Simons; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Paula Ellis made a motion to approve the appointment of James Allan to the position of boys' swim coach at Shelton High School, due to a resignation; seconded by Francis MacIlvain; vote 8-0; motion carried.

James Orazietti made a motion to approve the appointment of Tracy Hussey and Paula Olmos to position of co-coach (split stipend) of Unified Track; seconded by Bernard Simons; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Francis MacIlvain made a motion to approve the appointment of Virginia Nicholls and Sharon Lauretti to the position of junior class advisors at Shelton High School, due to a resignation; seconded by Bernard Simons; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Resignations

Freeman Burr advised the Board of the following resignations:

Lauren Amaturro, Student Council co-advisor at Shelton Intermediate School, effective immediately

David DeAngelis, Technology Champion at Lafayette School, effective immediately

Ellen Cox, Technology Champion at Lafayette School, effective immediately

Jennifer Logan, head coach of girls' lacrosse team, effective immediately

James Romano, head coach of boys' basketball at Shelton Intermediate School, effective immediately

Superintendent's Reports & Action Items

Instructional Update – Freeman Burr reported the school year started off smoothly after a positive opening and all staff positions have been filled with the exception of a couple of long-term substitute assignments. He commended all administrators on their open house nights held by elementary and intermediate schools; the high school's will be held this week. Mr. Burr discussed the SRBI (Scientific Research Based Intervention) model that has been presented to principals for their feedback. He mentioned the goal district wide is to improve the efficacy of instruction in the classroom. A draft of an effective teaching rubric was prepared and has been given to principals for their input. The goal of the rubric is not to be used in any way as an evaluation instrument for teachers. It will be used to collect data on our instructional practices for the purpose of planning effective professional development for staff in areas of need to improve teaching and learning.

School Facilities Report – William Banfe reported on progress at Perry Hill School and suggested Board Members might want to take a look at the metal panels on the fascia and the windows installed in Building A to get an idea of what the finished product will be. The furniture bid package will be worked on next week for acceptance by the building committee and vote by the Board at their October meeting. A PCP meeting will be scheduled with the State in early November for acceptance of our package, and then the furniture package will go out for bid.

Mr. Banfe reported on the high school exterior and interior doors and said the boiler situation is under intense scrutiny by the SHS building committee. A report from the installer as to the condition of the boilers is expected at the next committee meeting.

William Banfe reported the Long Hill and Elizabeth Shelton roofs are complete. The metal fascia and soffit aluminum is done at Long Hill and will be completed shortly at Elizabeth Shelton. The building committee accepted additional parts to the scope of work to be covered by leftover money. The boilers in the four elementary schools are complete, have been inspected and certified, and are ready to use.

Mr. Banfe discussed a workshop to be held on Election Day for the majority of custodians for training related to new school green cleaning law, various control issues for the H1N1 virus and review of current school cleaning practices. The workshop will be conducted by the State Health Department via the Tools for Schools program.

Allan Cameron stated the Board of Education Technology Committee ordered all the technology in the fifth and final phase. Much has been received and will be in the schools shortly. The goal of achieving equality of access will be accomplished with a ratio of 3:1 at all schools. There will be a refresh of equipment from 2000 at the intermediate school. Each major department at the high school will have a lab of its own. Arlene Liscinsky commented that it has been a long process and commended everyone involved.

Items Voted On

Francis MacIlvain made a motion to update the authorized signers of the ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs. The two individuals authorized to sign this agreement are Freeman Burr, Superintendent of Schools, and Allan W. Cameron, Finance Director. Seconded by Bernard Simons; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Paula Ellis made a motion to approve the request of Shelton High School Quarterback Club to conduct fundraisers during the 2009-2010 school year; seconded by Bernard Simons; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Thomas Minotti made a motion to approve Recognition Policy #1170, which has been reviewed; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky; vote 7-0-1 (Abstention – James Orazietti); motion carried.

Thomas Minotti made a motion to approve revised Electronic Information Resources Policy #6141.321, which has been reviewed; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky; vote 8-0; motion carried. Eugene Kierce stated this policy makes traceable anyone who uses our computers within the network.

Arlene Liscinsky made a motion to reappoint the stipend position holders listed on the attachment. Evaluations have been completed, and each has been recommended for reappointment. Seconded by Eugene Kierce; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Paula Ellis made a motion for the Shelton Board of Education to relinquish authority and physical control of the property behind Long Hill School to the City as detailed in the legal description submitted to the superintendent on 9/23/09; seconded by James Orazietti; vote 8-0; motion carried. Chairman Oppel noted that the activities for the fields will be done outside the activities of the school and it is with the understanding they will be done after school hours. Coordination of events is through Ron Herrick at Parks & Recreation.

Comments by the Board Chair

Win Oppel commended principals on their back to school nights. He thanked Board Members and staff who attended the recent Saturday workshop where CMT and CAPT results were reviewed and commented that it is part of an ongoing conversation.

Reports by Standing Committees

Athletics – James Oraziotti stated the committee met September 15 and reviewed policies. His motion to name the athletic complex after Coach Joseph Benanto was ruled out of order. Win Oppel stated if the committee wants to make a recommendation following the policy, the Board can address this at the October meeting.

Building & Grounds – Eugene Kierce stated minutes were filed electronically. He stated the Athletic Committee had suggested relamping the lighting one pole at a time and this has been sent on to the Finance Committee. James Oraziotti commented that in the past each pole was done individually to stay under \$5,000.

Cafeteria/Transportation – Francis MacIlvain said the committee did not meet. He commented on the success of Bus Safety Day. He stated that all transportation changes required during the first days of school were handled flawlessly. The committee will meet next on October 6.

Policy/Curriculum/Technology – Thomas Minotti said the committee met September 9 at 4:15 p.m. in order to accommodate other Board Members' schedules. He stated the Student Discipline Policy has been tabled for further discussion due to some changes noted by Attorney Rich Mills. In addition, the Public Complaint protocol regarding educational materials in schools has been tabled for further information. A special retreat workshop focusing on instruction was held on September 12. Pattie Curran gave an excellent presentation on CMT scores and curriculum. An item that will be discussed further and might be part of the Superintendent's goals is departmentalization for math and reading at grade 5 level. The next meeting will be held on October 20 at 4:15 pm.

Personnel – No meeting was held.

Finance – Bernard Simons said the committee met and reviewed the budget and expenses. The committee discussed starting on the budgeting process earlier than in previous years.

Reports of Special Committees

C.E.S. – Minutes were in packets.

CABE – Arlene Liscinsky mentioned the presentation for new board members next Thursday at CES. The state conference is November 20-21.

Francis MacIvain commented on Back to School Night at Long Hill stating a great presentation was made to a packed house.

Eugene Kierce complimented Ken LaCroix for controlling his budget and getting the CO2 sensors. Allan Cameron said so far the high school has been 20% below its monthly kWh usage in July and August of last year.

James Oraziotti discussed the closing of the high school gates. Win Oppel said the schedule will be sent to Board Members and will be posted on the website.

Adjournment

Paula Ellis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m.; seconded by Bernard Simons; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Diane Luther

Diane Luther

Recording Secretary – Board of Education

September 30, 2009