

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
382 LONG HILL AVENUE
SHELTON, CONNECTICUT
OCTOBER 28, 2009**

The Board met at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. **Motion was made by Francis MacIlvain to enter into Executive Session at 6:31 p.m.; seconded by Timothy Walsh; motion passed.** All Board Members were in attendance with the exception of Bernard Simons. Paula Ellis arrived at 6:50 p.m. Invited to stay were Freeman Burr and Rita McDougald-Campbell. **Thomas Minotti made a motion to leave Executive Session at 7:05 p.m.; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky; motion passed.**

Chairman Win Oppel called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:17 p.m.

Roll Call: (alpha order)

Paula Ellis
Eugene Kierce
Arlene Liscinsky
Francis MacIlvain
Thomas Minotti
Win Oppel, Chairman
James Oraziatti
Bernard Simons (excused)
Timothy Walsh

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 Instruction, Patricia Curran
Director of Special Education/PPS, Valentina Parchin
Director of Human Resources, Rita McDougald-Campbell
Operations Manager, William Banfe

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

(Note: Some items were addressed out of sequence.)

The Board led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing

Ann-Marie Francino-Quinn, 24 Sanford Drive, addressed the Board concerning transportation issues for the Perry Hill School students and asked specifically if grade 5 and 6 students will be on the buses with grade 7 and 8 students.

No one else wished to address the Board and the public session was closed.

Approval of Agenda

Timothy Walsh made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Thomas Minotti; vote 8-0; motion carried. Thomas Minotti made a motion to add one resignation and three appointments to the agenda; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Paula Ellis made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 23, 2009; seconded by Eugene Kierce; vote 7-0-1 (Abstention by Timothy Walsh); motion carried.

Presentations

Certificates of Recognition were presented by Dr. Beth Smith to Shelton High School students who achieved advanced level on all of the CAPT subtests:

Megan Dawley	Michele Moura
Kelli Freer	Jeffrey Peterson
Tyler Gaetano	Magda Sadowski
Jonathan Groth	Omar Sobh
Michael Gulick	David Stein
Katelyn Hochadel	James Szabo
Adam MacNeill	Jordan Vidal
Leann Misencik	

Five administrators were recognized for perfect attendance during 2008-2009:

Annine Crystal	Tina Henckel
Susan Arpin	Beth Smith
Beverly Belden	

Communications to the Board

Freeman Burr noted a letter of appreciation from John Niski to Louis Eagle for donating a storage container to the Robotics Team. A letter was received from the Bryson family expressing "appreciation and gratitude for the excellent education provided to our daughters, Anne and Fiona, by the Shelton school system."

Appointments

Timothy Walsh made a motion to approve the appointment of Amy Conklin to the position of technology champion at Shelton High School, to fill a vacancy; seconded by Thomas Minotti; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Paula Ellis made a motion to approve the appointment of Megan Keefe to the position of girls' basketball coach at Shelton Intermediate School, as a replacement; seconded by James Orazietti; vote 8-0; motion carried.

James Orazietti made a motion to approve the appointment of Stephen Malafronte to the position of boys' basketball coach at Shelton Intermediate School, as a replacement; seconded by Eugene Kierce; vote 8-0; motion carried.

James Orazietti made a motion to approve the appointment of Jason Kymer to the position of boys' indoor track coach at Shelton High School, as a replacement; seconded by Eugene Kierce; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Timothy Walsh made a motion to approve the appointment of Kimberly Lang to the position of assistant pom pon advisor at Shelton High School; seconded by Eugene Kierce; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Timothy Walsh made a motion to approve the appointment of Keron Taylor to the position of Robotics Advisor at Shelton High School, as a replacement; seconded by Francis MacIlvain; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Retirements

Paula Ellis made a motion to approve with regret the retirement of Jeannette Dagostine, grade 7 social studies teacher at Shelton Intermediate School, effective December 31, 2009, after more than two decades with Shelton Public Schools; seconded by Francis MacIlvain; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Resignations

Freeman Burr advised the Board of the following resignations:

CAREY MORAN, math teacher at Shelton High School, effective November 1, 2009, after 8 years of service

BRAD PICCIRILLO, indoor track head coach at Shelton High School, effective immediately

KAREN WALDMANN, paraprofessional at Booth Hill School, effective October 23, 2009, after 15 years of service

ANDREW PORTO, assistant ice hockey coach at Shelton High School, effective immediately

Leaves of Absence

Paula Ellis made a motion to approve an unpaid leave of absence requested by Kimberly Pollman, in accordance with the terms and conditions set by the Superintendent; seconded by Timothy Walsh; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Superintendent's Reports & Action Items

Instructional Update – Freeman Burr discussed the CT Benchmark Assessment System offered by the State free of charge, which will be piloted this year in grades 5, 6, 7 and 8. Math Assessment and Reading Comprehension Assessment will be administered. Annine Crystal and Tina Henckel will be point people. Mr. Burr also discussed ongoing work on an effective teaching rubric.

Approved Field Trips – Freeman Burr advised the Board of the following approved field trips:

- Washington, DC on April 22-25, 2010 for SHS History and Civics Students
- Louisville, KY on April 23-28, 2010 for SHS DECA Students
- Danvers, MA on November 21-22, 2009 for SHS JSA Club/Civics Students
- Bethel, ME on January 15-17, 2010 for SHS Ski and Snowboard Club

Also noted was the cancellation of an approved field trip to Italy on April 8-15, 2010, due to lack of interest.

School Facilities Report – BOE Technology Building Committee: Allan Cameron gave an overview of the work performed by the Board of Education Technology Committee. Mr. Cameron stated once the recently purchased computers are fully deployed, the technology gap will have closed and all Shelton students will have the same access to technology as their peers throughout the state with a 3 to 1 or better ratio of students to computers.

Comments by the Board Chair

Win Oppel noted positive comments received from Jack Ribas regarding the before and after school program being run by the Boys & Girls Club for Elizabeth Shelton and Booth Hill students. Beverly Belden and Kathy Sheehy were thanked for their assistance. Dr. Beth Smith and her staff were commended for preparing their students well for the CAPT. Appreciation was expressed for the efforts of Sean Sullivan as Chairman of the Perry Hill School Building Committee. Win Oppel thanked Board members for their dedication during the past two years. He also thanked Superintendent Burr and his staff for the accomplishments achieved together.

Reports by Standing Committees

Athletics – James Orazietti reviewed the committee's activities and accomplishments.

James Orazietti made a motion to name the Shelton High School sports complex after Joseph Benanto; seconded by Paula Ellis; discussion. James Orazietti noted that the Recognition Policy voted on by the Board at its meeting in September was incorrectly numbered, and Mr. Orazietti felt the new policy was not in effect, therefore allowing his motion. Chairman Opiel stated he felt it was the Board's intent to vote on Recognition Policy #1170.1, a document that had been circulated a number of times amongst all members. A short recess was taken from 7:54 to 8:06 to research Robert's Rules. Discussion continued. **Timothy Walsh moved to table the motion; seconded by Thomas Minotti.** Paula Ellis asked for clarification of the motion. Chairman explained the motion made was to table any vote on the original motion until the next regular meeting of the Board of Education. **Vote on tabling the motion was taken: 5-3 (Nays – James Orazietti, Francis MacIvain, Paula Ellis). Motion carried.**

Building & Grounds – Eugene Kierce discussed the need for visibility and accountability in the system.

Cafeteria/Transportation – Francis MacIvain said minutes of the October 6 meeting will be on the website. Shelton Intermediate School and Sodexo will be introducing a breakfast program on November 9 at a cost of 75 cents.

Policy/Curriculum/Technology – Thomas Minotti reported on the October 20 meeting. Board Members were encouraged to review the revised Electronic Resources Policy on the website. Mr. Minotti said it was suggested to develop a system-wide district calendar to be available on the website for use by all faculty, staff and community. The Student Discipline Policy will remain under review until the next committee meeting on December 1. Due to the upcoming election, holidays, early dismissals and conferences, no meeting is scheduled for November. Mr. Minotti thanked committee members.

Personnel – Timothy Walsh said there should be future discussion and a policy concerning the types of appointments the Superintendent can make without taking them to the Board (temporary appointment authority). James Orazietti discussed the status of the job coach position previously voted down in August.

Finance – Allan Cameron presented the line item transfers which were voted on by the Finance Committee.

Timothy Walsh made a motion to approve the line item transfers outlined on the handout as recommended by the Finance Committee; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky, vote 8-0; motion carried.

Eugene Kierce requested an update on savings by the Board. Allan Cameron said over the six months of last year, the Board saved \$76,000 in the electricity account and \$45,000 in the fuel oil account. Year to date, the high school was 20% below the average for the past 6 years in utilization of electricity, due to the relighting project.

James Oraziatti asked if handouts could be included in packets rather than just prior to voting, as it is difficult to review within a few minutes.

Reports of Special Committees

CES – Thomas Minotti explained the council is represented by Board of Education members and the makeup will likely change following elections. The final meeting consisted of committee reports and discussion of CAPT scores. More information will be forthcoming in November and December.

(NOTE: Tape 1, Side B – 8:30 p.m.)

CABE – Timothy Walsh said the CABE/CAPSS Convention will be held in Mystic on November 20-21. Eugene Kierce, Timothy Walsh and Freeman Burr are registered; however, substitutions can be made if necessary following the elections.

Items Voted On

Bill Banfe explained the following approval is a preliminary step to go out to bid on furniture and data equipment.

Michael Chadukiewicz, President of Project Management Team Northeast, discussed the components of the bid package, which will be reviewed by the State on November 5, 2009.

Paula Ellis made a motion to approve the final plans, Project Manual, and professional cost estimates for Phase III – Fixtures, Furnishings, Equipment and Data Technology Equipment (FF&E/DT) of the Perry Hill School Project #126-0081, as submitted by Project Management Team Northeast, and to authorize the filing of Form ED-042, Request for Review of Final Plans; seconded by James Oraziatti; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Perry Hill School Project Update – Sean Sullivan, Chairman of Perry Hill School Building Committee, reviewed the project by phases and answered questions from the Board. Mr. Sullivan indicated the construction is 66% complete with substantial completion anticipated in July 2010. With regard to the presence of mold, Mr. Sullivan stated there were elevated levels in the tunnel area below the school. He said there is no visible mold and testing will be done again in June/July when levels would be highest.

Bill Banfe stated the majority of custodial staff will attend a workshop on Election Day regarding cleaning procedures, especially virus related issues. The manufacturer will visit Long Hill and Elizabeth Shelton on Friday or next Monday to inspect the roofs.

In response to a question from Eugene Kierce, Chairman Oppel stated no reports have been received from the State Fire Marshal on the visit this year or the results.

Adjournment

Paula Ellis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m.; seconded by Eugene Kierce; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Diane Luther

Diane Luther

Recording Secretary – Board of Education

November 4, 2009