

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES  
382 LONG HILL AVENUE  
BOARD ROOM, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR  
MAY 23, 2012**

Chairman Win Oppel called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

John Francino-Quinn  
Mark Holden  
Arlene Liscinsky, Secretary  
Thomas Minotti, Vice Chairman  
Win Oppel, Chairman  
James Oraziatti  
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 & Support Services, Kathy Bender  
Human Resources Director, Carole Pannozzo

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Public Hearing**

Mark Lauretti, 14 David Drive, expressed his displeasure with the minutes relative to coverage of his comments at a previous meeting. He noted that the minutes for the Board of Aldermen are verbatim, so that topics and context are clear and can be used in the future to understand the reasoning used in decision making. He said he hopes the Board will change the way the minutes are handled in the future so they are more indicative of comments made. Mayor Lauretti recognized the accomplishments of the Girls and Boys Swimming and Diving Teams and emphasized that extracurricular activities, whether athletic, academic or some form of competition, are as much a part of the educational process as the classroom experience.

Cheryl O'Brien, 153 Village Drive, discussed the Board's practice of not addressing public comments made at its meetings. Mrs. O'Brien suggested Board members respond to comments personally or that a response be given at the following meeting. She referenced the Board's recent special meeting, which was held specifically to discuss its communication survey results, and noted that she was offended that her comments on ways to improve communication with the public were cut off.

### **Approval of Agenda**

**Thomas Minotti moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Timothy Walsh; vote 9-0; motion passed.**

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Arlene Liscinsky moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of April 25, 2012, seconded by Timothy Walsh; vote 9-0; motion passed.**

**Thomas Minotti moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 25, 2012; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky; vote 9-0; motion passed.**

**Arlene Liscinsky moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of May 3, 2012; seconded by Kathy Yolish; vote 6-0-3 (abstentions by Timothy Walsh, Mike Pacowta, Jay Francino-Quinn); motion passed.**

### **Student Recognition**

Girls and Boys Swimming and Diving Teams, coaches and parents were congratulated for the following:

- Seniors Molly Hellauer, Meghan Poole, Justin Letendre, Ryan Berman, and Nicholas Shigo for being named to the National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association (NISCA) Academic All-America list for the 2011-2012 school year.
- The Shelton High School Girls' Swim Team and Boys Swim Team was once again named a recipient of the NISCA Scholar Team award.
- Honorable mention went to Junior Joseph Stein, who after resetting two new school records in Diving, placed first in the CIAC Class L diving tournament. He also qualified for NISCA's All-American consideration for his incredible performance in Diving.

The CAFE Student Leadership Award Winners were recognized for their leadership qualities, achievement and potential. SIS students Alexis Zhitomi and Alex Recker and SHS students Ryan Brighindi and Mary Hunter were presented with congratulatory letters and certificates from CAFE.

***(Note: Tape 1; Side B – 7:30 p.m.)***

The annual *Shelton Life* Art Contest, sponsored by Shelton Economic Development Commission and Shelton Economic Development Corporation, was held and thirty students were named winners. Commission Chairman Fred Ruggio, with assistance from Aleta Miner of the Corporation and Art Department Chair Ellen Cox, gave recognition and presented monetary awards to the following students:

Grades 2-4	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Sara Rupp	Gr. 4 ES
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Natalie Plavec	Gr. 2 BH
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Sarah Panek	Gr. 3 ES
	Honorable Mention	Brooke Weiss	Gr. 3 MO
	Honorable Mention	Meleny Lopez	Gr. 3 LH
	Honorable Mention	David Niski	Gr. 4 SS
Grades 5-6 (PH)	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Jake DeLima	Gr. 5
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Silvia Wahl	Gr. 5
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Maura Cummings	Gr. 6
	Honorable Mention	Star Groballi	Gr. 6
	Honorable Mention	Caitlin Foothorap	Gr. 6
	Honorable Mention	Daniel Champagne	Gr. 6
Grades 7-8 (SIS)	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Marjo Gjeloshi	Gr. 8
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Sarah Vahos	Gr. 7
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Kiara Davila	Gr. 7
	Honorable Mention	Jamie Lewis	Gr. 8
	Honorable Mention	Michelle Colon	Gr. 7
	Honorable Mention	Megan Fava	Gr. 7
Grades 9-10 (SHS)	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Ulises Cuellar	Gr. 10
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Tyler Barber	Gr. 10
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Alexandra Weick	Gr. 9
	Honorable Mention	Jessica Karwowski	Gr. 9
	Honorable Mention	Kelly Howard	Gr. 9
	Honorable Mention	Angelica Sanchez	Gr. 9
Grades 11-12 (SHS)	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Catherine Doomany	Gr. 12
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Ryan Berman	Gr. 12
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Kristina Meyers	Gr. 12
	Honorable Mention	Cassidy Blake	Gr. 12
	Honorable Mention	Adreanna Vukovic	Gr. 12
	Honorable Mention	Victoria Bronson	Gr. 11

The winning art projects are featured in the June issue of *Shelton Life*.

**Curriculum and Instruction Presentations**

Shelton High School Headmaster Dr. Beth Smith and Elizabeth Shelton School Principal Beverly Belden gave informative presentations on their school improvement plans. Handouts were provided, and comments/questions followed each presentation.

***(Note: Tape 2; Side A – 8:04 p.m.)***

Superintendent Burr stressed the importance of tutor positions and encouraged Board members to visit schools to see the Academic Support Centers and the tutoring model that has been put in as part of Response to Intervention. Mr. Burr also remarked on the success of the self-contained K-4 classroom and progress with Data Driven Instruction and identifying student needs.

**Instructional Update**

**Superintendent's Commentary** - Superintendent Burr talked about discussions with Ansonia and Seymour as we continue to move our Rigorous Curriculum Design and transition to the Common Core. He said the goal will be to partner with other districts to offset some expenses and share some of the work that has been done. Mr. Burr said the Common Core must be implemented in 2015, and the State of Connecticut did not fund any of the work. Mr. Burr outlined some of the topics that will be covered at the next Policy meeting including K-6 standards-based report cards and draft PD calendar. He remarked on the upcoming pilot work with SEA regarding PEAC Teacher Evaluation. Mr. Burr gave a summary of the presentation given by Dr. Joseph Lockavich last week on Failure Free Reading. He mentioned the District Data Team meeting will be held tomorrow at 1:00 p.m.

**Approved Field Trip** – Board members were apprised of an approved SHS trip to Paris and Normandy, April 11-19, 2013.

**Items Voted On**

**Thomas Minotti moved to approve Bylaw Revision #9311, Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Policies, which has sat for review; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky; vote 9-0; motion passed.**

**Comments by the Board Chair**

Chairman Win Oppel congratulated all of the student award winners. Mr. Oppel referenced the placement of an empty student desk and chair in the Board Room, which will serve as a regular reminder that central to the Board's thoughts, words and deeds should be the children of this district. Beverly Belden and Beth Smith were thanked for their fair and concise presentations. Best wishes and good luck were extended to the SIS Robotics Team as they travel to Washington, D.C. to learn if they have captured first place in the FIRST LEGO League's Global Innovation Award Competition. Board members were thanked for attending the recent Lighthouse meeting. He reminded the

Board of a Special Meeting on May 24 for an interview and possible selection of a Shelton High School housemaster. In addition, the Board will meet on May 30 to begin the Superintendent's annual review and assessment. Best wishes were extended for a pleasant and safe Memorial Day.

### **Reports by Standing Committees**

**Athletics** – Timothy Walsh noted the report is in the packet.

**Buildings & Grounds** – Jay Francino-Quinn said the committee met earlier this evening.

**Jay Francino-Quinn moved to approve the agreement between the Board of Education and Yankee Gas Services Company for natural gas services to be supplied to Shelton High School, located at 120 Meadow Street, and to authorize Superintendent Freeman Burr to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate same; seconded by Mark Holden. Discussion – Arlene Liscinsky asked if questions previously raised were answered. Mr. Francino-Quinn said they were, and this is a beginning step with more details to be worked out. Vote 9-0; motion passed.**

**Jay Francino-Quinn moved to approve the Dual Fuel Sales Agreement with Santa Buckley Energy and to authorize Superintendent Freeman Burr to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate same; seconded by Timothy Walsh. Discussion – There was brief conversation about the time frame. Vote 9-0; motion passed.**

***(Note: Tape 2; Side B – 8:34 p.m.)***

Jay Francino-Quinn referred to a handout on in-kind services provided by the city.

**Cafeteria/Transportation** – Mark Holden mentioned discussion was held concerning the number of consultants needed for Transportation this year, for which there was good reason. He said there is a need for more staff trained to use the software properly, which will be addressed. He said there is a need to increase the price of school lunches, which is tied to inflation. The allowable 8 cent increase for lunch is rounded down to 5 cents, and the vendor has requested a 25 cent increase for breakfast.

**Mark Holden moved to increase the price of school lunch by 5 cents and breakfast by 25 cents for the next school year; seconded by Timothy Walsh; vote 9-0; motion passed.**

Mark Holden commented on the high quality of the Boars Head coldcuts being served to students.

**Personnel** – Mike Pacowta noted the information in the packet on the evaluation process and proposed timeline flowchart for the evaluation of Superintendent Burr, which was discussed at great length at the Committee meeting on May 9.

**Mike Pacowta moved to approve the proposed timeline flowchart and performance evaluation document with regard to Superintendent Burr's 2011-2012 performance evaluation as recommended by the Personnel Committee at their May 9, 2012 meeting; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky and Kathy Yolish; vote 9-0; motion passed.**

**Policy/Curriculum/Technology** – Thomas Minotti said the policy on Workplace Bullying was presented to Personnel Committee, and recommended revisions were made. Policy accepted the revised proposal, which will sit for review until the next scheduled Board meeting. Any questions should be forwarded to Lorraine Rossner or Carole Pannozzo. Mr. Minotti said discussion of the Nepotism policy draft will continue at the next Committee meeting.

**Thomas Minotti moved to approve the minutes of the Policy, Curriculum and Technology Committee meeting of May 8, 2012; seconded by Kathy Yolish; vote 9-0; motion passed.**

**Finance** – Arlene Liscinsky gave an update of the budget process and reiterated that for the last three years, the Board of Education budget increase has been a total of \$636,627. She said savings were sought in retirements, resignations, health, and fuel oil account, and there is a shortfall in the new budget of \$768,042.

**Arlene Liscinsky moved to approve the Superintendent's Proposed Budget allocations, as documented on handout labeled "Draft Summary of Supt. Proposed Budget Estimate, By Object" totaling \$63,736,627 dated 5/23/2012; seconded by Mark Holden; vote 9-0; motion passed.**

#### **Reports of Special Committees**

**CES** – Arlene Liscinsky said there will be a meeting on June 7 before the summer break. At that time, an update will be given of SB24 and the ramifications to all districts.

**CABE** – Kathy Yolish said there is a collective bargaining workshop in Rocky Hill on June 7; CABE leadership conference on July 25; and the CABE Convention will be November 16-17.

**New Business**

**Timothy Walsh moved to enter Executive Session at 8:47 p.m. for the purpose of discussion of Personnel – SHS Housemaster position; seconded by Thomas Minotti; vote 9-0; motion passed. All Board members were present. Invited to stay were Superintendent Freeman Burr, Assistant Superintendent Lorraine Rossner, Human Resources Director Carole Pannozzo, and Shelton High School Headmaster Dr. Beth Smith.**

**Arlene Liscinsky moved to leave Executive Session at 9:24 p.m.; seconded by Jay Francino-Quinn; vote 9-0; motion passed.**

**For Your Information**

Reports on current vacancies and enrollment were included in packet. The following items were noted:

**Appointments:**

None

**Retirements:**

- Irene Arnold, Elementary teacher at Elizabeth Shelton School, effective June 30, 2012 after more than 25 years of service
- Kathleen Blair, Elementary teacher at Long Hill School, effective June 30, 2012 after more than 37 years of service
- Kathleen Brzezinski, Elementary teacher at Long Hill School, effective June 30, 2012 after more than 39 years of service
- Nancy Darling, Elementary teacher at Elizabeth Shelton School, effective June 30, 2012 after more than 38 years of service
- Karen Driscoll, Elementary teacher at Mohegan School, effective June 30, 2012 after more than 38 years of service
- Kathleen Horton, Elementary teacher at Mohegan School, effective June 30, 2012 after more than 39 years of service
- Jane Papa, Elementary teacher at Elizabeth Shelton School, effective June 30, 2012 after more than 19 years of service
- Deborah Perman, Elementary teacher at Mohegan School, effective June 30, 2012 after more than 39 years of service
- Marion Choromanski, Elementary teacher at Booth Hill School, effective June 30, 2012 after more than 37 years of service
- Judith Burry, School Psychologist at Booth Hill School, Perry Hill School, and Shelton High School, effective June 30, 2012 after more than 33 years of service
- Beverly Kershaw, School/Office Secretary II at Perry Hill School, effective June 30, 2012 after more than 42 years of service

**Resignations:**

- Jennifer Drew, Reading teacher at Shelton High School, effective June 30, 2012
- Nisha Pickett, Science teacher at Shelton High School, effective June 30, 2012

**General Leaves of Absence:**

- Megan Granata, Grade 5 teacher at Perry Hill School, one year general leave of absence for the 2012-2013 academic year
- Susan Krauss, Grade 4 teacher at Elizabeth Shelton School, one year general leave of absence for childrearing for the 2012-2013 academic year

**Stipend Resignations:**

- Jeffrey Napoli, Girls Basketball Coach @ SIS, effective with the 2012-2013 school year
- Lisa Papa, Student Council Co-Advisor, effective with the 2012-2013 school year
- Mark Piccirillo, Freshman Football Head Coach, effective with the 2012-2013 school year
- Lorena Snell, Student Council Co-Advisor, effective with the 2012-2013 school year

**Stipend Reappointments:**

- Mark Bilotta, Jazz Band Advisor, SIS
- Ronald Fabrizi, District Webmaster
- Patricia Donofrio, Yearbook Advisor, SIS
- Robert Ford, Choral Music Director, SHS
- Linda Gagner, PomPon Advisor, SHS
- Lynn Giordano, Senior Class Co-Advisor for 2012-13, SHS
- Lisa Huber, Distributive Education Club Advisor (DECA), SHS
- Deborah Keller, Band Director, SHS
- Deborah Keller, House Manager, SHS
- Patricia Laskowski, Career Education Advisor, SHS
- William Maloney, Student Council Co-Advisor, SIS
- Erica McNeil, Student Council Co-Advisor, SIS
- Daniel Nazzaro, Drama Club Advisor, SHS
- John Niski, Robotics Assistant Advisor, SHS
- Sean O'Rourke, Newspaper Advisor, SIS
- Nicole Pavese, Senior Class Co-Advisor for 2012-13, SHS
- Kathleen Riddle, Advanced Placement Coordinator, SHS
- Joseph Sedlock, Drama Club Co-Advisor, SHS
- Keron Taylor, Robotics Head Advisor, SHS



**Adjournment**

Kathy Yolish moved to adjourn at 9:25 p.m.; seconded by Jay Francino-Quinn; vote 9-0; motion passed.

*Diane Luther*  
*Recording Secretary – Board of Education*  
*May 30, 2012*