

STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 10, 2011

Leanne Masterjoseph, Superintendent of Schools, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in the Board of Education meeting room. Leanne Masterjoseph introduced Bill King, Operations Manager, and explained that he would be administering the Oath of Office to newly elected Board members.

Fall Drama Preview – “Lend Me a Tenor”

The cast of The Broad Street Bears presented a preview of their upcoming show “Lend Me a Tenor”. Show dates are as follows: Friday, November 18, 2011 – 7:00 p.m., Saturday, November 19, 2011 – 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, November 20, 2011 – 2:00 p.m.

Seating of New Board Members

Bill King, Operations Manager, administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Board of Education members; Craig Esposito, Deborah Downie and Frank Todisco.

Additional members present were Gail MacDonald, Faith Leitner, Alisa Morrison and Kevin Bornstein. Also present were Leanne Masterjoseph, Superintendent of Schools, Ana de Oliveira, Recording Secretary, Reka Keller, Student Government Representative, members of the staff, and interested citizens.

Election of Officers

Leanne Masterjoseph, Superintendent of Schools, called for nominations for Board Chairperson.

One name was placed in nomination.

The following motion was made by Alisa Morrison and seconded by Faith Leitner:

Motion 1: To nominate Gail MacDonald for Chairperson

Aye: All

Gail MacDonald assumed the duties of Board Chairperson.

Gail MacDonald accepted the nomination and thanked the Board of Education members.

Gail MacDonald, Chairperson, called for nominations for Board Secretary.

One name was placed in nomination.

The following motion was made by Gail MacDonald and seconded by Alisa Morrison:

Motion 2: To nominate Faith Leitner as Board Secretary

Aye: All

Gail MacDonald welcomed Faith Leitner as the new Board Secretary.

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Gail MacDonald welcomed the new Board members and thanked them for their effort in running in the campaign.

Gail MacDonald formerly introduced Reka Keller, Student Government Representative, to the new Board members.

Communications & Recognitions

Communications:

Gail MacDonald shared the following communications regarding:

- Economic Development Presentation for Assisted Living, November 17, 2011 at MMS
- Noted the Board of Education 2011-2012 Goals and that the Board is one that operates with goals in mind

Alisa Morrison congratulated fall sports teams; girls' field hockey and soccer for a great season.

Faith Leitner congratulated Libby Morrison for her four goals against Killingly.

Kevin Bornstein met with Waterford to discuss ongoing level of education budgets in each town.

Reka Keller, Student Government Representative shared a communication from Student Government.

Leanne Masterjoseph shared the following communications regarding:

- Responses to her recent blog post.
- CABA's New Board Member and Leadership conference on December 6th.

Recognitions:

Gail recognized the following:

- CABA Awards:
 - Newsletter Award: SPS received Honorable Mention for "Clarity & Coherence"
 - Special Project Category: "SPS: A Community Members Guide to the Budget Process" received Honorable Mention
 - District Budget: Award for "SPS Proposed Annual Budget"
 - CABA Board Leadership Award

Gail reminded everyone to increase efforts in submitting "We Are Stonington Public Schools" recognitions.

Gail recognized Deidre Tool and shared her visit to the community classroom at the Mystic Aquarium.

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Leanne Masterjoseph recognized the following:

- Dan Lilly of Stonington Steel for his significant contribution towards installation of new scoreboards at Stonington High School.
- “We Are Stonington Public Schools Award” recipients for November were:
 - Tina Eisenbeis
 - Susan Fornara
 - Angelo Guido
 - Marika Heughins
 - Jon Nickerson
 - Austin VanDevander
 - Caroline Wall

Comments from Citizens

No comments at this time.

Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes – October 13, 2011 (Regular)
- B. Checks and Bills

The following motion was made by Alisa Morrison and seconded by Faith Leitner:

Motion 3: To approve the Consent Agenda items A and B as presented.

Aye: All

Significant Challenges Presentations

Mark Friese and Amy McKenna from Stonington High School gave an overview of a proposed “Summer Academy” to address the challenges and transition of incoming freshmen. (see handout)

Jen McCurdy and Tim Smith of the Mystic Middle and Pawcatuck Middle schools explained common and unique challenges between both middle schools. (see handout)

2012-2013 CIP Presentation

Bill King, Operations Manager presented the 2012-2013 CIP Plan, timeline funding requirements and level of priority.

Committee Reports & Assignments

Gail MacDonald explained to the new Board members the need for Board participation in various committees.

- Athletic Committee – Alisa Morrison noted next meeting November 30th at 6:30 p.m. in the high school commons.
- Policy Committee – Proposed Revised Policy 5131.911 Bullying – First Read
Gail MacDonald explained that the policy was mandated by the State in July 2011 and needs to be in effect by January 2012.

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- World Language Committee – Faith Leitner reported attending previous meeting, next meeting scheduled for December 13th at the high school.
- STEM Committee – Kevin Bornstein no new news, next meeting November 30th.
- Technology Committee – Nikki Gullickson reminded next meeting date November 15th.
- Revenue Generation Committee – Kevin Bornstein reported that unveiling of new high school scoreboard November 23rd and hopes to get more participation in Save a Seat with advertising in the drama program at the upcoming event.
- SEF – Faith Leitner reports Blue Mondays had profits of \$11,004; \$8206 was approved for Music Wishes; Save the date: February 11th, Education Celebration at Mystic Aquarium.
- Finance Board Liaison – Gail MacDonald met with Board of Finance about Capital Projects, deferred maintenance and technology projects.
- Special Services Wrap Around Supports Task Force – Leanne Masterjoseph reported that Ginny Brown will provide update next month.
- Safe Schools Task Force – Next meeting December 8th at 8 a.m. in the high school library.
- Data Mining Committee – Leanne Masterjoseph noted next meeting on December 13th.
- EdSpecs/Building – Gail MacDonald reported that next step; bring document to Building Committee, Paul Sartor.
- Other – Gail MacDonald reported that she attended the November LEARN Board meeting on BOE and Superintendent Responsibilities and their Budgets; meetings scheduled for Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Board members will receive a detailed summary of Committee purposes and meeting times and will be asked to sign on as BOE representatives.

Board of Education Meeting Calendar 2012

The following motion was made by Faith Leitner and seconded by Alisa Morrison:

Motion 4: To approve the Board of Education Meeting Calendar for 2012 as presented

Aye: All

Monthly Reports

The following motion was made by Faith Leitner and seconded by Alisa Morrison:

Motion 5: To approve the McDonald's press box sponsor panel "B" "Hungry As A Bear" to be installed at the SHS football field.

Aye: All

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The following motion was made by Faith Leitner and seconded by Alisa Morrison:

Motion 6: To approve the adoption of the text “The Art of Racing in the Rain”.

Aye: All

Financial Report:

Judy Samokar presented the financial report, and the Board had no questions.

Curriculum:

Nikki Gullickson presented the World Geography textbook for possible adoption at the December BOE meeting.

The following motion was made by Kevin Bornstein and seconded by Alisa Morrison:

Motion 7: At 9:54 p.m. to extend meeting to finish the agenda.

Aye: All

Fundraising/Field Trips

Board members commented on mandatory fundraising and suggested a task force or committee that would have representation to establish a handle on fundraising.

Comments from Citizens

Sue Jones – commented and expressed concerns about high school and middle school challenges.

Ed Haberek, First Selectman – commented on athletic fields and shared that a task force is in place to address issues.

Board Comments/Concerns

Gail MacDonald invited Board members to be part of Athletic Field Task Force.

Gail MacDonald stated that CABE and CAPPs requested there be resolution from districts for Special Education burden. The Board will be sent background on this by Leanne.

Kevin Bornstein suggested SBIT be added to list of Committees.

The following motion was made by Faith Leitner and seconded by Craig Esposito.

Motion 8: To adjourn at 10:16 p.m.

Aye: All


Faith Leitner, Board Secretary