

STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 16, 2014

Frank Todisco, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in the Stonington High School Commons. Members present were Deborah Downie, Secretary, Faith Leitner, Alisa Morrison, Alexa Garvey, and Terry Stefanski.

Late Arrival: Craig Esposito at 7:05p.m.

Also present were Dr. Van Riley, Superintendent of Schools, Ana de Oliveira, Recording Secretary, members of the staff, and interested citizens.

Frank Todisco requested a motion to change the order of the agenda.

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

Motion 1: To move the SEED Report to the first item on the agenda.

All: Aye

SEED Report

Dr. Van Riley thanked Nikki Gullickson, Assistant Superintendent for her SEED Impact Study handout presented this evening, which also includes literature on the State's recommendations for implementation.

Nikki Gullickson presented information on SEED implementation and its impact in terms of this year and next year on administrators. Mrs. Gullickson reviewed the information on the SEED Impact Study handout, which shows the impact on administrators' time at each school building for the implantation of SEED. (See attached handout)

Dr. Van Riley explained that we wanted to make everyone aware of how much time is required from administrators' day that goes into this program, and believes we need to have additional help to implement this program in order to still maintain coverage for the daily activities of the administrators.

The Board discussed the following with the administration:

- Minimum time requirement to stay in compliance
- What problems district faces if evaluations not completed in time allowed
- Videotaping of observations
- Impact on teachers time
- Complimentary observers
- Number of current trained administrators to do observations
- Evaluation cycle
- Legal requirements
- Time used for write ups

Frank Todisco asked the Board's opinion on further options for implementation. Mr. Todisco requested that Dr. Riley supply the Board with more information on this topic for next month's meeting.

Faith Leitner requested information on how other districts are adjusting with this implementation. Administration will bring this information to the next Board meeting.

Continuing Discussions and Directions Regarding 2014-15 Budget

Dr. Van Riley supplied the Board with the requested information on Staffing and asked the Board's for a list of options for budget discussion for the next budget workshop.

The Board discussed the budget as it relates to:

- enrollment numbers/effect on staffing
- overall percentage increase
- prioritizing of items
- reductions
- routine must have expenses
- revisit SHS and Special Ed staffing

The Board asked that Dr. Riley devise a list of items for the Board's review that would lower the overall percentage increase. This information will be part of the next Board budget workshop.

Comments from Citizens

Cindy Nadeau commented on provisions for SEED evaluations and observations in regards to evaluators that are not educated in the content of the teacher being observed.

Sue Jones asked for clarity regarding the increase in an elementary librarian item on the list of proposed items for Board consideration.

Amy Hambly commented on the DMS roof repairs with concerns in health, timeline and cost issues.

Sue Morin requested an explanation on the item "Conversion of part-time para positions to 29 hours; reduce 150 hours/week" in the proposed items for the Board consideration.

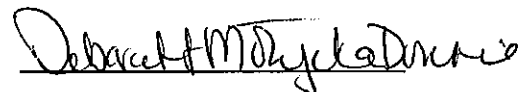
Board Member Comments

Frank Todisco requested a history report on the DMS roof repairs and costs. Mr. Todisco reported that the Board and administration is looking at alternative funding methods and have recently met with Senator Maynard, Mr. Hammel, Bill King, and a DMS parent regarding possibly acquiring state funding. Mr. Todisco also noted that there will be an informative session on the DMS roof issue on Tuesday, January 21 at 6:30 p.m. at Deans Mill School for anyone who wishes to attend.

The following motion was made by Alisa Morrison and seconded by Craig Esposito:

Motion 2: To adjourn at 8:13 p.m.

Aye: All



Deborah Downie, Board Secretary