

STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 8, 2011

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Board of Education meeting room. Members present were Gail B. MacDonald, Chairperson, Craig Esposito, Deborah Downie, Alisa Morrison, Kevin Bornstein, Frank Todisco, Faith Leitner, Secretary.

Also present were Leanne Masterjoseph, Superintendent of Schools, Ana de Oliveira, Recording Secretary, Reka Keller, Student Government, members of the staff, students and interested citizens.

Communications & Recognitions

Recognitions:

Gail had no recognitions at this time.

Leanne Masterjoseph recognized the following:

- “We Are Stonington Public Schools Award” recipients for December were:
 - Natalee Denard
 - Bill King
 - Dan Lilly – Stonington Steel
 - Doug Rea
- All involved in Rachel’s Challenge
- Sally Motycka and Teresa Bonillo for art display in the Board Meeting Room
- Faculty and staff for increase in United Way contributions
- BOE for CABE Board Leadership Award

Kevin Bornstein recognized the 21 students inducted into the Tri-M Honor Society at SHS.

Alisa Morrison recognized those involved in “Lend Me A Tenor” at SHS.

Communications:

Gail MacDonald shared the following communications regarding:

- West Broad Street School CT & The Sea Project Gallery
- Copies of the Brown & White
- BOE Committee Assignment List
- Receipt of Burden of Proof materials

Leanne Masterjoseph shared the following communications regarding:

- Thank you from Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center
- December 19th invitation to meet Education Commissioner in New London
- “NextEd” document

Alisa Morrison and Faith Leitner received communications on Rachel’s Challenge.

Comments from Citizens

Sue Jones recognized Bill King for his work in district.

Cindy Nadeau recognized Bill King and Tim Smith and Richard Dumas for a successful band concert at PMS.

Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes – November 10, 2011 (Regular)
- B. Checks and Bills
- C. Inter-Account Transfers

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

Motion 1: To approve the Consent Agenda items A through C as presented.

Aye: All

Significant Challenges Presentations

Doug Hammel and Alicia Dawe presented the significant challenges at Deans Mill School. (see handout)

Terry Jordan and Alicia Dawe presented the significant challenges at West Vine/West Broad Street School. (see handout)

BOE members asked for further explanation and data from principals.

Leanne Masterjoseph noted that this concluded the presentations on significant challenges and that some of these challenges will be reflected in the Superintendent's budget preparation.

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

Motion 2: To move Student Government Monthly Report up in the agenda.

Aye: All

Student Government Monthly Report:

Reka Keller provided the monthly Student Government Report and thanked BOE members for Rachel's Challenge event.

Deborah Downie suggested that additional advertising be done for the Warm Drive.

CIP Discussion and Probable Adoption

Bill King, Operations Manager presented the 2012-2013 CIP Plan, and explained additional information requested through Board of Finance.

BOE came to a consensus to forward possible items for consideration through a bond to the Board of Finance.

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

Motion 3: To approve 2012-2013 CIP with one amendment that SHS Athletic Field Repair – Field Hockey/Soccer item be changed to a "B" priority rather than a "C" priority.

Aye: All

Proposed Revised Bullying Policy 5131.911(a) – Second Read and Action

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

Motion 4: To approve the Bullying Policy - 5131.911(a) as presented.

Aye: All

Proposed District Calendar 2012-2013

BOE reviewed a draft of the 2012-2013 Proposed District Calendar, further discussion to take place at the next board meeting.

Monthly Reports

All monthly reports were presented in written form as part of the Board packet. The following discussions took place.

Finance Report:

Kevin Bornstein requested a five-year roll back on budget data for next month's board meeting.

Curriculum Report:

Gail MacDonald reviewed World History textbook presented at last month's meeting and had positive feedback.

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

**Motion 5: To approve proposed World History textbook for Grade 9:
Burstein, Stanley, M. & Shek, Richard. World History.
Orlando, Fla.: Holt McDougal, 2012.**

Aye: All

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

Motion 6: To approve the following trade books:
a. "The Kite Runner" by Khaled Hosseini (Grade 11 -12)
b. "The Hunger Games" by Suzanne Collins (Grade 9)
c. "Staying Fit for Sarah Byrnes" by Chris Crutcher (Grade 10)

Aye: All

Committee Reports & Assignments

Gail MacDonald reviewed committees and assignments.

- Athletic Committee – Alisa Morrison reported that Bryan Morrone presented three possible budgets and committee agreed to forward one for the Superintendent’s review. Fund raising was also discussed.
- Technology Committee – State mandated plan was discussed.
- Special Services Committee – Deborah Downie and Virginia Brown reported on a positive experience with a great deal of parent communication. Increase of parent and staff capacity was discussed. Next meeting set for January.
- World Language Committee – Faith Leitner reported next meeting scheduled for December 13th at the high school.
- SEF Committee – Faith Leitner reported annual appeal was sent out along with the “Save the Date”, February 11th.
- Safe Schools Task Force – Alicia Dawe reported responsibilities of site-based committees discussed. Individual school committees will start meeting in January. District meeting scheduled for spring.
- Data Mining Committee – Leanne Masterjoseph noted next meeting on December 13th.
- Revenue Generation Committee – Leanne Masterjoseph shared and explained draft data on revenue generated through fundraising.

Comments from Citizens

Sue Jones –expressed interest in data from Revenue Generation Committee once finalized.

Cindy Nadeau – commented on the 2012-2013 District Calendar.

Doug Rea – commented on the 2012-2013 District Calendar; applauded the significant challenges presentations; commented on Preschool Program; commented on success of Rachel’s Challenge and school fundraising.


Board Comments/Concerns

None at this time.

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

Motion 7: To adjourn at 9:42 p.m.

Aye: All


Faith Leitner, Board Secretary