

*Minutes approved March 14, 2011*

REGION #9 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
February 15, 2011  
Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Abrams, Gombos, Hocker, Karvelis, Lewis, Logie, Shapiro  
Administration: Cicchetti, Mas, McMorran, Sullivan, Czudak, Santangeli  
Others: four members of the community, representatives of the Redding Pilot/Easton Courier. and Patch.com and the videographer  
Student Representative: Erin Meskers

Mr. Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm in JBHS Media Center

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion: move to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2010 regular meeting as submitted. Karvelis. Shapiro. Approved. Unanimous.**

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Student Representative, Erin Meskers, reported that student reaction to the cancellation of the February break has been mixed. Overall, students are pleased that the school year will not be extended, and students going on vacations are pleased that they will have excused absences and ample time to make up the missed work.

BLUE APPLE AWARD RECOGNITION

Joel Barlow High School has been recognized for the Blue Apple Health Education Award. The award recognizes health programs that utilize best practices and coordinates with other areas of school health. Athletic Director Santangeli recognized teachers Donna Albano and Jeff Brown for their work on the application for the award. Both Ms. Albano and Mr. Brown will attend the American Association for Health Education Convention and present the Barlow program to the attendees. In addition to the no cost trip to San Diego for the convention, the school will receive a recognition plaque and banner.

PRESENTATION OF 2011-2012 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

Mr. McMorran and Mrs. Sullivan presented the Superintendent's recommended budget for 2011-2012. The presentation included strategic planning strategies, budget drivers, additions, restorations and reductions. The increase in spending is 2.93% over current year. The decrease in State and Federal Aid (ARRA) adds 0.41% to the increase. The overall increase is 3.34% over current year budget. The board will meet in March to review the budget proposal in detail.

ASSIGNMENT STATUS OF TEACHER

The Board of Education was asked to extend the part-time status of Jonathan Budd that will allow him to continue his pursuit of his doctorate at Teachers College, Columbia University. The reduction to 94% removes his administrative assignment responsibilities. The administration supports the request.

**Motion: move to approve a reduction in assignment, with a concomitant reduction in salary, from 1.0 FTE to 0.94 FTE for Jonathan Budd for the 2011-2012 school year, with the understanding that the reduced teaching assignment during the 2011-2012 school year reflects the elimination of administrative assignments to accommodate Mr. Budd's graduate school coursework. Mr. Budd's assignment shall revert to 1.0 FTE at the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year. Logie, Karvelis. Approved. Unanimous.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction:

Mrs. Mas provided a written report. She highlighted the work of the ER9 Curriculum Alignment Steering Committee. A representative from Rubicon/Atlas presented a webinar related to curriculum mapping software during the February meeting. The ER9 Professional Growth & Evaluation Committee continues to work on Team Professional Growth Plan exemplars. CMT and CAPT testing is set to begin in March

Head of School: Mr. McMorran provided a written report. He added that the staff is working to make the cancelled February break (Feb. 22-25) meaningful and productive. Based on a student survey, 87% of the students will be in attendance. Teacher attendance ranges from 82% to 90%, with some of the teaching staff shortening or eliminating their planned vacations.

Director of Finance & Operation: Mrs. Sullivan reported that health insurance claims for January were close to budget. She also provided the Transfers Report. The costs related to snow removal is not complete as yet. Snow was removed from the roof of the building and Mr. Czudak continues to monitor the condition of the roof and structure.

Superintendent: Superintendent Cicchetti complimented the work of Mr. McMorran and the administrative team for the preparation of the budget and the presentation. He also thanked the administration, Central office and building administration for their work in dealing with the decision to cancel the February vacation. He thanked the parents for their helpful emails both before and after the decision was made.

#### PENSION COMMITTEE

Mr. Karvelis reported the Committee met to review the portfolio. He was pleased to report the market performed favorably and the pension fund is currently at 104%.

#### COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Karvelis reported the televising of the board meeting had some technical difficulties, but should begin shortly. The Committee also recommended support for the Joel Barlow High School's professional team's recommendation and plan pertaining to the consistency and coordination of the websites format for the three districts. The Committee feels the websites are a useful tool for students, parents, staff and community, and would like to see improvements in their usability and their consistency.

#### FACILITIES AND FIELDS COMMITTEE

Mr. Hocker reported that the committee recommended professional assessment of the electrical system and the stadium. The evaluation of the systems/structure should be done now to determine the if repairs or changes should be made in the near future.

#### SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH COMMITTEE

Mr. Karvelis reported the consultant has distributed the vacancy brochure and the vacancy has been posted in professional journals. The consultant, Eliza Holcomb of CABE, has indicated a good level of interest, but no resumes have been received to date.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike D'Agostino, Redding: Mr. D'Agostino commented that the starting point for the budget was good, but he was disappointed the literacy specialist position was not included for restoration.

#### BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Hocker reviewed the upcoming board meetings and budget workshops: Budget workshops on March 2, March 7 and March 9 (if needed), and regular board meeting on March 15.

ADJOURNMENT

**Motion: move to adjourn the meeting. Shapiro, Karvelis Approved. Unanimous.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Logie, Board Secretary

Recorded by Mary Maday