

REGION 9 BOARD OF EDUCATION

January 17, 2012

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Colangelo, Gombos, Hancock, Hocker, Johnston (7:45 pm), Karvelis, Lewis, Macchio

Administration: Josefsberg, McMorran, McPadden, Sullivan, Sheehy, Pin, Higgins

Student Representative: Erin Meskers

Others: seven members of the community and staff, and the videographer

Mrs. Gombos called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm in JBHS Media Center

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: move to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting on December 12, 2011 at 6:00 pm as amended.

Karvelis, Lewis. Approved. 5-0-2. Mr. Macchio and Mr. Hancock abstained

Amendment: page 3, #7, delete the words A meeting.

Motion: move to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting on December 12, 2011 at 7:00 pm as submitted.

Hocker, Karvelis. Approved. 5-0-2. Mr. Macchio and Mr. Hancock abstained.

Motion: move to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2011 regular meeting as submitted. Hancock, Colangelo. Approved. Unanimous.

STUDENT COMMENT

Student Council representative, Erin Meskers reported students are preparing for mid-term exams. She also reported that students are happy that they may now use their Smart Phones in school. The phones are especially useful for doing research, recording lessons, and taking photos of illustrations on the board. Students hope that the use of personal iPads and laptops will be allowed.

Teacher Jonathan Budd announced that the National Council of Teachers of English honored Peter Thacher Wastrom, Joel Barlow Class of 2012 with a 2011 Achievement Award in Writing. Thacher is one of only five Connecticut students receiving this honor. Thacher was present to accept the award.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Mrs. Gombos announced the new committee assignments:

- Communications Committee: Leon Karvelis, Carolyn Colangelo, Joe Macchio
- Legal Ad Hoc Committee (Tri-Board committee): Carolyn Colangelo and Leon Karvelis
- Curriculum Committee: Vance Hancock, Chris Hocker, Mark Lewis, Cathy Gombos; and administrators, Dr. McMorran, Marie McPadden and Dr. Josefsberg
- ER9 Wellness Committee: Carolyn Colangelo
- Facilities and Fields Committee: Chris Hocker, Joe Macchio, Leon Karvelis, Vance Hancock and Carolyn Colangelo; and administrators Dr. Josefsberg, Walter Czudak, and Peggy Sullivan
- Financial Advisory Committee: Chris Hocker, Todd Johnston, Leon Karvelis; Easton Board of Finance representative: Claire Gold; Redding Board of Finance representative; Redding Community representative, Suzanne Krivit; Easton community representative, Paul Coppinger; and floating member Roberta Cable; administrators Dr. Josefsberg and Peggy Sullivan
- Technology Committee: Todd Johnston, Mark Lewis; administrators John Crowley and several other staff members
- Food Service Committee: Carolyn Colangelo

- Transportation Committee: Carolyn Colangelo, Mark Lewis
- Superintendent Evaluation Committee: Mark Lewis, Cathy Gombos
- Policy Committee: Joe Macchio, Vance Hancock
- Pension Committee: Todd Johnston, Leon Karvelis; community members David Bozar and Jeanne Wendschuh; staff members Bob Manley and Peggy Sullivan
- Negotiations Committee: Chris Hocker, Mark Lewis, Cathy Gombos
- Structure and Ways of Working Committee (Tri-Board committee): Vance Hancock and Leon Karvelis

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL, SECOND READING

These policies were presented for a second and final reading. Mr. Macchio noted that the Policy Committee completed a review of the policies.

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve Policy 1316.1 Community Relations-Conduct on School Property for a second and final reading. Karvelis, Colangelo. Approved. Unanimous.

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve Policy 4112.5 Fingerprinting, as amended, for a second and final reading. Macchio, Karvelis. Approved. Unanimous.

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve Policy 5125 Student Records: Confidentiality, as amended for a second and final reading. Karvelis, Hancock. Approved. Unanimous.

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education accept Policy 6141.321, Acceptable Use in School of the Internet, other Networks and Information and Communication Technologies for a second reading. This policy will be further refined and brought back for third and final reading at the next meeting. Hancock, Macchio. Approved. Unanimous.

Mr. Johnston arrived (7:45 pm)

POLICY REVIEW, FIRST READING

The following policies were presented for a first reading.

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve Policy 0521 Nondiscrimination for a first reading. Karvelis, Hancock. Approved. Unanimous.

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve Policy 1110.1, Community Relations-Parent Involvement, for a first reading. Hancock, Karvelis. Approved. Unanimous.

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve Policy 5112, Ages of Attendance, for a first reading. Hocker, Colangelo. Action was tabled to the next meeting

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve Policy 5113.2, Truancy, for a first reading Karvelis, Hancock. Approved. Unanimous.

ASSIGNMENT STATUS OF TEACHER

The Board considered a request from Jonathan Budd for a reduction in his assignment for the next year to continue his doctorate work at Columbia. This is a repeat of the approved request last year. The administration was in support of the requests.

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve the request of Jonathan Budd for a reduction in assignment and compensation to 94% of a full time teaching position for the 2012-2013 school year. Hocker, Hancock. Approved. Unanimous

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Head of School: Dr. McMorran highlighted the Noteworthy News and announced student recognitions and awards. He provided a presentation on the work being done in preparation for the next Technology Plan. John Crowley, Director of Technology participated in the presentation. Discussion followed the presentation.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction: Ms. McPadden reported Fred Barna, Barlow teacher, will participate in a Tri-State Introductory Training in February. The ER9 Curriculum Alignment Steering Committee's work on the science curriculum has been uploaded to the Atlas/Rubicon curriculum mapping software. Curriculum work continues to move forward in the core subject areas. K-8 staff development activities on January 13, 2012 included afternoon sessions with Barlow staff. The focus was alignment between the middle schools and the high school. The presentation by Alan November on January 5 was inspiring. The presentation focused on the urgency for schools to extend instructional practices to include a broader more global audience.

Director of Finance & Operation: Mrs. Sullivan reported that health insurance claims for November were very high, but the December claims were low, averaging just above the monthly average. The object summary report shows an overage in the Outside Tuition account, but Mrs. Sullivan reported that reimbursement will be an offset. A FEMA reimbursement for the January 2011 snow storm was received recently, the FEMA reimbursement for the September hurricane and October snow storm have not yet been received. Mrs. Sullivan reported that the price of heating oil has not been locked in as yet, the current price, at \$3.30/gal, is close to budget. Oil usage is down somewhat due to the warm weather.

Superintendent: Dr. Josefsberg circulated copies of an article from Educations Week, Connecticut Superintendents Push New Vision for Schooling for review. One recommendation is to consolidate some of the state's 165 school districts, 21 of which consist of only one school. Dr. Josefsberg commented on the ideas and concepts presented by Alan November in his presentation earlier in the month.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Karvelis noted that the committee did not have a quorum for a formal meeting, but had a general informational session. The committee is working community-based learning interim program, the scheduling of a breakfast/information session for local realtors, and an evening session for Barlow seniors to discuss with community leaders the subject of moving on. The committee is also working on how the board and administration communicate with parents and students

FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. Hocker noted the committee met to review the financial status, the status of pension contributions, and debt service schedule. The current balance in the Capital Reserve account is about \$172,000.

FACILITIES AND FIELDS COMMITTEE

Mr. Hocker noted that the administration is working on a capital plan for presentation to the next Facilities and Fields Committee.

Dr. McMorran was asked how the roofs on the building were holding up. Dr. McMorran noted that there are two areas of concern that are being addressed through the warranty process. The Tools for Schools program is in use and the building is continually being tested for air quality and presence of mold.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Coppinger: Mr. Coppinger said he observed some graffiti on the building near the areas of concern for roof leaks and asked if that the graffiti was related. Dr. McMorran responded that the graffiti was eliminated and he did not feel it was connected to the leaks. Steps are being taken to prevent future access to the roof areas. The roof issues are generally the result of seam leakage or roof penetrations by equipment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: move to recess to executive session for discussion regarding a personnel matter. Karvelis, Macchio. Approved. Unanimous.

The meeting recessed at 9:14 pm. Dr. Josefsberg, Dr. McMorran and Ms. McPadden were invited to attend.

RECONVENE

The Chair reconvened the meeting in public session at 9: 23 pm

The Chair requested copies of the 2011-2012 contract be sent to the Board members.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Johnston, Board Secretary

Recorded by Mary Maday