

The Regional School District 13 Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, October 24, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the library at Memorial School. Board members present: Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski, Ms. Parsons, Mr. Renninghoff. Also present: Mrs. Viccaro. Absent: Mrs. Buckheit.

Mrs. Flanagan called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. with the recital Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Renninghoff.

Public Comment: No Public Comment

Consent Agenda: Mrs. Flanagan asked the Board if they wanted any items removed from the consent agenda.

On a motion by Mr. Renninghoff, second Mr. Fulton the Board of Education unanimously approved the Consent Agenda items as presented which included the agenda, minutes from the October 10, 2012 Board of Education meeting and the Field Trip Request to Costa Rica in June 2013..

As the meeting progressed Mr. Renninghoff advised the Board that an item needed to be added to the agenda as previously discussed during a committee meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Renninghoff, second Mrs. Boyle the Board of Education unanimously approved to add items to the agenda as previously discussed to include the closing of the oil tank replacement projects and the discharge of the Building Committee.

Communications: Mrs. Flanagan had attended the Curriculum Night led by Dr. Berry presenting the impact of the Common Core State Standards. Mrs. Flanagan stated that the program was enlightening and explained the Common Core State Standards in layman terms. A PowerPoint presentation will be uploaded to the District website. Approximately 50 parents attended.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Viccaro handed out a copy of an article that was on Patch with regard to all day kindergarten. The article was comprised of comments from parents of kindergarteners and the positive experiences both they and their children are feeling.

Mrs. Viccaro announced that the Community Round up will take place on December 1, 2012. This is a worthwhile event and benefits families in both Durham and Middlefield.

Mrs. Viccaro also announced that two EDGE teams from the high school received an award for their substance abuse presentation and that students in grades 3 and 4 at Lyman School are doing a morning broadcast. Mrs. Viccaro also advised the Board that over 100 Strong students received Spartan notes for their improved effort in attitude.

Mrs. Viccaro reviewed the School Improvement Plan from Coginchaug and the focus in English/language arts is reading skills relevant to their subject area. Another focus at the high school is shifting to the Common Core State Standards.

In concluding her report, Mrs. Viccaro stated the NEASC has finished its last report and is identifying its strengths and needs.

At the end of her presentation Mrs. Viccaro asked Mrs. Alberico to advise the Board of the particulars of the June 2013 field trip to Costa Rica. Students will be leaving on June 24th

and returning July 1st. The trip is open to underclassmen and students entering their senior year. After much discussion the Board felt it had made the right decision approving the trip. Mrs. Flanagan stated for the record to avoid unique field trips on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Boyle asked Mrs. Viccaro about the status of the District's concussion policy. Mrs. Viccaro advised the Board that all students in all sports have gone through baseline.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Boyle the Board of Education unanimously approved to accept the Brewster Elementary School Oil Tank Replacement Project, State of Connecticut Project number 213-0044CV as complete and closed.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Boyle the Board of Education unanimously approved to accept the Memorial Middle School Oil Tank Replacement Project, State of Connecticut Project Number 213-0045CV as complete and closed.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Boyle the Board of Education unanimously approved to discharge the Building Committee due to the fact their work has been completed.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Boyle the Board of Education unanimously approved to transfer the projects recommended by the Building Committee for completion by the end of calendar year 2012 to the Building and Grounds Committee.

On a motion by Mr. Fulton, second Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski, Ms. Parsons approved to replace ING the bond fund manager with Neuberger Berman at the recommendation of Merrill Lynch. Mr. Renninghoff abstained.

Policy Committee: Mr. Hicks asked the Board to review the following policies: Administration of Medication 5141.21, Employee Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment 4118.11, 4218.11, Employment Checks 4112.1, 4212.1 and Food Services 3542 and vote on them next meeting. The Policy Committee is still working on the concession stand and has language on it to our attorney.

A question was asked if BASREP has updated to comply with 5141.2 and Mrs. Viccaro will follow up on that item.

Field House: Mr. Renninghoff advised the Board that Mr. Boyle has presented revised bids and the committee will further discuss these options at their November 5th meeting.

Finance Committee: Mr. Fulton reported that the committee is moving forward with a utilization study to target our needs and has scheduled meeting dates to do so. Mr. Fulton also provided Board members with information from Merrill Lynch on our rate of return.

Curriculum Committee: Mrs. Adams reported that the District is working with ACES to provide professional development to our teachers. The Committee is taking a look at School Improvement Plans and have invited the principals to their November 20th meeting. The Committee is also meeting with Mr. Hauser for feedback on NEASC and will be evaluating all day kindergarten.

Personnel Policy: Ms. Parsons reported the misconceptions on the support staff contract have been ironed out and the contract will be voted on shortly. Also contracts for the custodians and cafeteria workers will be negotiated in the spring.

Building and Grounds Committee: Mr. Renninghoff reported that final payments have been made to contractors. Discussion took place regarding projects to be done at CRHS and how

the projects will be paid for. Mrs. Flanagan stated that the motion to move funds has been deferred until projects are completed. Mr. Francis estimated that projects would be completed by 01/01/2013.

Public Comment: No public comment

Mrs. Flanagan wanted to recognize Ms. Gara's commitment to the Board for the past 6 years. It is very much appreciated. Ms. Gara resigned earlier this week due to work commitments.

Follow-Up:

1. BASREP compliance with policy 5141.2
2. Thank you notes to Building Committee

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Adams the Board of Education unanimously approved to move into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

The Board of Education moved back into regular session.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Boyle, the Board of Education unanimously approved to adjourn at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Johnson