

The Regional School District 13 Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the library at Coginchaug High School. Board members present: Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mr. Currilin, Mrs. Flanagan, Mrs. Golschneider, Mr. Hennick, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski, Ms. Parsons. Member absent: Ms. Gara. Also present: Mr. Melnik, Mrs. Viccaro.

Mr. Hennick called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Flanagan, the Board of Education unanimously approved the agenda.

Mrs. Boyle made a motion, second Mr. Currilin, to accept the minutes to the meeting of March 24, 2010. Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mr. Currilin, Mrs. Flanagan, Mr. Hennick, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski, Ms. Parsons voted yes. Mrs. Golschneider abstained.

Communications: There were no communications.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Viccaro distributed information to Board members on Response to Intervention (RTI) and Differentiated Instruction (DI). She asked members to review the information before the next meeting as there will be a presentation. The handout is a good summary comparing old models and new models in education and she wants all the Board members to be familiar with the concepts.

The Board was also given a copy of the draft of the new Strategic Plan for their review. The Board will be asked to approve this plan at the next BOE meeting. Mr. Hicks asked if during the presentation, the changes between the current Strategic Plan and the new one can be highlighted.

Mrs. Viccaro told the Board that there are only four more BOE meeting after the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. She asked if there were any topics that they would like presentations on before the end of the school year. A couple of suggestions given were a presentation on test score comparisons over the last five years (SAT, CAPT and CMT) and an update on the Naviance program. Members were asked to contact Mrs. Viccaro or Mr. Hennick if they have other suggestions for presentations.

Mrs. Viccaro said students did very well at the FBLA competition for business students. The District also had eight teams compete in Odyssey of the Mind and many of them did quite well.

Mrs. Viccaro attended the Memorial School band and chorus concert. She said she is amazed at how much progress the students have made under the direction of the two music teachers.

Mrs. Viccaro said at the next meeting she will also be presenting more information about the Race to the Top Funds. She attended a meeting at the State and the State has decided to apply for the funding. It is unclear how much money is potentially available or if the State will qualify. The State application is due by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Set Graduation Date: On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Golschneider, the Board of Education unanimously set the graduation date for Coginchaug Regional High School as June 18, 2010.

Finance Committee: Ms. Parsons said the committee met last evening. They talked about the potential for activity fee increases and how to go forward with them if needed. The committee

discussed the budget and prepared for this meeting and also discussed the capital reserve fund and the capital plan.

Policy Committee: Mr. Hicks said the Policy Committee met yesterday morning. They looked at the food allergy management guidelines. The fundraising policy was reviewed and may be changed to allow for three school wide fundraisers per year. The committee is looking at model policies for the use of breathalyzers at school events. They are forming a policy on the retention of printed materials and will be writing a policy on what to do with left-over money from graduating classes.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Golschneider, the Board of Education unanimously adjourned to the Public Hearing.

The Board of Education reconvened at the conclusion of the Public Hearing.

Finalize Budget for District Meeting: Mr. Currllin said he didn't hear anything at the hearing that would lead him to want to change the budget. He feels the Board has a better understanding of the fund balance and have been sensitive to the communities' concerns. The message that class size is important to people has been heard and has been maintained in this budget.

Ms. Parsons said that \$600,000 is just one week's cash flow for the District.

Mr. Hicks does not feel that anyone recommended any specific cuts to the budget.

Mrs. Flanagan said the Board has listened to the community and has worked very hard to find ways to economize on this budget.

Mrs. Adams is proud of the District and what it has grown to be. She does not want to give up on that quality.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Golschneider, the Board of Education unanimously approved to go to the District meeting on May 3, 2010 with a \$34,826,872 gross Regional District 13 education budget for school year 2010-11 followed by a referendum on May 4, 2010.

Mr. Hennick thanked the Board and the administration for the extraordinary effort put into the creation and presentation of this year's budget.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Golschneider, the Board of Education unanimously approved to adjourn.