

The Regional School District 13 Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, June 9, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the library of Memorial Middle School. Board members present: Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mr. Currlin, Mrs. Flanagan, Ms. Gara, Mrs. Golschneider, Mr. Hennick, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski, and Ms. Parsons. Also present: Mr. Melnik, Mrs. Viccaro.

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

On a motion by Mrs. Adams, second by Mrs. Golschneider the Board of Education unanimously approved to amend the agenda to include a vote on the principal at the high school and to add an executive session to include a pending claim from the cafeteria union and the performance reviews for the central office staff.

Public Comment: Donia Viola of Durham spoke regarding past building projects and enrollment numbers at the high school.

On a motion by Mr. Currlin, second by Mrs. Golschneider the Board of Education unanimously approved the appointment of Andre Hausser as principal of Coginchaug Regional High School.

Next Board Meeting: The next meetings of the Board of Education will be a July 1, 2010 at Central Office and August 25, 2010 at Strong School

Mrs. Flanagan, made a motion, second by Ms. Parsons, to accept the minutes of the meeting of May 26, 2010. Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mr. Currlin, Mrs. Flanagan Mrs. Golschneider, Mr. Hennick, Dr. Ochterski, and Ms. Parsons voted yes. Ms. Gara, and Mr. Hicks abstained.

Communications: Mrs. Flanagan said that she attended the Coginchaug girls' softball semi finals, where unfortunately the girls' team lost. She commended Coach Ann Moscovics and thought the kids were great.

Mr. Hicks said he attended the mock crash that took place at Coginchaug on May 28th. He said the students were mesmerized with the event. Mr. Hicks thought this should be something that takes place every year if not every other year.

Mr. Hicks attended Awards Night last week and was happy to see that the awards were spread out amongst many students.

Mrs. Parsons also attended Awards Night last week and was happy to learn that 92 of the 100+ graduating seniors had been on the honor roll at one time or another during this school year.

Ms. Adams said she attended a scene reading of a play written by Steve Bank called "Reviving Hamlet" in Mr. Nystrom's UCONN English Class. She said the students did an amazing job with the read and was very impressed by them.

Mrs. Boyle said she attended the Memorial School Concert last week and wanted to commend teachers Tim Fisher and Alan Schulenburg for the great job they did with the kids.

Mrs. Boyle congratulated the boys' track team for their 2nd place win in the Class S Title meet. She mentioned Coginchaug senior Sheehan Michaels who won both the 110 high hurdles and 300 intermediate hurdles.

Mrs. Boyle said she also attended the mock crash that took place at Coginchaug and found it to be very powerful and thought the students were moved by it too.

Mrs. Boyle said she received an email from a member of the community concerned about the cost of the light at the end of Pickett Lane.

Mrs. Boyle asked if the port-o-let in front of Memorial School could be moved to a more appropriate spot on the grounds.

Presentation

Brewster Playground Update: Nancy Heckler, Cathy Debrum and Karen Buckley-Bates updated the Board members on the Brewster Playground. They showed the Board a photo layout of the playground. Mrs. Buckley-Bates told them that construction would take place July 23rd, 24th and 25th from 7 am to 4 pm. She stated that it would be a community build with assistance from Judicial Branch Community Service Workers who would be providing 30 workers each day of the build. The playground company would provide an on sight supervisor that will be overseeing the project. Local resident John Swanson will be donating the excavation of the land. The committee is still looking to get a donation of ¾ inch trap rock and wood chips that would be used for the base of the playground. They are also looking for donation of food and drink for the days of the build and said to contact Mrs. Heckler, Mrs. Debrum and Mrs. Buckley-Bates if you wanted to donate some.

Mrs. Boyle asked if the committee could provide her with a list of people involved in the playground as she would like to thank them for all their hard work.

Mrs. Golschneider asked if there will be security camera's pointed at the playground and Mrs. Viccaro said she has spoken with Rob Francis about security but will also speak to Rich Fielding.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Viccaro said she attended the Senior Awards as well as the under grad awards last week.

Mrs. Viccaro said that the Prom took place a couple of weeks ago with 300 kids in attendance. She said unlike past Proms, most of the kids stayed until the end. Mrs. Viccaro said Dr. Wysowski personally calls the parents of each Prom guest to let them know the expectation of the District.

Mrs. Viccaro said Coginchaug juniors Amanda Boyle, Carleen Doyle, T.J. Murphy and Amy Solomon presented a 45 minute power point presentation on internet safety to the 8th grade students at Strong. Mrs. Viccaro said the students did a fantastic job and got a great response from the 8th graders at Strong. Mrs. Viccaro said she will have them do the presentation for the Board in the fall. She also said that she mentioned the presentation at her recent selectmans' meeting and both selectmen would like to bring the presentation to the community by putting it up on the Comcast Local Access channel.

Mrs. Viccaro attended the concert at Korn last night and said both Cheryl Wiener and Tiger Robison did a great job with the kids.

Mrs. Viccaro attended the senior drama play "Robin Hood" last week.

Mrs. Viccaro attended the Comcast Foundation award ceremony held at the Connecticut State Capitol in Hartford on June 1, 2010. Coginchaug senior Makayla Davis received 1 of only 39 \$1,000 tuition assistance awards given out by Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship Program. The program recognizes students who have demonstrated leadership skills, academic achievement and a commitment to community service.

Mrs. Viccaro also spoke about the mock crash at the high school. She thanked Coginchaug teacher Chris Bertz for organizing the event.

Mrs. Golschneider asked what effects the state cut of the resource officer will have for the District. Mrs. Viccaro said that having the resource officer has been great as the officer actually gets to know the kids and become connected to them. Mrs. Viccaro said that makes a big difference for the kids. She thinks it's a shame to lose the resource officer and is looking into alternative options with Laura Francis.

Mrs. Viccaro said she will be putting together a summary for the Board of the legislative changes in education that were recently made in the General Assembly that will impact the District.

Business Managers Report

On a Motion by Mr. Hicks, second by Mr. Currlin the Board of Education unanimously approved to close Lyman Roof project number 2130042RR.

Mr. Melnik said he and Eileen Bengtson have sat in on 2 webinars on bus routing software. He stated that they are looking at 2 softwares but haven't made a final decision on which to go with. He said that they were both feature rich. Mr. Melnik said he was looking at the pricing on the systems and the plan is to have something in place by February.

Mr. Melnik wanted to clarify that there are 2 energy projects going on in the District. They are the solar panels at Lyman and Memorial, and an energy cost savings project that is District wide.

Mr. Melnik said that last week the District received word that they were awarded the State of Connecticut Block Grant for \$206,000.00 for the energy cost savings project. The out of pocket cost to the District is \$6,369.00. He thanked Rob Francis and Jim Croteau for all their hard work in putting together the information needed for the Grant and all the work they have done for the project so far.

New Business

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second by Mrs. Flanagan the Board of Education unanimously approved not to increase the 2010 – 2011 lunch prices.

Committee Reports

Policy Committee: Mr. Hick stated the Policy Committee met on June 1, 2010 and discussed the 4000 series of the Policy Manual. They have several omissions and changes in the 4000 series and plan on bring those to the Board at a later date.

Mr. Hicks said the committee unanimously agreed that it would be worthwhile to purchase a subscription of *Board and Administrator* the for Board members.

Communications Committee: Mrs. Boyle said the Communications committee will set a date to meet again once the school year is over.

Building Committee: Mr. Currlin said the Building Committee met with the 2 lowest bidders for the Athletic Project today and went over the scope of the work. He stated they will meet again with them next Tuesday to go over some changes they are making. Mr. Currlin hopes to have the project underway by June 21, 2010 with it mostly completed by November and totally completed by December of this year.

Mr. Currlin said that a local Eagle Scout is raising money for a flag pole for the new Athletic Field.

Mrs. Boyle asked if there was a wish list of items still needed for the Athletic Field and Mr. Currlin said yes, but he will not know exactly what that will be until the project gets underway.

On a motion by Mrs. Golschneider, second Mrs. Adams the Board of Education moved into Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation, the pending claim from the cafeteria union and the performance reviews for the central office staff.

The Board moved out of Executive Session.

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

Virginia Antonelli