

The Regional School District 13 Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, April 25, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the music room at Korn School. Board members present: Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Mr. Fulton, Ms. Gara, Mr. Hennick, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski, Ms. Parsons, Mr. Renninghoff. Also present: Mrs. Mangini, Mrs. Viccaro.

Mr. Hennick called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. with the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: Christine Rodrigue of Middlefield recommended that the BOE take a look at Positive Coaching Alliance, a national non-profit organization with the mission to provide all youth and high school athletes with a positive character-building youth sports experience. Mrs. Rodrigue asked the Board to consider implementing this program in our District.

Michael Doyle of Durham commended the Board on their recent presentation of the 2012-2013 budget and stated he was in support of it. Mr. Doyle is also in support of the Positive Coaching Alliance stating that the support of coaches can make a lifetime of difference in an athlete.

Next Board Meeting: The next meeting of the Board of Education will be the District Meeting on the 2012- 2013 Budget on May 7, 2012 at Cuginchaug Regional High School. A meeting with the Board of Education and Mrs. Viccaro will take place following the District Meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mr. Fulton, the Board of Education unanimously approved to amend the minutes of the March 28, 2012 meeting.

On a motion by Mrs. Flanagan, second Ms. Parsons; Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Mr. Fulton, Ms. Gara, Mr. Hennick, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski, Ms. Parsons, Mr. Renninghoff voted yes to approve the minutes of April 11, 2012. Mrs. Adams abstained.

Communications: Mrs. Adams reported that Board members received a letter from a Durham resident regarding the football coach. Mrs. Viccaro is going to look into it.

Mr. Fulton stated that he had given Mrs. Viccaro information regarding a student matter at Strong School.

Ms. Gara had a concern regarding an incident that took place during a health class at the high school. Mrs. Viccaro stated that it was one parent who had the concern and felt that we addressed it well. Ms. Gara is concerned about the inappropriate conversation and asked what the benefit is to have an outside group come into the classroom. Mrs. Viccaro will follow up with further discussion with the teacher and principal and will take a look at the curriculum.

Old Business: Mrs. Viccaro handed Board members an article on Positive Coaching Alliance, a program launched by founder Jim Thompson in 1998, to create a positive coaching epidemic. Mrs. Viccaro feels it is good stuff and the District should take a look at it with our coaches. It is something that we should explore.

Mrs. Boyle also feels strongly in favor of the program and stated it fits with our Core Ethical Values.

Mrs. Adams feels the community should take a look at it.

Mrs. Flanagan feels we should bring the program here to District 13. We should set a standard of how our children should be coached. She also stated that coaches, parents and administrators all need to be on board.

Mr. Hennick stated that Positive Coaching Alliance allows us to set a standard.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Viccaro handed Board members an article, "Tips for the Top" and feels that we should be looking at retreats in a different way.

Mrs. Viccaro shared a letter from MaryLouise Ennis in reference to the upcoming COLT's Poetry Recitation Contest.

Mrs. Viccaro commended Carli Wallace, a junior at CRHS on her acceptance into the summer intern program at Yale and Aleah Querns, also a junior at CRHS on her acceptance into UCONN's summer intern program.

Presentation by Dr. Berry: Dr. Berry presented to the Board the four year plan for implementation of the mathematics common core standards stating that the biggest change will take place during 2013 – 2015. Dr. Berry went through the curriculum, what is being taught, the instruction, how it is being taught and the assessment piece. Dr. Berry stated that the technology piece, Inform a part of Power School, will give teachers and administrators access to reports on student and school performance. Dr. Berry also stated that communication is an important part of this plan. Everyone including parents and community should be on the same page. Dr. Berry concluded her presentation stating that there is need for Professional Development. The District still has a lot of work to do.

Mrs. Viccaro commented at the end of the presentation that this is a work in progress.

The Board thanked Dr. Berry for her thorough presentation.

Committee Reports: No reports were given.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Flanagan the Board of Education unanimously approved to move into Executive Session. Mrs. Mangini and Attorney Hollister were invited to participate for the first agenda item of executive session.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mr. Renninghoff the Board of Education unanimously moved that the contract of employment of Sarah Kling not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2011- 2012 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise such person in writing of this action.

The Board of Education moved back into regular session.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mr. Fulton, the Board of Education unanimously approved to adjourn at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Maureen Johnson*