

The Regional School District 13 Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the music room at Korn Elementary 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.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Ms. Gara, the agenda was unanimously approved.

On a motion by Mrs. Flanagan, second Mrs. Boyle, the minutes to the meeting of December 14, 2011 were approved by Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Mr. Fulton, Ms. Gara, Mr. Hennick, Dr. Ochterski, Ms. Parsons, Mr. Renninghoff. Mr. Hicks abstained.

On a motion by Mrs. Flanagan, second Ms. Parsons the Board of Education unanimously approved to include Mr. Renninghoff as a member of the Building Committee.

Communications: Mrs. Adams has received comments from the public regarding all day Kindergarten in the wake of a recent survey. Many are thrilled with the idea, some have reservations about money. Mr. Hicks visited the Educational Center for the Arts in New Haven where two CRHS students attend. He was very impressed with the program that encourages writing and the arts.

Old Business: Ms. Gara reported that the Building Committee was dealing with the oil tanks and have scheduled a meeting for January 18, 2012 to discuss the specifications. Ms. Gara was thanked by Board for the research she has done regarding this matter.

Mr. Hicks made a motion, second Mrs. Flanagan to accept the specifications as described and to move forward with the Brewster Elementary School oil tank replacement project and the Memorial Middle School oil tank replacement project.

Mrs. Boyle asked what the difference was between the two tanks.

Ms. Gara described the differences in the tanks and added that more information would be available after the January 18, 2012 Building Committee meeting.

Mr. Renninghoff also expressed that he had some unanswered questions.

Mr. Hicks withdrew his motion regarding the Brewster and Memorial Oil tank Replacements.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Viccaro reported that there has been an overwhelming response to a recent survey favoring all day Kindergarten. From an educational standpoint the District needs to move forward by with an all day Kindergarten to meet the Common Core Standards that schools are required by the state to implement by the 2014-2015 school year and also to meet curriculum requirements.

Mrs. Viccaro also reported that CT DOT plans to install a traffic light at the intersection of Main St. and Pickett Lane. Installation is slated for April 2013. The project will be about \$100,000. The District is responsible to pay 10% of the project, approximately \$10,000.

The Coach's Association chose Karen Kean to receive the Coach of the Year for Boy's Tennis award and will be honored at the Aqua Turf on May 10, 2012.

Mrs. Viccaro reported that the Show Choir/Jazz Band performance has been moved from January 27<sup>th</sup> to February 1<sup>st</sup>.

The District has received money from the Universal Services Fund. The money is to be used for enhancing technology in District 13. Presently the District has purchased 30 iPads to be used in the elementary schools. Under the direction of Technology Integration Specialist Michelle Gohagon students will be able to enhance instructional practices. Funds were also used for additional wireless access points across the District. Approximately \$32,000 has been spent. Mrs. Viccaro will check on the balance of the grant.

Mrs. Viccaro had made a call to Dr. Perrin in regard to concussions but has not heard back from him.

Curriculum Revisions: Mrs. Adams explained the curriculum revisions and commended Mrs. Luckenbach for her work.

Mrs. Adams made a motion, Mr. Hicks second to accept the curriculum revisions.

Mrs. Boyle asked that the documents be checked for spelling as there are many typographical errors. Mrs. Adams agreed that the corrections would be made.

Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Mr. Fulton, Ms. Gara, Mr. Hennick, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski and Ms. Parsons voted yes. Mr. Renninghoff was opposed.

On a motion by Mrs. Adams, second Dr. Ochterski the Board of Education unanimously approved the Camp Jewell Field Trip request for May 31, 2012 and June 1, 2012.

On a motion by Mrs. Flanagan, second Mrs. Boyle to accept the audit ending June 30, 2011. Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hennick, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski, Ms. Parsons, and Mr. Renninghoff voted yes. Ms. Gara abstained.

Mrs. Viccaro reported that the Chemical Hygiene Plan is being updated and should be finished by June, 2012. Once the plan is in place training will be needed. Dr. Ochterski recommended that we open the training up to the Consortium.

Policy Committee. Mr. Hicks stated that the Policy Committee met to discuss the Field Use policy and are getting closer to moving forward regarding finances.

Bullying/School Climate Plan- Mr. Hicks presented revisions recommended by Attorney Littlefield.

On a motion made by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Flanagan the Board of Education unanimously approved to adopt bullying policy and school climate plan as amended.

Curriculum/Achievement Committee – Mrs. Adams reported on the overwhelming positive response to all day Kindergarten. Parents need to be educated on Common Core Standards and the benefits of all day Kindergarten.

Finance Committee – Mrs. Flanagan reported on the finances concerning school building projects. She noted that the Audit shows a deficit of \$444,000 for capital projects. Mrs. Mangini contributed information in regard to this audit number, explaining that the overage reflected is the amount as of June 30, 2011, and does not include the additional State funds that have been received subsequent to June 30, nor does it include the transfers of other funds, including the Capital Reserve. The Finance Committee was provided with a breakdown of the funding and expenditures for each school building project. However, they have recommended that no additional encumbrances be made until they have an understanding of how the various funds

were utilized for the athletic complex project. The Committee was presented with year-to-date reports for expenditures and receipts, noting that there is some concern with unemployment expenses. The Committee also discussed the budget format for the March presentation, and Mrs. Flanagan further noted that the Finance Committee has been interviewing demographers to study student population.

Follow-up:

Mrs. Viccaro is waiting to hear back from Dr. Perrin regarding concussions and will report at the February meeting.

Building Committee will report on the oil tank replacements.

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

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 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Maureen Johnson*