

The Regional School District 13 Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, April 10, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the library at Coginchaug Regional High School. Board members present: Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Buckheit, Mrs. Flanagan, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski, Ms. Parsons, Mr. Renninghoff (8:00p.m.). Also present: Mr. Melnik, Mrs. Viccaro. Absent: Mrs. Adams

Mrs. Flanagan called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. with the recital Pledge of Allegiance led by Mrs. Flanagan.

Public Comment: Marybeth Ellison, MD, FAAP provided the Board with a handout explaining the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the disability categories for eligibility for special education, and referral to special education. Data was also provided for the % of total population of children with special needs and Dr. Ellison presented new data (2013) on autism. Dr. Ellison urged the Board not to decrease the Special Education budget.

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

Mrs. Flanagan asked for a motion to approve the minutes of March 7, 2013. Ms. Parsons wanted clarification on the additional \$75,000 in revenue from MTA. Discussion took place and the Board agreed the amount should be \$175,000.

On a motion by Ms. Parsons, second Mr. Hicks, the Board of Education unanimously approved the minutes of March 27, 2013 as amended.

Communications: Mr. Hicks attended a CAFE workshop on Common Core and found it very informative.

Mrs. Boyle received emails regarding the budget and Mr. Fulton was asked how union contracts get negotiated.

Superintendent's Report: Mr. Hauser and Mrs. Viccaro met with the Scholarship Committee to discuss the declining membership on the committee and how membership can be increased.

Mrs. Viccaro received an email regarding the 4<sup>th</sup> grade music program. A meeting with parents took place with Mrs. Stone, Ms. Wiener and Mr. Coutsouridis to discuss a concern by parents.

Mrs. Viccaro along with Mr. Hicks attended the Chamber meeting.

Set Graduation Date: On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Ms. Parsons, the Board

of Education unanimously approved that Coginchaug High School's Graduation for the Class of 2013 will be held on Tuesday, June 25, 2013.

2011-2012 Annual Report: Mr. Melnik handed a copy of the Annual Report to Board members stating that copies will be delivered to town libraries, town halls and the state.

2013-2014 Budget: Mrs. Flanagan asked Board members if they had any concerns. Mr. Fulton inquired about the transportation grant. Discussion took place as to whether to include the transportation grant in the budget. Mrs. Flanagan stated that after the Public Hearing a decision would have to be made.

The Board adjourned to the Public Hearing.

The Board entered back into regular session.

Discussion took place regarding the elimination of the .2 science position at Coginchaug.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Dr. Ochterski the Board of Education unanimously agreed to add \$7,000 for the previous reduction of a .2 Coginchaug Regional High School position.

Additional discussion took place regarding the elimination of the .5 special education position. Mrs. Emory stated that she could reallocate funds if the position was reinstated.

On a motion by Dr. Ochterski, second Mr. Hicks the Board of Education unanimously agreed to the redistribution of \$28,129 and add back the .5 special education position.

After much discussion pertaining to the transportation grant some Board members felt that if the Board doesn't reflect the grant in the education budget our towns would take the hit.

Mr. Fulton made a motion, second Mr. Renninghoff, to restore the transportation grant in the amount of \$282,257 to the receipt side of the budget. Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Buckheit, Mrs. Flanagan, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Hicks, Ms. Parsons, and Mr. Renninghoff voted yes. Dr. Ochterski was opposed.

Mr. Hicks made a motion, second Mrs. Fronc, to go to the District Meeting on May 6, 2013 with a gross \$36,618,830 Regional District 13 education budget for the school year 2013-14 followed by a referendum on May 7, 2013. Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Buckheit, Mrs. Flanagan, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski, Ms. Parsons voted yes. Mr. Renninghoff was opposed.

Finance Committee: No report.

Policy Committee: Mr. Hicks asked Board members to be prepared to talk about the policies at the next meeting.

Other Committees: No reports.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Dr. Ochterski the Board of Education unanimously agreed to adjourn at 10:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Maureen Johnson*