

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
382 LONG HILL AVENUE
BOARD ROOM, 2ND FLOOR
JUNE 26, 2013**

Chairman Mark Holden called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Mark Holden, Chairman	John Francino-Quinn
Thomas Minotti, Vice Chairman (excused)	James Oraziatti
Arlene Liscinsky, Secretary	Mike Pacowta
Win Oppel	Kathleen Yolish
Timothy Walsh	

Quorum – 8 present; 1 absent

Board of Education Administration present:
Superintendent of Schools, Freeman Burr
Assistant Superintendent, Lorraine Rossner
Finance Director, Allan Cameron
Human Resources Director, Carole PannoZZo

(1 tape on file in City/Town Clerk's Office)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

Win Oppel moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Timothy Walsh; vote 8-0; motion passed.

Public Hearing

Judson Crawford, 8 Jordan Avenue, suggested that board members contact their aldermanic representatives to make them aware that the Stratford Fire Marshal would like to devote his expertise and services relative to problems at the high school as a result of the fire. Chairman Holden commented that the person referenced had attended the previous Finance Committee meeting and discussion was held following the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Win Oppel moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 22, 2013; Special Meeting of May 29, 2013; Special Meeting of June 3, 2013; Special Meeting of June 11, 2013; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky; vote 7-0-1 (abstention by James Oraziatti for meetings of May 22 and 29); motion passed.

Presentations

John Niski spoke on behalf of the SHS Robotics team, providing handouts and summarizing the team's accomplishments over the past year. Among the achievements were Granite State Regional tournament semi-finalist; Connecticut Regional tournament finalist and winner of Regional Chairman's Award; CAS/CIAC Connecticut State Championship finalist; ranked #32/102 at FIRST World Championship in St. Louis. Mr. Niski presented the Founders Award plaque to the Shelton Board of Education for its unwavering support for fifteen years. Several parent volunteers, corporate mentors and students were recognized and each spoke briefly about their involvement with Robotics. Commendations were received from Superintendent Burr and Chairman Holden.

Superintendent's Commentary

Freeman Burr reviewed the year and commended the staff and administration for providing continuity and consistency for students while faced with so many disruptions. Mr. Burr stated that 258 of the 579 violations cited by the State Fire Marshal's report have been corrected, including 213 that were maintenance related. In addition, our Maintenance Department, along with the City Fire Marshal, has submitted 51 modifications to the state for approval that will address several more of the code items. Sprinklers will be installed this summer in the maintenance and shop areas of Shelton High School. In addition, the fire doors are expected that will complete the windowless classroom project. Mr. Burr said there are a number of design flaws that were approved by a third party reviewer at the state. Over 50 penetrations related to the renovation and rehab work will be corrected, and there are a number of corrective actions to the code that are outside the scope of the BOE and Maintenance Department.

Approved Field Trips

The board was advised of the following approved field trips:

- SHS History/Spanish trip to Peru, April 11-24, 2014
- SHS Journalism Conference in Boston, November 14-17, 2013

Items Voted On

Win Oppel moved to approve Policy #1114, Community Relations, District Sponsored Social Media; seconded by Arlene Liscinsky; vote 8-0; motion passed.

Comments by the Board Chair

Chairman Mark Holden noted that about 45% of the fire code violations have been addressed and those remaining tend to be time consuming and more expensive, not something we can get from our operating budget. Chairman Holden stated encumbrances will be a bit less than last year, which shows we've been careful and tight with our money. Mr. Holden commented on graduation and the work being done by the Ad Hoc Full-Day Kindergarten Committee.

Reports of Standing Committees

Teaching and Learning – No meeting held.

Policy – Kathy Yolish said the committee did not meet but will schedule something toward the end of July.

Finance – Arlene Liscinsky reviewed the topics covered in two meetings held including Fire Marshal update; progress on Landmark student transportation bid; propane auto gas; chiller and other maintenance issues at the high school; new stairs at SHS; legislative issues that have an impact; budget updates. She said decisions on line item transfers will be made once the city reconciles.

Ad Hoc Full-Day Kindergarten Committee – Kathy Yolish reported that Arlene Liscinsky, Tom Minotti, Tina Henckel, Kristen Dipalma and she visited Frenchtown Elementary School in Trumbull to observe their all-day kindergarten program. Mrs. Yolish stated Trumbull is giving students 90 minutes of reading and 70 minutes of math instruction per day. She also mentioned many K students are reading at a first grade level. A follow-up visit will be scheduled for the fall to observe the program in its prime time. There is also an invitation to visit Stamford's current all-day kindergarten program and new all-day Pre-K program that will be instituted in the fall.

Reports of Special Committees

CES – Arlene Liscinsky provided a written report that was included in packets.

CABE – Kathy Yolish said the third annual Leadership Conference will be held on July 24 from 2:30-7:30 in Old Saybrook. She stated early registration information was sent from NSBA regarding the conference in November. Arlene Liscinsky requested that the Superintendent notify anyone running for the BOE about the NSBA conference and retreat dates.

Unfinished Business

As discussed at the May 29 meeting, each of our schools was awarded the bronze medal and \$500 for Healthier US School Challenge. Plaques and posters were given to Headmaster Ken Saranich and Principal Lorraine Williams, who were present at the meeting.

For Your Information

Chairman Mark Holden referenced the attachments in packet including Enrollment and Vacancy Reports. The following items were noted:

Staff Appointment:

Kristen Hart to position of Science Department Chair at Shelton Intermediate School, effective 8/27/13

Staff Resignations:

Daniel Nazzaro, Physics Teacher, Shelton High School, effective 6/30/13

Staff Retirements:

Marino Battaglino, Custodian (20 years), effective 8/16/13

Carl Bennard, Custodian (35 years), effective 5/23/13

John Mroz, Maintenance Trade Worker, (15 years), effective 7/5/13

Joanne McCullough, Finance/Payroll Secretary (18 years), effective 6/30/13

Joan Williams, Special Education Teacher (38 years), effective 6/30/13

Nicholas Zerella, Head Security Guard (12 years), effective 6/21/13

General Leave of Absence:

Noelle Khan, Elementary Teacher, Perry Hill School, 2013-14 academic year

Stipend Reappointments:

Emilia Abreu-Petti, Senior Class Co-Advisor, SHS

Emanuel Arboleda, Assistant Director, Band, SHS

Mark Bilotta, Jazz Band Advisor, SIS

David Brush, Assistant Director, Band, SHS

Lynn Coffin, National Honor Society Co-Advisor, SHS

Margaret Del Buono, Family, Career & Community Leaders of America, SHS

Patricia Donofrio, Yearbook Advisor, SIS

Nancy Duffy, Future Business Leaders of America, SHS

James Dugan, Assistant Director, Band, SHS

Kara Fekete, Assistant Director Band, SHS

Robert Ford, Choral Music Director, SHS

Linda Granger, Pom Pon Advisor, SHS

Michelle Guedes, Band Instructor, Guard, SHS

Lisa Huber, Distributive Education Club Advisor, SHS

Deborah Keller, Band Director, SHS

Deborah Keller, House Manager, SHS

Valerie Knight-DiGangi, Perkins Grant Coordinator, SHS

Michael Kinner, Assistant Director, Band, SHS

Patricia Laskowski, Career Education Advisor, SHS

Susan Lindsey, Newspaper Co-Advisor, SIS

William Maloney, Student Council Co-Advisor, SIS

Erik Martire, National Honor Society Co-Advisor, SHS

Erica McNeil, Student Council Co-Advisor, SIS

John Niski, Assistant Advisor, Robotics, SIS

Sean O'Rourke, Newspaper Co-Advisor, SIS

Karyna Perez, Band Instructor, Guard, SHS

Patricia Presutto, Senior Class Co-Advisor, SHS

Carlos Rivera, Band Instructor, SHS

Joseph Sedlock, Drama Club Co-Advisor, SHS

Andrew Sheldon, Assistant Director, Band, SHS

Anne Simko, Assistant Director, Band, SHS

David Sleath, Assistant Director, Band, SHS
Keron Taylor, Head Advisor, Robotics, SIS
Joan Tichy, Virtual High School Site Coordinator, SHS
Robert Waterhouse, Assistant Director, Band, SHS
Ellen Zern, Color Guard Advisor, SHS

Highlights

Kathy Yolish commented on the graduation ceremony and how smoothly everything went.

James Oraziatti discussed Bylaw 9132(a), Standing Committees. He expressed his opinion that the Finance Committee is too important not to be a stand-alone committee. Mr. Oraziatti noted a number of important issues relative to buildings and grounds, cafeteria, transportation, and security. He prefers the previous committee structure, which gave board members access to department heads and created greater accountability. With security being such an important issue, he would like to have an ad hoc Security Committee.

Kathy Yolish commended Carole PannoZZo and her staff for providing an organized binder in preparation for upcoming negotiations.

Timothy Walsh questioned status of security positions at the high school. Freeman Burr explained a decision was made, in conjunction with Dr. Smith, not to replace the security guard that resigned; and based on the retirement of the head security guard, a department reorganization is being considered. Carole PannoZZo said the process has begun with Merit testing today, and the position will be filled with the start of the school year. James Oraziatti noted the various summer activities at the high school and expressed concern that there will not be any security over the summer.

Mark Holden announced that Special Education Teacher Joan Williams will retire on June 30, after 38 years of service. Chairman Holden stated that committee reorganization will be discussed at the board retreat on July 31 and August 1 and encouraged all members to attend. Mr. Holden said he appointed Win Oappel to be liaison to SAC and Kathy Yolish as liaison to SEA.

Adjournment

Chairman Holden adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Diane Luther

Diane Luther

Recording Secretary – Board of Education

July 1, 2013