## STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING February 25, 2014

Frank Todisco, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. in the Board of Education meeting room in Old Mystic, CT. Members present were Faith Leitner, Alexa Garvey, and Terry Stefanski.

Late Arrival: Deborah Downie, Secretary – 6:04 p.m.

Absent: Craig Esposito and Alisa Morrison

Also present were Dr. Van Riley, Superintendent of Schools, Board guest Paul Sartor, Ana de Oliveira, Recording Secretary, members of the staff, students, and interested citizens,.

## **Budget Strategy Discussion**

Frank Todisco explained the purpose of this workshop meeting was to discuss the Board's presentation of the 2014-2015 budget to the Board of Finance on March 5. Mr. Todisco also welcomed invited guest Paul Sartor who shared his ideas of the budget presentation.

The Board discussed what types of facts and documents to present to the Board of Finance that support the 2014-2015 budget. The Board and Dr. Van Riley also discussed the list of items that are impacting the 2014-2015 budget and which will be included in the Board's presentation to the BOF on March 5.

Guest, Paul Sartor shared his thoughts and suggestions on the presentation of the 2014-2015 budget to the Board of Finance. Mr. Sartor commended Dr. Riley and the Board's ability to put together a budget that is real and reflects the needs of the district and students.

The Board agreed to have the Board Chair do the initial introduction and then open it up to the Dr. Riley and administration to answer any questions. Frank Todisco will create a cover letter for the presentation.

## **Comments from Citizens**

Steve Small commented on the SEED program in regards to the state's flexibility with the process. Mr. Small noted he feels the Board of Selectmen should meet with the state governing offices on the district's behalf to discuss the budget implications in implementing SEED. Mr. Small also believes the Board needs to do what is best for the kids and present the BOF with a realistic budget.

## **Board Member Comments**

No comments.

The following motion was made by Faith Leitner and seconded by Alexa Garvey:

Motion 1: To adjourn at 7:09 p.m.

Ave: All

Deborah Downie, Board Secretary