

STONINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MAY 12, 2011

Gail MacDonald called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m. in the Stonington High School Commons. Members present were Gail MacDonald, Chairwoman, Doug Rea, Secretary, Sam Agnello, Faith Leitner, Alisa Morrison and Kevin Bornstein.

Member Absent: Rob Cary

Also present were Leanne Masterjoseph, Superintendent of Schools, Michele Melia, Recording Secretary, members of the staff, and interested citizens.

Communications & Recognitions

A. We Are Stonington Public Schools! Recognitions

Gail MacDonald spoke about the reception in honor of the recipients of "We Are Stonington Public Schools" award.

B. CABA Leadership Awards

Leanne Masterjoseph presented Scott Hallamore and Mary Kate Connelly with the CABA Leadership Awards, and explained that this is the highest award a Board can bestow.

C. Other Recognitions

Kevin Bornstein recognized Stonington Crew.

Faith Leitner recognized the National Honor Society and thanked them for a wonderful induction ceremony.

Leanne Masterjoseph recognized Gail MacDonald for being featured in the recent CABA Journal.

Communications:

Gail MacDonald shared the following communications:

- Communications with individuals and Town officials concerning the budget
- Joint SBIT meeting
- Communication regarding a BOE member not in attendance at recent meetings

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Comments From Citizens

Bill Cutler addressed the Board regarding examinations and naturalization tests for immigrants who are applying for citizenship.

Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes -- April 14, 2011 (Special) and April 28, 2011
- B. Checks and Bills
- C. Intra-Account Transfers
- D. Submission of IDEA Grant

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Alisa Morrison :

Motion 1: To approve the Consent Agenda items as presented

Aye: All

Monthly Reports

Student Government:

Mikelia Gillick provided her monthly report on SHS events.

Financial Report:

Judy Samokar presented the financial report, and the Board did not have any questions at this time.

Operations:

Bill King presented the operations report and updated the Board on the transportation contract, scoreboard, and advertising.

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Faith Leitner

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Motion 2: To approve the creation of the four-year contract extension with First Student that will take our contract through 2014 - 2015

Aye: All

The following motion was made by Kevin Bronstein and seconded by Faith Leitner

Motion 3: To accept those advertisers that have signed on so far, but that we need to see all of the artwork for approval at a later date with alternatives for the Board to review.

Aye: All

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Alisa Morrison

Motion 4: To amend the motion to accept the Advertising Committee's recommendations concerning "Save Me A Seat" program and to make available to the public

Aye: All

Curriculum:

Nikki Gullickson presented the curriculum report and updated the Board on funding Project O, and the need for a letter.

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Doug Rea

Motion 5: To authorize the Assistant Superintendent to send a letter to withdraw from Project Oceanology in preparation of the 2012-2013 school year.

Aye: All

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Technology:

Jason Jones presented the Technology Report, and the Board had no questions at this time.

Special Services:

Ginny Brown presented the Special Services Report and answered the Boards questions on the IDEA grant.

Personnel & Enrollment:

Leanne Masterjoseph presented the Personnel and Enrollment report to the Board. There were no questions at this time.

The following motion was made by Faith Leitner and seconded by Doug Rea

Motion 6: To accept the resignation of classroom teacher, Danielle Yates, with regrets and appreciation.

Aye: All

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Alisa Morrison

Motion 7: To accept the retirement of Chris Banks, with regrets and appreciation for her years of service to Stonington's Public Schools

Aye: All

Progress Toward Board Goals

- A. Goal I – Student Achievement
 - a. Reflections on BOE Workshop with CABE, “How Boards Can Influence Student Achievement”

Kevin Bornstein, Doug Rea, and Gail MacDonald summarized the recent workshop with CABE.

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- B. Goal II – Strategic Plan
 - a. DMS – Building Level Accountability

Doug Hammel and staff from DMS presented their school's progress towards meeting goals of the Strategic Plan.

- C. Goal III Facilities Plan
 - a. K-4 Educational Specifications Discussion

The Board discussed their options, ideas and suggestions concerning the K-4 Ed Specs that they were presented with at last month's meeting. It was agreed that Kevin Bornstein and Alisa Morrison would participate in a meeting with school admin as a follow up.

Board Action on 2011 – 2012 Perkins Grant

The following motion was made by Faith Leitner and seconded by Alisa Morrison

Motion 8: To approve the submission of the Perkins Vocational Education Grant for 2011-2012 in the amount of \$21, 832.

Aye: All

Year-End Deferred Purchases

Bill King presented the Board with a list of recommended year end deferred purchases.

BOE Budget Discussion 2011 – 2012

Leanne Masterjoseph presented the Board with a list of talking points, and Gail MacDonald provided the following information:

- May 16, 2011 – Town Meeting
- May 24, 2011 – Referenda -- voting held in three districts:
 - 1st & 3rd District – Stonington Fire House
 - 2nd District – Pawcatuck Fire House
 - 4th & 5th Districts – Mystic Fire Department

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Policies

A. Proposed Policy – 5145.122 Use of Dogs to Search School Property – Second Read

The following motion was made by Doug Rea and seconded by Sam Agnello

Motion 9: To approve Policy 5145.122 as presented

The Board discussed clarifying the language.

The following motion was made by Doug Rea and seconded by Sam Agnello

Motion 10: To approve Policy 5145.122 as amended by deleting the last sentence in number two

Aye: All

B. Proposed Revised Policy & Regulations – 5111 – Admission & Placement: Second Read

The following motion was made by Doug Rea and seconded by Kevin Bornstein

Motion 11: To approve Policy 5111 as presented

Aye: All

C. Proposed Revised Policy – 5112 – Ages of Attendance – Second Read

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Doug Rea

Motion 12: To approve Policy 5112 as presented

Aye: All

D. Proposed Revised Policy – 5113 – Attendance/Excuses/Dismissal – Second Read

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The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Doug Rea

Motion 13: To approve policy 5113 as amended by deleting the line “Effective with the start of the 2008-2009 school year” and starting the paragraph with “A student”

Aye: All

E. Proposed Revised Policy 5113.1 – Work Permits – Second Read

The following motion was made by Sam Agnello and seconded by Alisa Morrison

Motion 14: To approve Policy 5113.1 as presented

Aye: All

F. Proposed Revised Policy – 5114.12 – Student Handbooks – Second Read

The following motion was made by Doug Rea and seconded by Faith Leitner

Motion 15: To approve Policy 5114.12 as presented

Aye: All

G. Proposed Policy – 6145 – Foreign Exchange Students – First Read

H. Proposed Replacement Policy – 4147.1 – Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens – First Read

Gail MacDonald explained that both policies 6145 and 4147.1 are first reads and that no action is necessary.

Committee Reports

Athletic:

Alisa Morrison updated Board members on discussion concerning event ticket prices, and transportation billing.

SEF:

Faith Leitner updated Board members on Blue Mondays and Grants.

Retirement:

Gail MacDonald indicated a need to select a representative to the Retirement Board.

LEARN:

Gail MacDonald provided information on a recent meeting she attended.

Comments from Citizens Relative to Board Action on this Agenda

Sue Jones commented on Smart Boards and Bruce Yarnall commented on student achievement.

Boards Comments/Concerns

Faith Leitner inquired about times Board members would be away, and quorums for upcoming meetings.

Gail MacDonald asked Board members to consider presentations given this year at meetings, and to let Leanne know if there is anything other Board members would be interested in receiving.

The following motion was made by Doug Rea and seconded by Sam Agnello :

Motion 16: To adjourn at 9:27 pm.

Aye: All



Doug Rea, Board Secretary