

Note: Per C.G.S. 10 – 218, Board of Education meeting minutes are provided in a draft format within 48 hours of the date the meeting was held. With the exception of motions and votes recorded, these minutes are unofficial until they have been read and approved by a majority vote of the Board. Should edits be necessary, they will be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting, noted in the meeting minutes, and voted upon.

CHAPLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION
Chaplin, Connecticut
Meeting Minutes
June 16, 2010

Chairperson Rachel O’Neill called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM. Present were Board members Annemarie Burnham, Stephanie Harrington, Megan Hicks and Jean Lambert. Administrators present were Interim Superintendent Ken Henrici and Principal Dan White. Unable to attend was Board member Angelina Pearce and John Bolduc.

2. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

A letter was received from Michelle Moon requesting FMLA leave of absence with a response in writing. A letter was received from Carrie Gryzwacz requesting FMLA leave of absence with a response in writing.

The Board received a settlement agreement between Scotland and the COC.

3. COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE: None

4. NATURE’S CLASSROOM:

There was no presentation due to Class Night.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. PTO Report: No Report

B. Monthly Report:

Nancy Douton presented the monthly report. The last month of school sure gets busy with lots of culminating activities. The 5th grade took a field trip to the Mashamoquet Brook State Park with their Nutmeg Book buddies. They played cooperative games with the students from Norwich. As another culminating activity, they went to Plymouth Plantation and visited the Mayflower. After studying early American life, it is great to see a replication. Everyone was glad that the forecasted rain held off until they got on the bus to return home.

The PreK class has been composting all year by using food scraps from their snack and lunch to turn into soil for their garden. Now they are sharing their skills with the whole school. The preschoolers helped the rest of the school separate their waste from lunch into compostable materials and noncompostable material.

After much hard work growing plants, the 4th graders were able to sell their plants at the PTO plant sale. They sold over \$400 worth of plants and had enough left over so that they could each bring home several plants.

Kindergarten went on a field trip to Mystic Aquarium. The students were able to see the sea lion show and actually pet sharks and stingrays. They were all very excited.

The Drama Club put on a wonderful performance of Tom Sawyer. It was obvious that a lot of work went into the production and they did a great job, as usual. We hope that you were able to enjoy it.

The Spring Concert was held last Thursday with the band and chorus. Again, this is a way to show how all their work has paid off. Hope the Board was able to attend.

The Parish Hill Band and Chorus performed for all the students. It was great to see familiar faces in the groups and listen to them.

The whole school was enthralled with Hou Tien Cheng, the master paper cutter. With no patterns to follow, he was able to create amazing paper cut outs for each student.

Grades 4 and 5 are now busy with their Quest program. They form teams that are challenged to work cooperatively to solve academic and physical problems. The weather has been cooperating and all the teams are working well together.

The 6th graders are gearing up for Class Night. They took a trip to Mohegan Park to end their waterworks project. At the park, they took measurements of fish and sorted them by age and species. To continue with the water theme, the 6th grade students also went to Project Oceanology in Groton. On this trip, they learned about the Long Island Sound habitat. Finally, the 6th graders went on their trip to Boston. They had a great time with great weather. They went on the freedom trail; rode on the swan boat, saw Fenway Park, Quincy Market and the Holocaust Museum. It was a special day for their final year at Chaplin Elementary School. Field Day was enjoyed by all with great weather.

C. Principal and Superintendent Information:

Principal

- CIP
 - Painting - \$5,000 – approximately 12 rooms
 - Playscape - \$45,000
 - Big Toys/Kompan
 - Landscape Structures
- Professional Development – 2010-2011
 - Writing Curriculum – Units of Study
 - Positive Behavior Supports/School Culture & Climate
- Upcoming Events
 - Grade 6 Class Night – 6/16 @ 7:00pm
 - Grades 4-6 Award's Assembly – 6/17 @ 9:30am
 - Last Day of School – 6/18 – Early Release @ 1:15
 - School Readiness Council Meeting – 6/21 @ 5:30

Superintendent

1. Mandarin Chinese After-School Enrichment Program – Grades 3-6:
Mandarin Chinese will be offered as after school enrichment for grades 3-4 on Tuesdays and for grades 5-6 on Thursdays. 19 students have expressed an interest. The teacher will arrive on July 31st. Every effort will be made to support the teacher as the teaching style is very different in the United States.
2. Phase II Race to the Top Grant – Update:
Chaplin stands to receive \$104,000 if selected for the Race to the Top Grant.
3. Secondary School Reform Proposal – Grade 6 Student Success Plans:
School Reform will raise the bar by requiring 25 credits to graduate from high school by 2018, requiring end of year mandated assessments, student support systems and Student Success Plan at the 6th grade level. The plans will require every student to have goals and objectives in writing.
4. TEAM Teacher Support Program – Plan Submitted to State:
TEAM has replaced the BEST program. A plan was submitted to the state that relies heavily on a reflective process.

5. Parish Hill Summer Basketball Camp – Open to Incoming Grade 6 CES Students:
20 students have signed up for the Basketball Camp. Thanks to the Chaplin and Hampton Recreation Departments for their help with this program which is a great school/community connection.
6. DPH Well Water Inspection:
The well water inspection passed with flying colors.

Next year is the last year of the teacher contract. Notice was received from the state that negotiations will start October 3, 2010. If no contract agreement is made by November 2nd, it will go to mediation and if no agreement is made by December 17th, then it will go to arbitration.

D. Enrollment/Staff/Update:

Enrollment is at 174 students. Projections for next year are 182 students. PreK has a waiting list.

E. Board of Education Summer Meeting Schedule:

Motion to change the August meeting to August 25th at 6:30PM, was made by Annemarie Burnham, seconded by Megan Hicks and carried unanimously.

6. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approval of Minutes: May 12, 2010

Motion to approve the minutes of May 12, 2010, was made by Annemarie Burnham, seconded by Megan Hicks and carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Financial Statement:

Motion to approve the Financial Statement, was made by Stephanie Harrington, seconded by Annemarie Burnham and carried unanimously.

C. Mandarin Chinese After-School Enrichment Program:

Covered under the Superintendent Report.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Committees May Report Information to the Board):

A. CABE/EASTCONN:

A meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 22nd at 4:00pm at EASTCONN to vote on a bond to build a training center behind the main building on Route 6 in Hampton and a line of credit for the operating budget.

Motion to add to agenda EASTCONN resolution, was made by Stephanie Harrington, seconded by Annemarie Burnham and carried unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding concerns with voting on a huge project with no opportunity for input or review.

Motion to approve bond for EASTCONN resolution to build a training center, was made by Stephanie Harrington, seconded by Annemarie Burnham and failed with the following vote:

NO: M. Hicks, A. Burnham, R. O'Neill, S. Harrington, J. Lambert.

B. Educational & Board Policies: No Report

C. Personnel & Supervision Policies: No Report

D. Central Office: No Report

E. Building, Grounds & Insurance:

The insurance agent met with the First Selectman and the rate increase is fairly competitive. RD11 changed its well station vendor to Aqua Pump (used by Chaplin Elementary) and will share services to reduce cost.

F. Transportation:

The bus contract is finalized and the bus company would like the buses to continue being housed across from town hall.

G. Public Relations: No Report

H. School Readiness/Discovery:

The Discovery Group has been changed to Chaplin Cares for Kids. 3-6 people are needed for training to be a facilitator. A community meeting is being planned for September.

I. Technology:

Two classrooms need smartboards and a plan is needed for laptop replacement.

8. SECOND AUDIENCE/COMMUNICATIONS:

Nancy Douton asked if negotiations could be started at an earlier date.

9. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:

- Set Earlier Date for Negotiations
- Delete PTO Report

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL AND/OR LEGAL MATTERS:

Motion to enter into Executive Session (5:55 PM) and move to the Conference Room, was made by Annemarie Burnham, seconded by Jean Lambert and carried unanimously.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:08 PM.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 6:09 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted by Kathleen Scott
Recording Secretary*