

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
Special Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2009

Chairperson Lisa Rose called the meeting to order at 6:36 P.M. Present were Board members Anne Burnham, Stephanie Harrington, Rachel O’Neill and Shari Smith. Administrators present were Dan White and Ken Henrici. Unable to attend were Board members Angelina Pearce and John Bolduc.

Rachel O’Neill made a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing Personnel at 6:40. The motion was seconded by Anne Burnham and carried unanimously. The Board exited executive session at 7:00.

Written communications to the Board

2 Letters were received from Dick Wiengart, the first letter was in reference to preschool deficit. The BOF thanked the BOE for taking action to resolve the Preschool Fund. The second letter was in reference to BOF request to eliminate non-essentials for the remainder of the year. Freeze on all budgets in a town wide effort to reserve funds.

3. Communications with the audience: Jennifer Bentley presented three letters addressing concerns regarding the school administrator from Jennifer and Blake Bentley, Michelle Bolduc and Tina and Rick Haesche. A second member of the audience (Darcie Richards) spoke of her concerns over the same administrator and possible implications to the school community.

4. Information items:

A. Team Talent Pool and enrichment cluster schedule for verification due to budget concerns: see attached. Barbra Walters described the schedule and activities that were part of his cluster.

B. Monthly report (see attached).

C. Principal information: CMT schedule and make-up’s

Upcoming events: School Readiness, PTO Movie night, PTO REC skate, Marking period 2 report cards, Parent-teacher conference, Natures classroom, PTO egg hunt.

Enrollment staff updates information with no staffing changes.

D. Superintendent's Report: FY 09-10 Budget, CMT Preparation, Bus Transportation/Bus Bid, and Addition/Withdrawal of Grades Study Committee Vote.

5. Approval of Calendar for 2009-2010. Two Calendars were presented with differences in staff development and April, Feb. Vacation. Data collected for student absenteeism averages 10 students on a regular school day opposed to a 20 student absentee rate on the two non-vacation days during February. Board members discussed the two and the possible ending dates, and snow dates. Board would like to tentatively approve a calendar after discussion. A motion was made by Rachel O'Neill and seconded by Stephanie Harrington to approve the tan calendar which includes a shortened February vacation, April vacation following the Good Friday holiday, and the last day for students falling on June 11. . The motion carried with the following vote: Shari Smith, Rachel O'Neill and Lisa Rose – yes, Stephanie Harrington and Ann Burnham- no.

6. A. Old Business: A motion was made by Anne Burnham and seconded by Lisa Rose to accept the Board minutes from February 11 with the following amendments: Item 5 C- change first sentence "student teacher" to "Instructional Assistant". Omitted in Item #6- Presentation of Preliminary FY 09-10 Budget was the fact that the Principal's Secretary Ceci Hanycky did not take a salary increase for the next budget year. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion was made by Rachel O'Neill and seconded by Ann Burnham to accept the financial statement for period ending February 28, 2009. After a brief discussion the motion carried unanimously.

C. Continued review of educational options:

The Board received three letters in response to the letters that were mailed out to area schools in January regarding future discussions of space and availability in the event of regional dissolution. Letters were received from Woodstock Academy, Windham Public Schools and Eastford Elementary School. All three schools expressed an interest in conversations to gather more information. Board members Lisa Rose, Rachel O'Neill and Superintendent Ken Henrici were invited to meet with Richard Foye at Woodstock Academy on Tuesday, March 10.

Rachel O'Neill made a motion to accept the letter drafted by the Ad-Hoc Committee to be sent to surrounding schools requesting information regarding tuition and seats available in the event of the dissolution of the district. The motion was seconded by Shari Smith and it passed unanimously.

D. Bus/Bid update: Four different bus bids. K-12 4 year contract. 4th bid is PHS is for transportation to other schools and outside transportation. Regionalizing the bids was discussed with the possibility of moving the money to the town budgets. Would the 3 towns be willing to move the money into town budget? Scotland does not want

to regionalize bid. Consider putting k-6 into town. Hampton would like to consider k-12 into the elementary budget. Lastly two separate bids were discussed. Would the board consider a one year contract/extension with current contractor until we know what the region is doing? Board directed to look at bids and at extensions.

7. FY09-10 Budget- White budget proposal is 2.8 % increase with two reductions, with no transportation. Brown proposal included transportation for prek-6 transportation costs. Last budget proposal includes full transportation budget with an increase in 3.09%. Blue budget proposal is 2.39% increase with line item reductions, including busing for prek-12. Rachel O'Neill made a motion to approve the blue budget proposal of a 2.39% increase including transportation costs for prek-12 with a final bottom budget line of \$3,150,930. The motion was seconded by Anne Burnham and passed unanimously.

The Board of Education will present the budget to the Board of Finance on March 16 at 7:00 at the Town Hall; all Board members are encouraged to attend.

8. Committee reports

A. CABE- Technology presentation, head-start review.

B. Educational and Board Policy: Gov. with new suspension laws (delay possible).

C. Personnel and Supervision Policies: Non-Certified Negotiation next meeting March 23rd @5:30

D. Central Office: Stephanie Harrington moved to accept the Central Office budget FY 2009-2010 as presented with bottom line figure of \$396,562.00 and was seconded by Rachel O'Neill. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Building and Grounds, Insurance: No report

F. Transportation: No Report

G. Public Relations: No Report.

H. Pre-School: have not met but are working on some activities and a second news letter.

I. Technology: No report.

J. Dissolution study Committee Report: Chaplin location. Next meeting Thursday 12th@PHS. Following meetings will have Mary Donnelly from Special Services to discuss issues.

K. Addition/Withdrawal of Grades Committee Report: Next meeting @7:00PHS March 10th to discuss referendum.

8. Second audience: Penny Boomer –spoke on the issue at the school and confidence in the communication between staff members and school wide morale. Barbara

Walters seconded that statement that the staff is concerned about the students and not personal issues. Parent Jennifer Bentley asked when the Board would respond to comments or communication to the Board. The Board chair made a statement that a response would either be presented at the next meeting or within the minutes.

9. Next meeting agenda items: Calendar, TAG presentation, healthy food certification. Bus bid update, parent request (action anticipated). Nature's classroom presentation.

10. Rachael O'Neill made a motion at 9:07 to go into executive session for the purpose to discuss personnel seconded by Anne Burnham. The Board exited executive session at 9:36. Motion was made by Lisa Rose to adjourn the meeting at 9:37, seconded by Stephanie Harrington and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Harrington, Secretary