

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
April 14, 2010

Chairperson Rachel O’Neill called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Present were Board members Annemarie Burnham, Stephanie Harrington, Angelina Pearce, John Bolduc, Megan Hicks and Jean Lambert. Administrators present were Interim Superintendent Ken Henrici and Principal Dan White.

2. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD: None

3. COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE: None

4. INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. Monthly Report:

Nancy Douton presented the monthly report. Family Literacy Night was a huge success. There were over 150 people in attendance and everyone was very enthusiastic about the program. The students are still making connections with what Bill Harley said to things happening in school. It was great to be encouraged to laugh at ourselves and share memories with our families. Even if they did not attend the Family Literacy Program, all of the students were able to hear Bill Harley during two performances at school during the day.

The preschoolers are studying their community and have taken field trips to the Post Office and Pine Acres Restaurant. They really enjoy meeting the community helpers and learning about their jobs.

One of the second grade classes and the third grade class went to the Hyde Cultural Center for a performance by the New Haven Symphony Orchestra. This was a follow-up to a visit by a musician earlier in the year. The students learned about different parts of the orchestra and were thrilled to hear a live performance.

Fifth graders are busy preparing for their trip to Plymouth Plantation. Right now, they are building a model of the plantation along with a model of a Wampanoag village. This is all part of the Social Studies colonial unit. They have also been writing various forms of poetry since April is poetry month.

There will be three Chaplin students going to UCONN for the Invention Convention. Zoey Blanchard, Dylan LeDuc and Aidian Kemp received the highest scores in the invention convention and now will be taking their inventions to the state convention.

Third through Sixth graders are working on various projects for History Day in May. The national theme is innovation and there is sure to be some very interesting projects to see when they are completed.

Billy Stephens from fourth grade attended a luncheon in Cromwell for the winners of the Fire Prevention Poster contest. This is always a nice event and the teachers encourage their students to participate since the winning student’s teacher gets to attend as well. One in the first grade, one in the second grade, one in the fifth grade and one in music. They are all doing the majority of teaching now and add a real enthusiasm to the teaching profession.

All of the sixth graders returned safely from Nature's Classroom where they had a wonderful time. Having had great weather helped a great deal. As usual the students were praised for being well-behaved and enthusiastic participants. They are planning on sharing some of their experiences with the Board next month.

The sixth grade students also did a great job with the Grandparent's Luncheon. They always rise to the occasion and take their role as hosts and hostesses seriously. These are two of the many highlights of the sixth grade year at Chaplin Elementary School.

B. Principal and Superintendent Information:

Principal

- Writing Committee
 - Units of Study – Lucy Caulkins
 - Teachers College Reading & Writing Projects – Columbia University
- Professional Development – 2010/2011 Focus
 - Writing Curriculum Training
 - Positive Behavior Supports (PBS & School Climate Culture)
- Staff Appreciation Week – May 3rd – 7th
 - BOE sponsored luncheon Friday, May 7th
- Upcoming Events
 - April vacation 4/19-4/25
 - PreK screening – Saturday, May 1st
 - School Readiness/Discover meeting – 5/4 @ 5:30 PM
 - Plant Sale/Car Wash 5/15, 8-1 PM
 - Drama Presentation “Tom Sawyer”, 5/20 @ 7 PM
 - Memorial Day Program 5/27 @ 2 PM
 - Chaplin 5K Road Race 6/5 @ 10am with tie dyed t-shirts
 - Spring Concert 6/10 @ 7 PM
 - Grade 6 Class Night – Wednesday, June 16th @ 7 PM
 - Grade 4-6 Awareness Assembly 6/17 @ 9:30 AM

Superintendent

- ◆ Superintendent Henrici, Principal White and Annemarie Burnham attended the BOF Public Hearing and presented a fiscally responsible budget that meets the needs of the students. There was little comment regarding the budget.
- ◆ There is a tentative meeting on April 29th to reconvene the K-12 Curriculum Coordination with Scott Gagnon, the sixth grade teachers and the Administration to focus on transition issues. Scotland and Hampton are on board with this committee.
- ◆ RD11 has been approved for Mandarin Chinese through the Guest Teacher program. The program needs 100% support from the Board with small classes, time for curriculum development and regular meetings to address any concerns. We are planning a two day per week after-school enrichment Mandarin Chinese program at CES. The program will be paid for by grants. There is a three day orientation in Washington, DC that will include a visit to a high school and elementary school.
- ◆ An Athletic Summer Basketball Camp will be held this summer for grades 7-12 to focus on skill development. Academic and enrichment programs will follow and may these programs expand to other areas.

C. Enrollment/Staff/Update:

Student enrollment is at 173. Gloria Burelle will be the long term substitute for Michelle Moon in third grade.

5. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approval of Minutes: March 10, 2010

Motion to approve the minutes of March 10, 2010, was made by Annemarie Burnham, seconded by Stephanie Harrington and carried with two abstentions by Rachel O'Neill and Megan Hicks.

B. Approval of Financial Statement:

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

C. Appointment of Auditor for 2009-2010 Fiscal Year End Audit – Carlin, Charron and Rosen LLP:

The state requires appointment of an auditor to OPM 30 days prior to the end of the fiscal year.

Motion to appoint Marien & Co. as auditor for 2009-2010 Fiscal Year End Audit, was made by John Bolduc, seconded by Annemarie Burnham and carried unanimously.

D. Board Approval of Continued Participation in Healthy Food Certification Program:

Chaplin Elementary has participated in the program for the last two years. The program governs what is sold or served in the cafeteria. Close to 75% of schools participate.

Motion to approve continued participation in the Healthy Food Certification Program, was made by Annemarie Burnham, seconded by Angelina Pearce and carried unanimously.

E. Discussion of FY 2010-2011 Budget:

The town meeting will be held May 10th.

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

A. CABE/EASTCONN:

EASTCONN is struggling financially and sent out notification to 47 non-tenured staff. The guest speaker addressed an Advanced Placement program called "Project Opening Doors" that RD11 participates in. The goal is to increase enrollment and exam pass rates. The new building site in Hampton is looking for a one year extension. Headstart will undergo a federal review. The next meeting is May 25th.

B. Educational & Board Policies: No Report

C. Personnel & Supervision Policies:

Proposed certification regulations will be presented at a future meeting.

D. Central Office:

There has been no response from Hampton regarding meeting to discuss Shared Services. They will be contacted to see if still interested.

E. Building, Grounds & Insurance:

EASTCONN is putting fuel out to bid as part of consortium that could have budget impact. Fuel is locked in at \$2.03/gal. until June 30th. The price today is \$2.72/gal.

F. Transportation: No Report

G. Public Relations: No Report

H. School Readiness/Discovery: No Report

I. Technology: No Report

7. SECOND AUDIENCE/COMMUNICATIONS:

Michelle Moon asked the Board about the status of written request for leave of absence. The Board is waiting for a final response from its attorney.

Chris Blair expressed concerns with numerous areas leaking and leaving puddles on the floor and dripping into the showcase. Principal Dan White reported that the windows are leaking and need to be reglazed.

8. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:

- Nature's Classroom
- Budget
- Leave Request

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL AND/OR LEGAL MATTERS: None

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn (7:26 PM) was made by John Bolduc, seconded by Stephanie Harrington and carried unanimously.

*Respectfully Submitted by Kathleen Scott
Recording Secretary*