

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 10, 2009

Chairperson Lisa Rose called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present were Board members Annemarie Burnham, Angelina Pearce, Rachel O’Neill, John Bolduc and Shari Smith. Administrators present were Interim Superintendent Ken Henrici and Principal Dan White.

2. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

The Board received an invitation to Class Night on June 17th at 7:00 PM from the Class of 2009.

3. COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE: None

4. INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. PTO Report:

Anne Marie Charland is back as PTO President.

B. Monthly Report:

Nancy Douton presented the monthly report. Although the school year is winding down, the special activities are gearing up. All the special field trips and projects to bring together the learning are happening now.

Kindergarten went on a field trip to Mystic Aquarium where everyone had a great time. The teachers appreciated all the help from their chaperones. The students saw the sea lion show and an exhibit of submersibles recovered from the ocean. Despite the weather everyone claimed that it was a wonderful trip.

The 3rd grade classes were able to go to Nature’s Art thanks to our terrific PTO. They all enjoyed an informative program about the layers of the earth and everyday products made from minerals. The students were fascinated to learn how geodes are formed in volcanoes and thrilled to receive a half geode for themselves. The 3rd graders had a special guest speak to them about geology in their classrooms, also. Virginia Duers, a grandparent of some of our students, gave them an interesting lesson on geology and magnanimously gave each student a mineral to start their own rock collection. The students made “pebble pups” and they are all hoping that they will grow into “rock hounds”.

The 4th grades went on a field trip to the Noah Webster House. The consensus is that it was a “fabulous” trip. The students made vegetable stew, applesauce and Sunday night wafers. They went to school and did their recitations in grammar, math and handwriting for Mistress White. They even had to do chores (make the bed and empty the chamber pot), then they got to play with the colonial toys and do some cross-stitch and learn a dance. This was a very informative field trip.

4th graders also helped at the plant sale. They sold over 500 of the plants that they had grown and the money will be used to help run the greenhouse.

The 4th and 5th grades took a field trip to the Channel 3 Camp to kick off their end of the year Quest. They have 6 teams composed of both 4th and 5th graders that

participated in team building activities at the camp. Now they are doing a variety of academic and physical activities that require teamwork and problem solving. The focus of these activities is Respect and having a Positive Attitude.

The 6th grades have been very busy as usual. They had a field trip to Bluff Point and a stream walk in town to tie up all that they have learned with their water works project. During the stream walk, they took lots of measurements of velocity and elevation. At Bluff Point, they studies three different areas: beach, rocky shore and estuary. They came prepared and worked diligently through the pouring rain. Hopefully, this project will inspire some of the students to pursue a career in Science.

6th graders waited on customers and bussed tables at Applebee's last Saturday for a very successful fundraiser. The money was used to help with their trip to Boston yesterday.

The trip to Boston was terrific by all accounts. Many chaperones complimented the students' behavior and attentiveness throughout the day. They were disappointed that the swan boats were not running due to the weather but thoroughly enjoyed the Egyptian Museum. In order to go through the tomb, the students had to work cooperatively to solve problems like building a pyramid and making sure that the stones were not bigger than the ones below.

The Spring Concert was wonderful as always. It's amazing what the students can accomplish in a year. We are lucky that so many teachers donate their time to help out with these performances so that the parents can just sit back and enjoy it.

We hope that everyone will be able to attend the Speaker of the Earth performance tomorrow night. This is a big production that has taken lots of hard work and time to pull off and looks to be spectacular. Again, many teachers have donated their time to help make this possible for the students. It looks like this school year will be ending on a high note.

C. Principal and Superintendent Information:

Principal

- ◆ Pre-Kindergarten
School Readiness Grant submitted – approved decision in July
1 ½ PreK teaching positions – posting in July
- ◆ PTO Meeting – June 10th
Anne Marie Charland returns as PTO President
- ◆ IDEA ARRA & Title Regular & ARRA Grants
Due Dates of June 16th for Title I and July 1 for IDEA
Spending Plan:
 - SMART Boards – 11 classrooms
 - IEP Direct (Special Ed link to the state)
 - CMT Preparation Staff stipends
 - CMT Preparation materials
 - CMT On-line Program
 - SE Summer Services salaries
 - Professional Development
 - Early Intervention Reading – Supplemental Supplies
 - Intervention/SRBI Materials (Math & Reading)
- ◆ Upcoming Dates
Speaker for the Earth Musical @ 7:00 pm – CES Auditorium

PreK Family Picnic @ Garrison Field – Monday, June 15 @ 10:00 am
CES Field Day – Tuesday, June 16
School Readiness/Discovery Meeting – Tuesday, June 15 @ 5:30 pm
Grade 6 Class Night – Wednesday, June 17th @ 7:00 pm – CES
Grade 4-6 Award's Assembly – Thursday, June 18th @ 9:15
Grade 6 vs. Staff Softball Game – Friday, June 19th @ 9:15
Last Student Day – Friday, June 19th – Early Release @ 1:15

Superintendent

- ◆ Stimulus funds were addressed by Principal White. Superintendent Henrici suggested follow-up of IEP Direct and smartboards to see how effective they are.
- ◆ The COC voted to pay off a portion of the debt of \$38,000 to Chaplin as soon as possible. \$9,000 will be paid to the Grant Fund and \$3,000 will be paid to the General Fund. Another \$12,000 will be paid in September with the balance to be paid by July 2010.
- ◆ Parish Hill graduation is June 19th at 6:00. All Board members are invited to attend.
- ◆ Principal meetings are held monthly with discussion on K-12 curriculum coordination and articulation. A meeting will be held during the summer to discuss and consider a uniform curriculum in preparation for transition to Parish Hill.
- ◆ The long range Professional Development plan is consistent with the state model and includes:
 - School Climate
 - Data Driven Decision Making
 - Common Formative Assessments
 - Effective Teaching Strategies
 - Making Standards Works and curriculum alignment to State Standards

D. Enrollment/Staff Update:

Susan Cote and Sheena Martin have taken over full time. There are 181 students. There will be two 2nd grade classes next year.

E. Review of Payroll Proposals:

Payroll will be changed administratively to Compupay, a company that will streamline the process at the same cost. Startup will be July 1st with no interruption in services.

F. Special Education Annual Performance Report:

Out of 20 indicators, 19 were met according to state guidelines. Principal White followed up with the state regarding the one indicator that had to do with contracting out for a service that was not available in house.

G. Board of Education Summer Meeting Schedule:

The Board will meet on Wednesday, August 19th at 6:30 PM.

5. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approval of Minutes – May 13, 2009:

Motion to approve the minutes of May 13, 2009, was made by Rachel O'Neill, seconded by John Bolduc and carried with two abstentions by Angelina Pearce and Rachel O'Neill.

B. Approval of Financial Statement:

The rest of the carpet will be replaced. There will be budget transfers in August. The Board will be fiscally responsible to June 30th. It is too early to tell whether funds will be returned to the town.

Motion to approve the Financial Statement was made by Rachel O'Neill, seconded by John Bolduc and carried unanimously.

C. Review of Transportation Drop-off Procedure:

Two responses were received from parents regarding changing the age for visible drop-off. Parents felt the age should be 10. The policy will be changed to reflect that children in grades Pre-K to grade 4 will not be dropped off unless a parent is visible.

Written permission is needed for students to be dropped off with an older sibling or no one visible.

D. Review and Approval of Health Policies and Procedures:

The change from the previous policy is TB exposure.

Motion to approve Health Policies and Procedures, was made by Rachel O'Neill, seconded by Angelina Pearce and carried unanimously.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. CABE/EASTCONN:

The annual meeting was held at the ACT building with a tour of the building done by a student from Coventry. ACT students won numerous awards including video and musicals. Dr. McQuinlan was the keynote speaker who suggested keeping the spirit and hope alive for education and regionalization. Agency goals and updates for the past year are available for review. Paula Cohen's contract was extended until 2012.

B. Educational & Board Policies: No Report

C. Personnel & Supervision Policies:

Non-Certified negotiations will be discussed during Executive Session.

D. Central Office:

The main item discussed was the indebtedness to Chaplin. The financial statement was reviewed. The Committee established a schedule of quarterly meetings.

E. Building, Grounds & Insurance:

Other carriers are being reviewed for insurance.

F. Transportation: No Report

G. Public Relations: No Report

H. Preschool:

The School Readiness Council will be reviewed on how it functions compared to other towns. The focus will be on getting new members. A web page is being developed.

There are more kids coming to the playgroup with Sandra Frizelle a great driving force. The sign made by Parish Hill students was put up on the island at the Town Hall.

I. Technology: No Report

J. Dissolution Study Committee Report:

The Committee is meeting weekly and will vote on recommendation at the next meeting on Thursday, June 18th at Parish Hill. The vote to accept the report will be held on June 25th and then send to the state with a referendum to follow in September. If the vote passes, the timeline to dissolve is June 30, 2012.

Annemarie Burnham presented a spreadsheet of Educational Options with a list of schools contacted and responses. Tuition does not include Special Ed or transportation.

Educational Options needs to be added back to the agenda.

8. SECOND AUDIENCE/COMMUNICATIONS: None

9. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:

- Budget Transfers
- Transportation Drop-off Policy
- Educational Options
- Staff Appointment
- CMT Report

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL AND/OR LEGAL MATTERS:
Motion to enter into Executive Session (8:16 PM) for the purpose of discussing Personnel and/or Legal Matters was made by Rachel O'Neill, seconded by John Bolduc and carried unanimously.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:50 PM.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn (8:53 PM) was made by John Bolduc, seconded by Rachel O'Neill and carried unanimously.

*Respectfully Submitted by Kathleen Scott
Recording Secretary*