

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
September 8, 2010

Chairperson Rachel O’Neill called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM. Present were Board members Annemarie Burnham, Angelina Pearce (7:05), John Bolduc and Megan Hicks. Administrators present were Interim Superintendent Ken Henrici and Principal Dan White. Unable to attend was Board members Jean Lambert and Stephanie Harrington.

Motion to move Item #4 to before Item #2, was made by John Bolduc, seconded by Annemarie Burnham and carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF MANDARIN CHINESE TEACHER – JIEYI LV:

Superintendent Henrici introduced and welcomed Mandarin Chinese Teacher, Jieyi Lv. She will be teaching approximately 20 students at Chaplin Elementary. The Board is honored to welcome her to the school. Superintendent Henrici also introduced and welcomed new Parish Hill Principal Dori Smith.

2. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD OF EDUCATION ATTORNEY – DONALD HOUSTON-DURANT, NICHOLS, LLC:

The Board introduced and welcomed new Board Attorney, Donald Houston who is preparing for teacher negotiations.

3. CGS 1-153d – MEETING WITH BOARD OF FINANCE AND/OR FIRST SELECTMEN PRIOR TO TEACHER NEGOTIATIONS PER STATE STATUTE-ATTORNEY DONALD HOUSTON:

State statute requires a meeting be held within 30 days prior to commencement of negotiations. The Board of Finance has the right to observe sessions. Dick Weingart asked for clarification on how to prepare for the first session. Attorney Houston reported that the following is used to prepare:

- input is solicited from the administration for issues or concerns over the life of the current contract
- the Board of Ed is solicited for items to be considered
- the Board of Finance is asked to provide data to assess the financial status of the town
- uses experience in collective bargaining making suggestions based on economic trends

4. INTRODUCTION OF MANDARIN CHINESE TEACHER – JIEYI LV:

Moved to beginning of agenda.

5. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

Receipt for certified letter was received requesting Board of Finance to attend tonight’s meeting.

6. COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE:

Dick Weingart asked for clarification on the Education Jobs Bill. Superintendent Henrici reported that every town will receive funding to be spent by September 2012 with secondary school regional

districts to receive zero funding at this time. CT is asking that towns give a portion of their funds to regional districts.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. Monthly Report:

The monthly report was presented. Thanks to all the staff at Chaplin Elementary, school has gotten off to a smooth start. Students, staff and parents gathered on the first day of school to continue the tradition of ringing the bell.

During the first week, classes established routines, had an announced and unannounced fire drill and attended the first town meeting of the year. School-wide town meetings started last year and provided classes an opportunity to share their talents and successes while reinforcing Chaplin's Formula 4 Success.

1st graders have been very busy learning the classroom routines and thinking carefully about Chaplin's "Formula 4 Success." They are thinking carefully about what being "ready to learn" looks like, sounds like and feels like and are reading new poems welcoming us back to school in a new classroom. In Science, they are studying the life cycle of the monarch butterfly and now have 7 chrysalis in the room and 4 more caterpillars. They are busy observing and wondering how and why things happen in nature. In Math, they are becoming careful counters in math and have learned a new game "Collect 20" to help develop counting strategies. Every day, they read, write and sing because they are the Little Kids that Can (Inspired by The Little Engine That Could!). It promises to be an exciting year in first grade.

The PreK through 6th grade art classes are off to a great start. Each grade level is deeply involved in a unit of study on drawing and design. The PreK is exploring dry art materials and investigating new techniques. The Kindergarten is exploring the design elements of line and shape. The 1st grade students are discovering how pictures can tell a story by examining works of art by famous artists. 2nd grade artists are developing an awareness of shapes and lines in drawing by looking for shapes and lines that they recognize before they begin to draw. 3rd grade students are using creative lettering styles to write a word and visual images to describe the word. The 4th grade students are creating realistic drawings from photographs using a grid technique that helps to change the scale of an image. The 5th graders are developing an illusion of 3D space on a 2D surface using the 1-point perspective technique. The 6th grade class is creating a unified design that advertises a product.

We are also implementing a school-wide writing curriculum, written and research over the past 20 years from Teacher's College, Columbia University. This curriculum is rigorous and aligned with the newly adopted common core standards. Everyone has begun the implementation in their classrooms with some classrooms receiving support by myself and Jen Meizels. It's really exciting to see the writing being produced already.

B. Principal and Superintendent Information:

Principal

- Start of School
 - Fire Drills – Announced and Unannounced – September 2 & 3
 - Evacuation & Lockdown Drills – September 9
 - ◆ CT requirement – Crisis Response Drill – every 3 months
 - ◆ Letter to be sent home
- CES Town Meeting – September 3
 - Review of PBS
 - Review of CMT scores with Grades 3-6

- Intervention
 - Reading
 - ◆ All students with a CMT score of 1 or 2 have been identified and are receiving support either in class or in a small group pull out
 - Math
 - ◆ All students with a CMT score of 2 or 3 have been identified and are receiving support either in class or in a small group pull out
- Free and Reduced Lunch percentages – CES 2010-2011
 - 43 of 185 students – 23.24%
 - 08-09 DRG – 11.5%
 - 08-09 State – 34.2%
- Capital Improvement Projects – update
 - Playground project
 - ◆ Installation part 1 on September 20 (revised date)
 - ◆ Installation part 2 – week of September 27 (revised date)
- Upcoming Dates:
 - Open House – Thursday, September 16th – 6:00-7:00 pm
 - Early Release Day – Professional Development – Friday, September 17th
 - Fun in the Sun-Dylan Harrison fundraiser – Saturday, September 25th at Garrison Field
 - School Readiness Council Meeting – Tuesday, September 28th @ 5:30 pm
 - Chaplin C.R.E.W. Meeting (former Discovery Group) @ 5:30 – October 5th
 - Professional Development Day – October 12th – Writing
 - Relay for Life – October 16th & 17th – ECSU Baseball Field in Mansfield
Family members are encouraged to participate in this school wide event.

Superintendent

1. Education Jobs Bill:
Covered already under Item #6.
2. Teacher Negotiations:
The initial meeting will be held on October 5th to set ground rules.
3. Bidding Policy for Board Consideration:
A draft copy will be presented under Committee Reports. The Board should consider as a good way to guide bidding to increase competition for a better deal on large projects. It worked well with the transportation contract.
4. Mandarin Chinese After-School Enrichment Program:
The Mandarin Chinese program will be a great asset to Chaplin Elementary.

The Administration is very aware of NCLB AYP benchmarks that will increase dramatically and which could affect NCLB status. They will work as a team to achieve goals with a conference to be held next week.

A K-12 Curriculum meeting was held during the summer with Scotland and Hampton participating. The four schools will work towards a common ground and will also try to be more visible at each school's events.

C. Enrollment/Staff/Update:

Enrollment is at 185 students and there are no staffing changes.

8. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approval of Minutes: August 25, 2010

Motion to approve the minutes of August 25, 2010, was made by Annemarie Burnham with the following corrections: Item #5 should read – Motion to approve the minutes of June 16, 2010, was made by Stephanie Harrington. Item #7 should read – Ken Henrici clarified according to state statute. *The motion was seconded by John Bolduc and carried with two abstentions by John Bolduc and Angelina Pearce.*

B. Approval of Financial Statement:

7.5% of the budget has been spent to date.

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

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

A. CABE/EASTCONN: No Report

B. Educational & Board Policies:

Superintendent Henrici presented a draft Bidding Policy that will be referred to the Policies Committee for review.

C. Personnel & Supervision Policies: No Report

D. Central Office:

A meeting will be held September 9th.

E. Building, Grounds & Insurance: No Report

F. Transportation:

Angelina Pearce asked whether the buses were affected by the road construction. Principal White reported that the buses were not affected and arrival times are getting closer to arrival target.

G. Public Relations: No Report

H. School Readiness/Discovery:

The next meeting is September 28th.

I. Technology:

Two new smartboards (one for Kindergarten and one for the Gifted/Talented classroom) will be installed when the mounting hardware is received.

10. SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION:

Motion to move Superintendent Evaluation to Executive Session, was made by Annemarie Burnham, seconded by John Bolduc and carried unanimously.

11. SECOND AUDIENCE/COMMUNICATIONS: None

12. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS: None

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

Motion to enter into Executive Session (7:36 PM) for the purpose of discussing Personnel and/or Legal Matters and invite the Superintendent to attend, was made by John Bolduc, seconded by Annemarie Burnham and carried unanimously.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:55 PM.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted by Kathleen Scott
Recording Secretary*