

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING  
LONG HILL SCHOOL  
565 LONG HILL AVENUE  
FEBRUARY 7, 2007**

Chairman Walsh called the meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:20 p.m.

Roll Call: (alpha order)

Paula Ellis

Arlene Liscinsky

Thomas Minotti

Win Oppel

James Oraziotti

Bernard Simons

Carla Sullivan

Timothy Walsh, Chairman

A quorum of 8 present and 0 absent

Board of Education Administration present:

Superintendent of Schools, Robin Willink

Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Lorraine Rossner

Director of Finance, Allan Cameron

Director of Human Resources, Susan Attard Kollet

Operations Manager, William Banfe

(1 tape on file in City/Town Clerk's Office)

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by John Niski.

Bernard Simons was welcomed as a new member of the Board.

**Communications:**

Chairman Walsh commented on his representation earlier this evening at the Wrestling Club's Senior Night. The club had its best season ever, and the students were very appreciative of the new mat.

Mrs. Willink discussed a letter from Jack Ribas regarding the Boys & Girls Club's desire to provide before and after school care for Shelton. Mr. Ribas will be asked to submit information for programs for each of our elementary schools, if that can be done. Mr. Oppel suggested that we ask for ranges rather than specific quotes. Mrs.

Sullivan suggested that the Board needs to decide first if it wants to go ahead with a program. Additional information will be provided to the Board to help with that decision, and discussion will continue at our next meeting.

#### **Appointments:**

**Paula Ellis made a motion for the Board to approve the appointment of Hedwig Koenig to the position of special education teacher at Shelton Intermediate School, seconded by Carla Sullivan, vote 8-0, motion carried.**

**Win Oppel made a motion for the Board to approve the appointment of Kathy Sheehy to the position of Principal at Booth Hill School, seconded by James Oraziatti, vote 8-0, motion carried.**

Mrs. Sheehy was present and thanked the Board and administrators.

#### **Superintendent's Reports & Action Items:**

**Energy-Related Matters** – Mrs. Willink stated that in addition to our efforts to conserve energy in our schools by lowering temperatures and turning off lights, the recent rate increase for electricity has prompted us to look closely at our energy saving measures. Offers from various companies to help us save money have been reviewed. The most captivating was a presentation of a proposal by an attorney from Shipman and Goodwin, which provided some solid dollars in energy grants.

Mr. Cameron discussed cost-cutting measures in place and reviewed the proposals by Alliance Energy Solutions and Attorney Jennifer Janelle from Shipman and Goodwin. Mr. Cameron outlined the steps to be taken, including going out to bid for electricity, saving electricity where possible, investigating demand response programs, and pursuing lower natural gas rates. Mr. Cameron's recommendation to the Board is to hire an energy consultant, Attorney Jennifer Janelle, to investigate and implement energy cost saving measures in the Shelton Public Schools. Phase I expense is estimated at \$ 5,000, and Phase II services are estimated to cost \$10,000. The Board would then review Phase 1 before proceeding with Phase II.

Mr. Oraziatti expressed the need for Attorney Janelle's services for the 5/6 school project.

Mrs. Willink obtained references from Middletown and Westport districts, both of which recommended Attorney Janelle highly.

**Win Oppel made a motion for the Board to proceed with Phase I of the proposal from Attorney Jennifer Janelle for professional services related to energy matters, pending approval by the Board of Aldermen of submitted terms, seconded by Thomas Minotti, vote 8-0, motion carried.**

**Applied Data Services Proposal** - Mrs. Willink explained that research has been conducted to find a outside company to assist us with a demographic study to provide accurate information. Applied Data Services was recommended to us by Dave Larson. Ann Clark, Superintendent of Fairfield, used Wayne Verderber of Applied Data Services and said he did an amazing job for them. This company is very skilled at help with redistricting, and it would be stronger to have an outside agent advise us and offer objectivity. At the same time, we have submitted paperwork for Peter Prowda from the State Department of Education to do a demographic study. Mrs. Willink asked for and received the Board's support .

**Items to be Voted on:**

**Paula Ellis made a motion for the Board to approve conditionally the request of Ellen Zern, Advisor to Winterguard at Shelton High School, to travel to New Jersey for a competition March 29-31, 2007, upon the Superintendent's approval of transportation, seconded by Win Oppel, vote 8-0, motion carried.**

NOTE: The Superintendent reserves the right to reconsider the approval of a field trip anytime between approval and the time of departure of the trip.

In the event the Superintendent decides at any point to rescind the approval of a field trip, thereby canceling the trip, the Board of Education will not be responsible for any financial losses or penalties incurred by the affected staff, students or their parents or guardians.

In the event the Superintendent decides at any point to rescind the approval of a field trip, thereby canceling the trip, any leave time granted to any Board employees for the purpose of making the trip will be cancelled, and those employees will be expected to report to work.

**Paula Ellis made a motion for the Board to adjourn the meeting, seconded by James Oraziatti, vote 8-0, motion carried.**

Chairman Walsh adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Luther  
Recording Secretary – Board of Education  
February 13, 2007