

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
382 LONG HILL AVENUE
SHELTON, CONNECTICUT
APRIL 22, 2009**

Chairman Win Oppel called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:39 p.m.

Roll Call: (alpha order)

Paula Ellis

Eugene Kierce

Arlene Liscinsky

Francis MacIlvain

Thomas Minotti

Win Oppel, Chairman

James Oraziotti

Bernard Simons (excused)

Timothy Walsh

A quorum of 8 present and 1 absent

Board of Education Administration present:

Superintendent of Schools, Robin Willink

Assistant Superintendent, Lorraine Rossner

Director of Finance, Allan Cameron

Director of Human Resources, Rita McDougald-Campbell

Operations Manager, William Banfe

(1 tape on file in City/Town Clerk's Office. The meeting was reported as it occurred, as some items were addressed out of sequence.)

The Board led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Oppel stated that Pat Llodra had a family emergency and would not be at the meeting to present information on the CIAC Athletic Program Evaluation. As the meeting time had been changed for her presentation, several agenda items would be addressed out of sequence.

Timothy Walsh made a motion to move the Superintendent's presentation on the NSBA Conference to the beginning of the meeting; seconded by Francis MacIlvain; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Robin Willink shared highlights of the various workshops she attended at the National School Board Association Conference in April. This information will be shared with staff as well. James Oraziotti and Timothy Walsh also commented on their experiences.

Mrs. Willink proposed expanding our before/after school program in response to parent requests and findings of the School Readiness Council. The greatest need is at Elizabeth Shelton School and Booth Hill School. The current YMCA program held at Sunnyside School operates independently with no cost or responsibility on our part, and the YMCA has expressed interest in expanding their program. The Boys and Girls Club had submitted a proposal when the Board looked at this a couple years ago. Chairman Oppel clarified that the Board would provide the facility and would encourage applications. Mrs. Willink will send additional information to Board Members for their consideration. Board Members were asked to submit their ideas for discussion at a future meeting.

Approval of Agenda and Addendum:

Thomas Minotti made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Eugene Kierce; vote 8-0; motion carried. Timothy Walsh made a motion to approve the addendum to the agenda; seconded by Thomas Minotti; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Thomas Minotti made a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of March 18, 2009, Regular Meeting of March 25, 2009, Special Meeting of March 26, 2009, Special Meeting of April 8, 2009, and Special Meeting of April 13, 2009; seconded by Eugene Kierce. Votes as shown below. Motion carried.

March 18, 2009	vote 7-0-1 (Paula Ellis abstained)
March 25, 2009	vote 8-0
March 26, 2009	vote 7-0-1 (Paula Ellis abstained)
April 8, 2009	vote 8-0
April 13, 2009	vote 6-0-2 (Paula Ellis and Arlene Liscinsky abstained)

Communications to the Board:

Robin Willink discussed a letter sent to parents of non-English speaking students and explained that Shelton met only two of the three criteria. The English language learner subgroup comprised of 58 students did not attain Adequate Yearly Progress based on our CMT results.

A letter from Connecticut PTA reported that two Elizabeth Shelton students were winners in the Reflections Arts contest; Leah Verrilli won first place for musical composition, and Gabriella Lindale won honorable mention in photography. They will be honored in May at an awards ceremony in Hartford. In addition, a note from Beverly

Communications to the Board: (Continued)

Belden announced that Betsy Grant's student, Alexis Klimaszewski, was being published in the *Connecticut Student Writers* and will be honored at a recognition night at the University of Connecticut in May.

A letter from the Commissioner McQuillan advised that Lafayette School continues to have impending racial imbalance.

Mrs. Willink talked about Luisa Vaz, a Shelton High School graduate, who is working as an intern in school counseling at Sunnyside School. Luisa wrote an inspiring letter to the students explaining her disability and goals, which was published in Sunnyside's newsletter.

Presentations:

CABE Student Leadership Awards – Justin Zenchuk and Madeline Arena were presented with certificates for having been chosen for this award, which is based on leadership, ability to make decisions, caring about others; scholarship commitment, and numerous other traits.

Public Hearing:

Chris Panek, 19 Meghan Lane, President of ESS Fathers Club and PTA member, spoke about a safety situation at Elizabeth Shelton School's playground area, specifically a deficiency in the depth of the mulch surrounding some of the equipment.

Nick Georgalas, 26 White Oak Road, Shelton High School senior and baseball team member, presented a petition with over 600 signatures, requesting the high school baseball upper field be named after Coach Ed Marocco. Captain Mike Manzo, 272 East Village Road, also addressed the Board in support.

As no one else wished to speak, the public session was closed.

Presentations: (Continued)

Poetry and Poster Contest Winners from Sunnyside School – Linda Kobylarz, State Contest Coordinator and Career Development Consultant spoke about the Poetry and Poster Contest sponsored by the National Career Development Association and the Connecticut Career Counseling and Development Association. Sue Troupe, President of Connecticut Career Counselors and Brookfield School Counselor, presented awards to the following winners: Rianna Richards, Grade 2; David Adamson, Grade 1; David Youngquist, Grade 2; Mikael Saladores, Grade 3; Allison Brown, Grade 5; and Alexei Ziemkiewicz, Grade 5. A certificate was presented to Pamela Anderson, Sunnyside School Counselor.

(Note: Tape 1, Side B – 7:25 p.m.)

NEASC Highlights – Dr. Beth Smith gave a detailed presentation of the NEASC accreditation process that is ongoing at the high school. It was noted that Board Members will be needed to participate in the on-site visitation April 11-14, 2010. The visitation team will assess the degree to which the school meets the Standards of Accreditation and will make recommendations to help the school move beyond its present accomplishments. The Shelton High School Mission and Expectations for Student Learning approved by the faculty on March 19 was reviewed and will be voted on later in the meeting.

Resignations:

Superintendent Willink advised the Board of her approval of the following resignations: Sharon Yapoujian, Mohegan grade 4 teacher, effective immediately; Scott Gura, stipend position as head girls' basketball coach, effective immediately.

Appointments:

Paula Ellis made a motion to approve the following appointments:

**Robert Ayer to the position of assistant boys' baseball coach
Mark Berritto to the position of assistant boys' baseball coach
Alicia Leone to the position of assistant girls' lacrosse coach
Mark Piccirillo to the position of freshman football coach
Vincent Wynne to the position of assistant girls' track coach**

The motion was seconded by James Oraziatti; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Superintendent's Reports & Action Items:

Instructional Update – Lorraine Rossner reviewed the end of school year calendar. Elementary and intermediate schools will close for classes on June 22 with half days on June 17, 18, 19, and 22. Faculty and staff will have full workdays on June 17, 18 and 19. High school will close for classes on June 25 with half days on June 22, 23, 24 and 25. Faculty and staff will have full workdays on June 22, 23 and 24. Graduation is scheduled for June 24, at 6:00 p.m. in Finn Stadium. Rain or shine date is June 25. This schedule will be posted on the website.

School Facilities Report – Bill Banfe reported on the work done throughout the system over spring recess. He discussed replacement of heating system connections between the original buildings and additions at Mohegan, Elizabeth Shelton, and Long Hill. He reported the bus lot is close to completion. The City has installed storm drains and the street needs to be repaved.

SHS Renovation Building Committee – The committee is focusing on two final areas – boiler room work and creating access via stairs to the roof.

Perry Hill School Building Committee – The roofers were onsite today and will begin removal of roof tomorrow. There is much internal work occurring such as walls, foundation walls, oil tank installation, etc.

Public Improvement Building Committee – The plans were delivered to Hartford last Friday, and approval was received today to go out to bid on the roofs for Elizabeth Shelton, Long Hill and Mohegan.

Items Voted On:

Arlene Liscinsky made a motion for the Board to approve Policy Proposal 4000.5, Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace, which has sat for 30 days; seconded by Eugene Kierce; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Paula Ellis made a motion for the Board to reappoint the stipend position holders as presented; seconded by Timothy Walsh; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Arlene Liscinsky made a motion for the Board to approve the Shelton High School Mission and Expectations for Student Learning as presented; seconded by Thomas Minotti; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Comments by the Board Chair:

Chairman Oppel thanked all for the work done by various committees and Board Members.

Reports By Standing Committees:

Athletics – No report

Building & Grounds – Eugene Kierce discussed two motions passed by the Committee and referred to Finance: 1) Sign for the end of Darryl Ellis Drive and Constitution Boulevard regarding ball fields parking. 2) Request that administration upgrade the student residence verification procedure relative to Pitney Bowes system. Timothy Walsh commented that four of our schools are now green with the exception of floor products used in the summer. He commended Ken LaCroix and Paul Descoteaux on this accomplishment.

Cafeteria/Transportation –

Francis MacIvain made a motion for the Board to choose not to certify compliance with the State's Healthy Foods Guidelines during the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010; seconded by James Oraziatti; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Reports By Standing Committees: (Continued)

Policy/Curriculum/Technology – Thomas Minotti reported the committee did not meet due to conflicts. The next meeting is May 19 at 3:00 p.m.

Personnel – No report

Finance – No report

Reports of Special Committees:

C.E.S. – No report.

CABE – No report

Old Business:

Arlene Liscinsky questioned the open vacancy for HVAC Technician which has appeared for a year. Superintendent Willink will check on the Merit testing for this position.

Eugene Kierce asked to get the word out about improper parking on Constitution Boulevard.

Chairman Oppel announced that Elizabeth Shelton School will have a Touch-a-Truck event on Saturday, April 25, from 1:00-3:00. The event will include a Blackhawk Helicopter landing.

Adjournment:

Paula Ellis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m.; seconded by **Thomas Minotti**; vote 8-0; motion carried.

Diane Luther

Diane Luther
Recording Secretary – Board of Education
April 28, 2009