

MINUTES
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
BOARD OF EDUCATION
JUNE 8, 2009
THE LEARNING CENTER

Members Present: Cathy Bergstrom, Kathy Deprey, Beth Duffy, Jeanne Doerr, Paul Omichinski, Phil Penn, Raymond Sikora, Elaine Schiavone, Karen Sullivan

Absent: Joseph Arcuri

Also Present: Alan Beitman - Superintendent of Schools
Michael Landry - Assistant Superintendent
David Lenihan - Business Manager
Stephen Sikora - Student Representative
David Troiani - Student Representative

- I. Call to order - The regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting was held at The Learning Center, and was called to order at 7:32 pm by Chairman Paul Omichinski.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge was recited.

Retiring Staff Recognition - Mr. Beitman thanked Board of Education Student Representative, David Troiani for his two (2) years of service and presented him with a gift.

Mr. Beitman recognized Christie Wall, read her proclamation, and thanked her for her many years of service. The proclamation named June 9, 2009, as Christie Wall day in Region 10.

Mr. Beitman recognized Moira Jones, read her proclamation, and thanked her for her many years of service. The proclamation named July 2, 2009, as Moira Jones day in Region 10.

Mr. Beitman recognized Kathy Carter, read her proclamation, and thanked her for her many years of service. The proclamation named June 11, 2009, as Kathy Carter day in Region 10.

Mr. Beitman recognized Geraldine Sklars, read her proclamation, and thanked her for her many years of service. The proclamation named June 12, 2009, as Geraldine Sklars day in Region 10.

Mr. Beitman recognized Pat Bevivino, read her proclamation, and thanked her for her many years of service. The proclamation named June 10, 2009, as Pat Bevivino day in Region 10.

III. Communications

- A. Superintendent's Report – Mr. Beitman reported that the school year will end on June 22, 2009. The 8th grade graduation ceremony will be held on June 19 in the Lewis S. Mills gymnasium. The Lewis Mills graduation ceremony will be held on June 22 at the Warner Theater in Torrington. He also reported that he is still communicating with state officials regarding stimulus money. He learned last week that Region 10 might not be able to utilize stimulus money for the purchase of a special education vehicle. He stated that the first lockdown drills were very successful at all four (4) schools. The administration will be scheduling more lockdown drills next year.
- B. Lewis S Mills Student Representative Report – The student representatives reported that spring sports are wrapping up. Final exams are scheduled for the week of June 15th. Senior picnic was a good time. The Lewis S. Mills marching band marched in three (3) parades over the Memorial Day weekend. The first parade was in Burlington on Saturday; the second in Thomaston on Sunday

morning and the final parade was in Harwinton on Sunday afternoon. Senior prom was held at the Farmington Club and was very successful.

IV. Consent Agenda

- A. A **motion** to approve the following consent agenda with corrections (listed below) was made by Mrs. Duffy and was seconded by Mr. Sikora. Seven (7) in favor, two (2) abstentions (Mrs. Bergstrom and Ms. Sullivan), none opposed. Motion carries (7/0/2)

Approval of the minutes for the Regularly Scheduled Board of Education Meeting of May 11, 2009. Corrections: Under action, item D, a correction in the spelling of the word conduct. Page 3, paragraph 6, the spelling of Trooper Burke's name was corrected. Approval of financial report dated May 31, 2009

- B. Request for one-year leave of absence – Mr. Beitman had received a request for a one-year leave of absence from Mrs. Michele Gaffney, a kindergarten teacher at Harwinton Consolidated School. The leave was approved.

V. Public Participation – There was no public participation.

VI. Action

- A. Approval of the 09-10 Board of Education Meeting Schedule. – Mr. Beitman presented the 09-10 Board of Education Meeting Schedule for approval.

A **motion** to approve the 2009-2010 Board of Education meeting schedule was made by Mr. Sikora and was seconded by Mr. Penn. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)

- B. Approval of the Technology Plan for 2009-2012 - Mr. Sikora directed some questions to Mr. Leigh Pont, Region 10 Lead Technology Teacher, regarding software updating and budgetary concerns. When asked why Lake Garda School is not connected to CEN state network which provides free internet access to schools. Mr. Pont explained that each school district is allowed one connection per town. Therefore, the Burlington connection is utilized by the Har-Bur/Mills complex and the Harwinton connection is utilized by Harwinton Consolidated School. He further explained that the Governor may be proposing elimination of the free network connections. Mr. Pont was also asked how the plan of providing one (1) computer for each grade 5 student was going. Mr. Pont stated that it is very successful and teachers are very good about working technology into their curriculum. Mr. Sikora asked Mr. Pont's opinion of Region 10's network support consultant service. Mr. Pont remarked that Walker Systems is very effective and their service is very efficient and their expertise is outstanding. Mr. Sikora asked the status of Region 10's technology professional development programs. Mr. Pont said there are several professional development workshops held throughout the school year. They are very well attended and are very effective. The staff is very appreciative of the support and direction.

A **motion** to approve the 2009-2012 technology plan was made by Mr. Sikora and seconded by Ms. Sullivan. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)

- C. Approval of the Agreement Between Regional School District #10 and Regional School District #10 Custodial Employees, Local 1303-81 of Council #4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO – Mr. Beitman presented the new custodian’s contract. It is a two-year agreement. It represents a salary freeze in the first year and a 2% increase in the second year. Normally the custodians negotiate a three-year contract, but because of the hard financial times they negotiated an agreement for the next two years. Mr. Lenihan added that the union ratified this agreement and that there are very few changes from the current contract.

A **motion** to approve the contract between Regional School District and the Custodial Employees, Local 1303-81 of Council #4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO was made by Mrs. Duffy and seconded by Mr. Penn. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)

VII. Business

- A. Introduction of new Teacher Evaluation Document. First Review. – M. Landry introduced the new teacher evaluation document. He indicated that the district wanted a document that focused on teacher growth. A committee was formed and they reviewed documents used by other schools. The committee also worked on developing these documents with a professor from Central Connecticut State University, Tony Rigazzio-Digilio. Mr. Landry explained that part 1 of the packet is used to self-evaluate skill level and important skill sets. Part 2 is the observation form used by the principals. Part 3 outlines the four (4) stages in the induction phase (year 1). Part 4 is the activity reflection form and it is used by a teacher to report required activities to their evaluator which do not involve the evaluator’s presence. Part 5 is the teacher pre-observation form which is completed by the teacher prior to the observation. It provides an outline of the lesson for the evaluator.

Ms. Sullivan and Ms. Schiavone expressed concern over performing formal evaluations of tenured staff only every five (5) years. Mr. Landry will report back to the Board in January or February of 2010 on what is working and what is not working and will make further recommendations at that time. The TEVAL committee will continue to meet. Mr. Omichinski suggested the committee consider adding an evaluation piece on how a teacher relates to parents.

VIII. Board Committee Reports – There were no reports.

IX. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, August 24, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in The Learning Center.

X. Adjourn

A **motion** to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Sikora and was seconded by Ms. Sullivan. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)

The meeting ended at 9:01 pm.

APPROVED August 24, 2009