

REGION 9 BOARD OF EDUCATION

June 9, 2015

REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

Attendance: Region 9 Board of Education members: Colangelo, D'Agostino, Hancock, Hocker, King, Lewis

Administration: Josefsberg, McMorran, Sullivan, Pin, Geraghty, and school staff members

Others: Student Representative Sarah Jorgensen, a representative of the Redding Pilot/Easton Courier, and videographer

Mr. Hocker called the meeting of the Region 9 Board of Education to order at 7:02 pm in the Joel Barlow Media Center.

AGENDA ADDITION

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education add to the agenda an Executive Session to discuss contractual matters regarding an employee. D'Agostino, King. Approved. Unanimous.

STUDENT REPORT

Student Council Representative Sarah Jorgensen reported on school events, activities and achievements of sports teams.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion; move that the Region 9 Board of Education recess to executive session for a discussion of contractual matters regarding an employee. D'Agostino, King. Approved. Unanimous.

Dr. McMorran was invited to be present.

The meeting recessed at 7:07 pm

RECONVENE

The Chair reconvened the meeting in public session at 7:18 pm.

AGENDA ADDITION'

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education add to the agenda Approval of the contract for the Interim Head of School. Hancock, D'Agostino. Approved. Unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The May 4, 2015 minutes were approved at the May 26, 2015 meeting.

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve the minutes of the May 19, 2015 Tri-Board meeting as submitted. Hancock, Colangelo. Approved. 4-0-2. Mr. King and Mr. Lewis abstained.

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve the minutes of the May 26, 2015 meeting as corrected. D'Agostino, Lewis. Approved. 4-0-2. Mrs. Colangelo and Mr. King abstained.

Corrections: page 1, Approval of minutes, the second motion was to approve the minutes of the April, 21 2015 meeting; page 2, under Long Range Planning, last sentence should be changed to reflect the fact that the high school is currently experiencing a decline in enrollment that will continue for the next few years.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH INTERIM HEAD OF SCHOOL

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education authorize the Chairman to sign the contract with the Interim Head of School Gina Pin, pending final approval by legal counsel and on the terms discussed in executive session. Lewis, D'Agostino. Approved. Unanimous.

DISCUSSION OF JBHS JR. WRITING PORTFOLIO

The Writing Center Co-Directors Jonathan Budd and Jack Powers presented a review of the work of the Writing Center 2014015. The report included information on usage, portfolio scores, and progress made by students.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON OPERATING SURPLUS ALLOCATION

Mrs. Sullivan reported on the Board's options for the end-of-year surplus allocation:

1. Contribution to the Pension Fund, must be made prior to June 30, 2015;
2. Contribution to the Capital Reserve Fund, can be made at any time;
3. Contribution to the Health Insurance Reserve Fund, can be made at any time;
4. Return funds to the towns of Easton & Redding, can be made at any time.

Mrs. Sullivan anticipates an end-of-year unexpended balance of about \$60,000. The primary sources of the surplus were in the areas of transportation, certified salary and Worker's Compensation. Overages were experienced in the legal fees, tuition reimbursement, and homebound tutoring.

Mrs. Sullivan recommended the unexpended end-of-year balance be allocated to the Capital Reserve Fund. She noted that the Pension Fund is in good shape, currently 90% funded.

No action was taken at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Assistant Superintendent, Head of School: Dr. McMorran announced the following:

- Replacing Gina Pin as Assistant Principal will be Jennifer Desmarais;
- Jonathan Budd will be leaving Barlow for the position of Director of Curriculum & Instruction for Trumbull;
- Elaine Ciesielski is retiring and Jackie Garvey will be taking her place;
- Two teachers will be on maternity leave in the fall.

Dr. McMorran provided copies of the NEASC (New England Association of Schools & Colleges) summary; the final report is still in draft form. The overall report is very favorable and committees have been formed to review the recommendations.

Mr. Lewis asked about the disposition of outdated equipment. Dr. McMorran and Mrs. Sullivan explained that most equipment (laptops, etc.) get re-purposed within the school until they are deemed unusable. Equipment is kept for parts, scrapped or donated to others. Any proceeds from the sale of equipment are put back into the equipment account.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction: Dr. Pierson Ugol reported on the work being done on Writing Portfolios in the 4th and 8th grades. She also highlighted the summer work that will be done in the area of World Language and the redesign of the Library Media Centers in each of the schools that will create learning commons.

Director of Finance and Operation: Mrs. Sullivan reported that health insurance claims are averaging on target. The Stop-Loss coverage will include prescription drugs with a cost of \$37,000 for the five

schools. The Roof Project is on target with a mobilization date of June 18, 2015. The project should be completed in four weeks. A BAN (Bond Anticipation Note) sale is scheduled for July 16, 2015. This 6½-month BAN will end to coincide with end date of the other outstanding BANS.

Mrs. Sullivan requested that the Facilities & Fields Committee schedule a meeting to discuss capital projects, specifically the condition and repair of Barlow Drive.

The transportation fleet tax issue with Bethel is under review by the judge and a decision is due by July 8, 2015

Superintendent: Dr. Josefsberg expressed his gratitude to the members of the Region 9 Board of Education for their support during his four years serving as superintendent.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pension Committee: Mr. Hancock reported the committee met and discussed the status of investments. The committee may go out to bid for investments advisor services at some time in the next year.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Lewis reflected on Dr. Josefsberg's time with the Region 9 Board of Education.

Mr. Hocker expressed his appreciation of Dr. Josefsberg's tenure as superintendent of ER9.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: move that the meeting be adjourned. D'Agostino, King Approved. Unanimous.

The meetings were adjourned at 8:22 pm

Submitted by Mike D'Agostino, Region 9 Board of Education

Recorded by Mary Maday