

REGION 9 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
August 19, 2014  
REGULAR MEETING  
Minutes

Attendance: Region 9 Board of Education members: D'Agostino, Gombos (7:07pm), Hancock, Hocker, Johnston, King, Lewis  
Administration: Josefsberg, Sullivan, McMorran, Pierson Ugol, Czudak  
Others: one members of the community, 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve the minutes of the July 22, 2014 meeting as submitted. King, Hancock. Approved. Unanimous.**

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON STADIUM PROJECT AND ROOF PROJECT INVOICES

Three invoices were presented for approval for payment. The invoices reviewed and approved by the Financial Advisory Committee.

1. Clark Companies, \$10,725.00, Stadium Project, for work performed in July, primarily fencing and landscaping.
2. US Bank fee, \$500.00, Roof Project borrowing fee
3. Phoenix Advisors, \$4,500.00, Roof Project, related to borrowing.

Mrs. Gombos arrived, 7:07 pm, during the following discussion.

The Stadium Project is completed. The Building Inspector will furnish the Certificate of Occupancy as soon as he confirms the approval of the landscaping plantings by the Zoning Enforcement Officer. Speed bumps are scheduled to be installed this week.

**Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve invoices, as recommended by the FAC, for the Stadium Project, Clark Companies for \$10,725.00, and for the Roof Project, US Bank for \$500.00 and Phoenix Advisors for \$4,500.00. King, Johnston. Approved. Unanimous.**

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON PROPOSAL FOR PILOT BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Mrs. Sullivan presented a proposal from Chartwells to expand the breakfast offerings for students and the changes in the current breakfast offerings as a result of recent changed in federal law. The government has required adjustments in the size, calorie and salt content of breakfast a la carte/snack offerings in schools. As a result the sizes of the offerings will be reduced. Chartwells has proposed offering a complete breakfast meal to complement the a la carte/snack offerings. The complete meal offerings will qualify for federal reimbursement and will qualify for the free and reduced fee program for students who qualify.

Board members discussed the proposal. Mrs. Gombos expressed concern about the reduction in size and the cost that would be charged. She also suggested that participation in the federal lunch program be reconsidered by the board. Further discussion at a board meeting with Chartwells was requested.

Mrs. Gombos also inquired on the timing of the requested further information on the distribution of lunch program funds among the three districts which was requested during the Tri-board meeting. Mrs. Sullivan to provide the information for the next board meeting.

**Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education accept the Pilot Breakfast Program as proposed by Chartwells and discussed. D'Agostino, Lewis. Approved. 6-1. Mrs. Gombos voted against the motion.**

#### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Assistant Superintendent, Head of School: Dr. McMorran stated that the school is ready for students, and the staffing has been completed. Enrollment, as of now, stands at 1070 students. Teacher Chris Poulos' stint with the State Department of Education has been extended one year. Mr. Lewis commented that the extension of this appointment for a second year had not been presented to the Board. Mrs. Gombos suggested that Mr. Poulos be scheduled for a presentation to the Board of Education on his experience and the benefits of participation at the state level. She added that a report from Jonathan Budd, returning from his sabbatical, would also be helpful.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction: Mrs. Pierson Ugol reported the second year of the Cornerstone Institute was attended by 34 teachers across the three districts. Teachers who worked on professional development over the summer months will make a presentation of their work at the staff convocation on Tuesday, August 26.

Director of Finance and Operation: Mrs. Sullivan reported that heating oil was locked in at \$3.15/gal and Diesel fuel at \$3.21, a savings of about \$20,000 if usage remains the same. The Easton transportation fleet will be housed at the JBHS stadium parking lot during the day, with drivers transported to Bethel via one vehicle. This will result in a savings on diesel fuel. The three districts will participate in a state pilot program of the "uniform chart of accounts" for accounting purposes. The Roof project has been started. The noisy work is expected to be completed prior to the start of school. The entire project is anticipated to take six weeks. There will be some traffic flow restrictions in the front parking lot, but this has been planned not to interfere with the start and close of the school day.

Superintendent: Dr. Josefsberg invited board members to attend the staff convocation and breakfast on August 26. He indicated both the Redding and Easton boards began long range planning in light of the declining enrollment in both districts. In addition, the Redding board subcommittee, working with the Redding Board of Finance and Superintendent, drafted a proposal for change/relief for submission to CABA for consideration at the state level.

#### AGENDA ADDITION

**Motion: move to add to the agenda a discussion of allocation of unexpended budget balance. D'Agostino, Lewis. Approved. Unanimous.**

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit Committee: Mr. King indicated he and Mr. Johnston will meet with a representative of the auditing firm, McGladrey, to review the completed preliminary audit.

FAC: Mr. Lewis indicated the committee discussed and recommended the allocation of the unexpended budget to the Capital Reserve Fund.

Negotiations: Mrs. Gombos reported that the negotiation meetings are going well.

Pension: Mr. Hancock reported on a recent meeting with an explanation of investment styles and a report on the fees paid for service.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON UNEXPENDED BUDGET 2013-14**

**Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve the transfer of the 2013-14 unexpended balance, \$72,095, to the Capital Reserve Fund. Hancock, King. Approved. Unanimous.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dana Gray, Redding: Mrs. Gray spoke in agreement with Mrs. Gombos regarding the discontinuation of participation in the federal lunch program. She expressed concern about the reduced size of a la carte/snack items and suggested that Chartwells provide a sample of the portions and prices for the next meeting. She also asked Mr. McMorran if the bios of the new teachers would be posted on the website. He noted that it is underway.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meetings were adjourned at 8:24 pm

Submitted by Catherine Gombos, Board Secretary  
Recorded by Mary Maday

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 8/22/2014  
AT 10<sup>43</sup> A.M. ATTEST CH  
TOWN CLERK