

The Regional District 13 Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, April 9, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the library at Coginchaug Regional High School. Board members present: Mr. Currilin, Mrs. Flanagan (arrived at 7:35pm), Ms. Gara (arrived at 8:00pm), Mrs. Golschneider, Mr. Hennick, Mr. Hicks, Ms. Parsons, Dr. Shoemaker. Members absent: Mrs. Adams, Dr. Ochterski. Also present: Mrs. Viccaro, Mr. Melnik.

Mr. Hennick called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

Public Comment: Trish Dynia stated the Food Service workers have recently voted to join a union. She stated a food service employee was recently terminated before the union vote and would like the Board to look into this issue.

Next Board Meeting: The next Board of Education meeting will be April 23, 2008 at Korn School.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Dr. Shoemaker, the agenda was unanimously approved.

Dr. Shoemaker made a motion, second Mr. Currilin to approve the minutes to the March 26, 2008 Board of Education meeting. Dr. Shoemaker, Mr. Currilin, Ms. Parsons, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Hennick voted yes. Mrs. Golschneider abstained.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Viccaro reported she attended the Governor's School and Security Conference. She said a study has been done regarding the shooters on college campuses and it was noted that those students did not feel connected to their school. In light of this conference she would like to put two things back into the budget: the "Capturing Kids Hearts" program and the late bus from Memorial School. She said these are two things that help students feel connected to their school. Mrs. Viccaro said putting these two things back in the budget would not change the bottom line.

Herb Shepard, Director of the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts, has invited the Board to attend the dress rehearsal for the musical they are putting on. Four students from the high school will be in the production. The rehearsal will be on May 6 at 4:30pm.

Mrs. Viccaro and Mr. Melnik held three informational sessions for the public to discuss the budget. Mrs. Viccaro also attended PTO meetings to talk about the budget.

There will be a presentation at the capital on May 22 on the program that was also presented in the District called "The Stranger You Know". Board members are invited to attend.

Mrs. Viccaro attended the Middletown Rotary Club luncheon that honored CRHS student Natalie Sabino.

Mrs. Viccaro attended the John Lyman School Grade 1/2 concert. The students did a terrific job.

Set Graduation Date

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Golschneider, the Board of Education unanimously approved to set the graduation date for June 18, 2008.

Camp Jewell Field Trip Request

On a motion by Mr. Currilin, second Mrs. Flanagan, the Board of Education unanimously approved the Grade 7 Camp Jewell Field Trip Request for June 2-3, 2008.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Golschneider, the Board of Education unanimously approved to adjourn to attend the Public Hearing on the 2008-09 education budget held in the auditorium.

The Board meeting reconvened at 9:30pm.

The Board discussed the high school's activity fee that was mentioned at the public hearing. The activity fee was established from a request from people asking that the people who use the service should pay for it. Several Board members were not in favor of the fee and would like to make it part of the budget discussions next year.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mr. Currlin, the Board of Education unanimously approved to go to the District Meeting on May 5, 2008 with a \$33,565,175 gross Regional District 13 education budget for school year 2008-09 followed by a referendum on May 6, 2008.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Golschneider, the Board of Education unanimously approved to adjourn.