

The Regional School District 13 Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, June 13, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the music room at Brewster School. Board members present: Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Ms. Gara, Mr. Hennick, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski, Ms. Parsons, Mr. Renninghoff. Member absent: Mr. Fulton. Also present: Mrs. Mangini, Mrs. Viccaro.

Mr. Hennick called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

Public Comment: Karen Buckley Bates of Durham encouraged the Board to look at scheduling at the high school. For the second year in a row her son has had conflicts in scheduling core classes. The students need to be able to take the classes they need. The block scheduling makes it more difficult. Several students are having an issue. She knows it will not get fixed for next year but she would like options explored before her other children get to this level.

Mr. Hauser explained that because of the small size of Coginchaug, many of the upper level core classes only have one section. Top level students often have trouble scheduling classes. They look at many configurations of the scheduling and choose the one that negatively impacts the least amount of students.

Dom Delvecchio of Durham told the Board about an accident that happened last year in the gymnasium of the high school involving his daughter. A pitching machine fell onto her leg and severely injured her leg. Mr. Delvecchio said the pitching machine was dangerously placed last year and he recently saw it leaning in the same location this year while at an event. He is concerned that it is not stored and locked up. He shared pictures of it leaning against the wall of the gym.

Michael Doyle said he recently sent additional materials to Board members. He read a prepared statement regarding his experience with sports and coaching at the high school. He has been frustrated and disappointed in the administration's response. He has requested a forum for parents and is supportive of the Positive Coaching Alliance.

The next Board meeting will be held on July 2, 2012 at Coginchaug High School, not July 3rd as listed.

On a motion by Mrs. Flanagan, second Mrs. Adams, the agenda was unanimously approved as corrected.

Mr. Renninghoff made a motion, second Mrs. Flanagan, to approve the minutes to the meeting of May 23, 2012 as corrected. Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Mr. Hennick, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski, Ms. Parsons, Mr. Renninghoff voted yes. Ms. Gara abstained.

Communications: Mr. Renninghoff mentioned that he and several other Board members received a copy of the letter regarding coaching that was signed by several parents.

Ms. Gara is concerned about the pitching machine and asked that someone be sure it is stored properly.

Mrs. Adams asked Mr. Doyle whether he spoke with the Athletic Director, Mr. Lombardo about his coaching concerns. He said he spoke to him and to Mr. Hauser.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Viccaro introduced Connor Bates. Connor is looking for the Board's approval of his Eagle Scout project; a gazebo that will be used as an outdoor classroom at Brewster School. Connor needs to raise \$5,000-\$7,000 to build the gazebo and he would like to ask for donations from the Brewster School parents. He is discussing his design with Mrs. Heckler and with Mr. Francis and will go before the Planning and Zoning Commission if he needs their approval.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Boyle, the Board unanimously approved Conner Bates Eagle Scout project of building a gazebo at Brewster School.

Mrs. Viccaro mentioned that Coginchaug and Lyman have both been selected as testing sites next year for the National Assessment of Educational Progress. The testing is only one day in February.

Mrs. Viccaro said athletes at Coginchaug are currently completing the sports survey. Results will be shared with the Board.

Mrs. Viccaro distributed copies of the Board & Administrator newsletter, as well as an article and survey regarding full day kindergarten. She also distributed a listing of the Senior Award winners.

Mrs. Viccaro said the District has received several donations over the last year. They include the scoreboard at the new athletic facility donated by the Benchwarmers, in-kind work on the press box (electrical, carpentry and stone work); an Eagle Scout project of benches and trees at the high school, an iPad and accessories from a private foundation and trees on the Pickett Lane campus donated and planted by the Garden Club (supported by other donations).

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Adams, the Board of Education unanimously accepted the donations presented.

Business Manager's Report: Mrs. Mangini said a few procedural changes have taken place in the District. The open enrollment process is taking place for insurance. All employees are being sent salary reduction agreements. This information will clearly show what deductions are being made for the year. We are implementing a purchasing card program through the State of Connecticut. It should be in place by August. The two-year basic supply bid was again won by WB Mason. They are going to match pricing from the State bid as well as their bid pricing. The Finance Committee discussed and is going to be recommending using an automated system for acquiring substitutes beginning next year. The office is starting to work on the year end financials and prepare for the auditors.

CT School Nurse of the Year: Mr. Hennick read a proclamation honoring Joanne Nytech, in recognition of her selection as the CT School Nurse of the Year.

CT High School State Coaches Award: Mr. Hennick read a proclamation honoring Karen Kean, the boys' tennis coach, in honor of her receiving the CT High School State Coaches Award.

Positive Coaching Alliance: David Mahery of the Positive Coaching Alliance gave an overview of the program. They offer several live or on-line workshops for the District to pick from. The goal is to support teams winning but to teach life lessons as well. They offer workshops for coaches and for parents. New coaches would receive the initial program and then refresher programs would be held for returning coaches. The cost of the program is \$2,400 a year for three workshops or \$1,050 a year for one workshop. There is an additional book charge of \$6.00 per person attending. The number of people enrolled is totally up to the District, it can be 20 or 200. Mr. Mahery was asked to send a listing of the CT schools that use the program as well as a complete fee schedule to Mrs. Viccaro.

Mr. Renninghoff asked if there is any way to measure a coach's performance to see if they did or did not change their behavior after attending this program.

2012-13 District Goals: On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Ms. Gara, the Board unanimously approved the District Goals for 2012-13.

Healthy Food Certification: Mrs. Mangini said the District joined the program last year and she is recommending that we continue.

Mark Basil, Food Service Director, said that vending machine purchases have been down this year but other areas are up. The Federal guidelines are changing again and he feels that even if we were not a

part of this program the restrictions on foods allowed to be served would continue to go up. Exception requests were filed at the beginning of the year for fundraising activities. He does not know what impact the program has had on fundraising in the District but he has not heard anything negative.

Mrs. Adams and Mr. Renninghoff are not in favor of the restrictions imposed by the program.

Mrs. Flanagan made a motion, second Ms. Gara, to continue participation in the Healthy Food Certification Program. Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Ms. Gara, Mr. Hennick, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski, and Ms. Parsons voted yes. Mrs. Adams and Mr. Renninghoff were opposed.

Milk and Lunch Prices: Mr. Basil explained that next year the cost of lunch at the lower levels would be less than the Federal reimbursement for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program. It has to be higher than the reimbursement level. He recommends that they raise the lunch price to \$3.00 at all schools. The lunch price at the elementary school has not changed in five years. The price of milk would not change.

Mrs. Flanagan made a motion, second Mrs. Adams, to approve increasing the cost of student lunches to \$3.00 at the elementary schools. The cost of milk will remain at \$.50. Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Ms. Gara, Mr. Hennick, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Ochterski, and Ms. Parsons voted yes. Mr. Renninghoff was opposed.

Music Dept. Field Trip Request to Myrtle Beach: On a motion by Mrs. Adams, second Ms. Parsons, the Board of Education unanimously approved the Music Department Field Trip to Myrtle Beach, N.C. from April 11-15, 2013.

On a motion by Mr. Renninghoff, second Mrs. Flanagan, the Board of Education unanimously approved to move into Executive Session to conduct the Lyman Principal Interviews. Members of the Principal Search Committee in attendance were invited into the Executive Session.

The Board moved back into regular session.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Flanagan, the Board of Education unanimously approved Thomas Ford as the Principal of John Lyman Elementary School with a start date on or before August 1, 2012 and a salary to be determined by the Personnel Policy Committee.

Policy Committee: Mr. Hicks presented several policies for approval. Some questions still remained regarding the changes to the Use of RSD13 Properties 1330, so this policy will be finalized at the July 2nd meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mrs. Flanagan, the Board of Education unanimously approved the changes to the following policies: Private Tutoring 4134, Non-resident Students 5118 and Family Medical Leave 4151/4251.

Finance Committee: Mrs. Flanagan said the Finance Committee met this evening. Mrs. Mangini presented the Committee with information on Aesop, an automated substitute placement program.

On a motion by Mrs. Flanagan, second Mr. Hicks, the Board of Education unanimously approved the use of Aesop for the 2012-2013 school year.

A motion was made by Mr. Hicks, second Dr. Ochterski, to add Field House Committee to the agenda. It was unanimously approved by the Board.

Field House Committee: A discussion was held as to the make-up of the Committee.

On a motion by Mrs. Flanagan, second Mrs. Adams, the following people were unanimously elected to serve on the Field House Committee: Tom Hennick, Kerrie Flanagan, Jeremy Renninghoff, Bob Fulton,

Kevin Boyle, and Randall Luther. Rob Francis and Susan Viccaro will serve on the Committee as non-voting members.

On a motion by Mrs. Flanagan, second Mr. Hennick, the Board of Education unanimously approved to adjourn at 11:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Gaudreau