

The Regional School District 13 Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, January 9, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the music room at Lyman School. Board members present: Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Buckheit, Mrs. Flanagan, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hicks, Ms. Parsons, Mr. Renninghoff. Also present: Mr. Melnik, Mrs. Viccaro. Absent: Mrs. Fronc, Dr. Ochterski.

Mrs. Flanagan called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. with the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Renninghoff.

Public Comment: No Public Comment.

Mrs. Adams made a motion, Mrs. Boyle second, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Buckheit, Mrs. Flanagan, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hicks, Ms. Parsons voted yes. Mr. Renninghoff voted no.

Superintendent's Award Students: Mrs. Viccaro presented the 2012-2013 Superintendent's Award winners, Lauren Trombetta and Jeff Giantonio with gifts from the school district. Mrs. Viccaro shared each of the student's accomplishments that led them to being selected as the award winners.

Teacher of the Year: Mrs. Viccaro on behalf of the District presented Kathy Bottini , the 2013 Teacher of the Year with a gift of appreciation from the District. Mrs. Bottini is a social worker at Strong and Coginchaug. Mrs. Bottini was instrumental in making the Community Round Up this year a huge success. She is quiet by nature and supports students and parents behind the scenes. Mrs. Flanagan along with other Board members congratulated Mrs. Bottini.

Communications: Mrs. Flanagan deferred the Proclamations for Previous Board Members to the February 13, 2013 Board of Education Meeting.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Viccaro provided the Board with information she obtained from a symposium she attended on Monday, January 7, 2013. Approximately 850 people ranging from school officials and police to town officials met at the Aqua Turf in Southington, CT looking for advise from national school security experts. Some of the topics presented included making buildings more secure, preparing for a crisis, responding to the incident, and recovery from the crisis. Mrs. Viccaro stated that the next step in our District is to have lockdown drills that are not surprises. Students and staff will be walked through a variety of senarios. through the use of the intercom in each building. Board members felt that practice of various drills would make the students more comfortable by providing them with explicit directions. Mr. Hicks asked Mrs. Viccaro to be proactive and go beyond 2 drills a year.Mrs. Viccaro also stated that she is obtaining information from building administrators on areas they feel should have heightened security.

Board members inquired what was being done about the safety of children and staff in the portables and asked Mrs. Viccaro to have a proposal prepared for the January 23rd Board of Education meeting.

Mrs. Buckheit mentioned Governor Malloy's expert panel that will review current policy and make specific recommendations in the areas of school safety, mental health, and gun violence prevention and asked if mental health was discussed at the symposium. Mrs. Viccaro stated that the topic was talked about and she has shared the information with Mrs. Emory. Mrs. Emory in turn will share this information with her staff.

Discussion took place among Board Members to keep the lines of communication open between the town officials, police and Board of Education.

Mrs. Viccaro handed out to Board Members an updated Organizational Chart including FTE. Mr. Fulton also asked Mrs. Viccaro to provide job descriptions of Dr. Berry, Mrs. Emory and Mr. Melnik. Mrs. Viccaro will email this information to Board members.

Mrs. Viccaro stated that she sent a letter to parents that the District will be surveying students at all levels and their parents regarding issues of bullying in school. The results of the surveys will be posted on line in early February and results will be shared with the Board of Education at that time also.

Old Business: Mrs. Flanagan addressed a couple of follow up items. Mrs. Boyle as requested to email Board members with the names of committee members on CIAC and Mrs. Adams asked to send thank you notes to the BKPTA and JLPA.

New Business: Discussion took place in regard to the Oceanography Field Trip request. Mr. Hicks stated that details were lacking, the objectives were not clear, and the time frame was not clear.

A motion was made by Mrs. Boyle, second Mrs. Adams to approve the Oceanography Field Trip request. Mrs. Buckheit, Mrs. Flanagan, Mr. Fulton, and Ms. Parsons voted yes. Mr. Hicks and Mr. Renninghoff voted no.

Mrs. Flanagan stated that since this trip takes place every year it should be added to the field trip list.

Committee Reports: Personnel Policies Committee: Ms. Parsons stated negotiations have begun with both the cafeteria workers and the custodians. Ms. Parsons said there are 3 more sessions planned for each union

Finance Committee: Mr. Fulton reported that the committee is in the process of interviewing utilization study firms and will hopefully have a proposal ready in time for the 2013-2014 budget.

Building/ Grounds/Transportation: Mrs. Boyle reported that the committee had a tour of Memorial School prior to the Board meeting. Committee members along with Mr. Brough discussed items that needed improvement and security with an emphasis on the portable classroom. Mrs. Flanagan stated she appreciated Mr. Brough taking the time to make himself available.

Communication Committee: Mr. Fulton reported that they have a number of projects including enhancing the BOE on the website. He asked committee chairs to email Mrs. Flanagan their major accomplishment and priorities for the next three months by January 20, 2013 for Mrs. Flanagan's quarterly report that will be posted on the website by January 30, 2013.

Other Committees: Mr. Renninghoff reported that the Field House Committee has decided on an option and will pass it on to the Finance Committee. Many thanks to community members Mr. Boyle and Mr. Luther for their guidance during this process.

Mr. Hicks attended the Chamber meeting and had a chance to listen to Mr. Sean Hayes, the new owner of Powder Ridge. Mr. Hayes is anxious to get started on programs for students. Mr. Hicks also reported that TEMS met in December and the budget is being formulated. On

January 10th Mr. Hicks will be attending a meeting at ACES where the topic will be school security.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Follow-Up:

1. Security proposal on portables due next Board meeting
2. Job descriptions for Director of Curriculum Instruction and Achievement, Pupil Personnel Director, and Business Manager to be emailed to Board members

On a motion by Mr. Hicks, second Mr. Renninghoff, the Board of Education unanimously approved to adjourn at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Johnson