

Ray Sulich Jr., called the Canterbury Board of Education to order at 7:40 p.m. on August 14, 2007 in the media center at Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School, 45 Westminster Road, Canterbury, Ct. 06331

IN ATTENDANCE: Ray Sulich Jr., Carl Thurlow, Heather DeLuca, Sally Peavey, Kimberly Coombs, Aaron Spruance and Dean Toepfer, Acting Superintendent

ABSENT: Pat Arnio

ADDITIONS AND/OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

Motion: To add under 8. New Business item g. School preparation for the 2007/2008 school year.

By: Sally Peavey

Seconded: Carl Thurlow

Vote: All in favor

RECOGNITION OF AND COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the meeting minutes of July 10, 2007 as presented. Under "Distributions" the IT report should be clarified to read "The information technology status report."

By: Heather DeLuca

Seconded: Sally Peavey

Vote in favor: Heather DeLuca, Sally Peavey, Ray Sulich Jr., Carl Thurlow, Aaron Spruance

Abstained: Kimberly Coombs

COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

We received a check from Kiducation for \$108.00. This check represents proceeds generated from our donation containers for the 1st qtr. 2007. Please visit the website at www.kiducation.org to learn more about the exciting ways we have contributed to the community. We thank the community for their contributions.

Educational Assistant – Mecky Chappelka has resigned due to moving out of the area.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/POSSIBLE ACTION

Bus gates and transportation costs was discussed. New legislation will increase cost during budget preparation. A new type of oil for emissions must be used on the buses which will cost approximately \$500 more per year. Crossing gates must be added to the front of the buses adding \$200 per bus which have to be installed by September 1, 2008. Also demands on our new buses will add approximately \$10,000 to the cost of each bus.

2007/2008 Budget Update: The budget remains the same. No new positions have been added. The referendum is scheduled for 8/22/07.

Dean spoke about the CIP 2007/2008 budget update. The buses are in for \$150,000. The CES blacktop has \$33,750. The balance for the blacktop in 2004/2005 was \$33,750 which hasn't been used yet. The budget has not passed for 2007/2008 for an additional \$33,750 totaling \$67,500. Of that total we could get a substantial part of the blacktop done. The cafeteria replacement tables have a shortage of \$198.00. The carpet and tile replacement has a balance of \$12,083.00. The emergency lighting has a balance of \$9,399.86. One school still has lighting work to be done. The roof is done and we came up \$155.00 short. The CES drainage still has \$20,000 which should be the first step before the CES blacktop. The gym floor at CES bill is \$9,800. They built the floor up just enough so the benches pulled out from the wall. The Eng. Study Air Hand/Heat System has \$9,372.50. The well has a balance of \$1,755.00. We need to talk and possibly write a letter with what should be done with that balance. The asbestos removal has a balance of \$32,135. Asbestos is a code violation which we can get back a percentage from the state but has to be filed for. The technology upgrades has \$3,175.34.

2006/2007 Budget Update: Final figures in the budget will show a surplus of \$163,857 which will be returned to the town.

Kindergarten Bus Routes: We are adding one more bus route at noon time. If we did not, students would be arriving 10-15 minutes later in the afternoon. This would mean our younger students would be arriving home in the dark for a couple of months during the year. The additional cost is approximately \$3,000.

Personnel Hires: Elisabeth Stake – Baldwin Guidance Counselor. Bob Gernhard from part-time to full-time maintenance worker. Alexis Korreкта as a full-time temporary maintenance worker. Lauren Parlato is a summer camp instructional assistant. Janice Thurlow as business administrator from 25 hours to 30 hours and once the budget is passed her hours will increase to 40 hours per week. Tamatha Poehler as an instructional assistant. We are still looking for a Speech Pathologist, two long-term substitute teachers in special education and a Spanish teacher.

Our 2007 CMT test results are positive in most grades. Canterbury is strong in math but could improve in reading and writing.

The Lions club painted the pillars and framing in the library. The Boy Scouts and Highway Department painted the flag pole. Everyone did such a nice job. Thank you to all that helped.

OLD BUSINESS

Ray Sulich Jr. briefed on the superintendent search. It seems that there was a computer glitch in the informational search. The Focus group will meet on September 13, 2007 after school with staff and the community at 7 pm. This will be advertised. 24 potential candidates looked into the search and we have 10 resumes.

We have a \$107,000 grant for our school readiness program for preschool. Poorer families will have preference. There are 24 slots which will be income-based. Parents will have to provide transportation. A part of this grant will be allotted to make our playground more accessible for the 3 – 4 years olds.

Second reading – Series 5000s policies partial. Dean Toepfer read revisions made by the Board of Education the in final reading of the group of policies.

Motion: To approve the 2nd partial reading status of the series 5000 to 5141.21 (i) for adoption.
By: Sally Peavey
Seconded: Aaron Spruance
Vote: All in favor

NEW BUSINESS

Dean Toepfer spoke about the EASTCONN Arts pilot program. This is for students with a high interest in the arts. This is an all-day program costing approximately \$3,000. Transportation will add another \$700 to \$1,200 for this year. These figures are attainable because EASTCONN received a grant.

Motion: To join the ACT Arts Magnet High School Pilot Program for 1 year.
By: Kimberly Coombs
Seconded: Sally Peavey
Vote: All in favor

The CABA Convention is coming up. This convention has been helpful in the past. The registration forms must be in the office by September 1, 2007. If CABA receives them before Sept. 7, 2007 there is a cost savings.

Dean Toepfer is recommending the healthy food certification in order to receive state reimbursement.

Motion: To become part of the Healthy Food Certification program from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008.
By: Sally Peavey
Seconded: Heather DeLuca
Vote: All in favor

Ray Sulich Jr. spoke about the reviewing public comment guidelines policy 9325(a). He said most of these come from Roberts Rules and State Statues which will help protect the board and the publics rights. Ray suggested that the board strike the ones they didn't like and will look at the remaining and resubmit at the next board meeting.

Dean Toepfer spoke about the Dental Program for PK & K & Grade 6. These grades will be for screenings and referrals. Assist in dental classroom education by serving as a resource for educational material and/or nursing staff in-service workshops in Grades Pre K through 6.

Motion: To approve the Northeast District Department of Health Service Program.
By: Aaron Spruance
Seconded: Kimberly Coombs
Vote: All in favor

The Board of Education approved four sections of Grade 1 for the 2007/2008 school year.

DISTRIBUTIONS:

The honor rolls for Woodstock and Griswold High Schools for the 4th quarter noted our Canterbury students who made them.

RECOGNITION OF AND COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

None

Motion: To adjourn at 9:12 p.m.
By: Carl Thurlow
Seconded: Heather DeLuca
Vote: All in favor

Respectfully submitted:

Heather DeLuca, Secretary to the Board