

Minutes approved by the BOE on February 26, 2008

Sally Peavey called the Canterbury Board of Education to order at 7:03 p.m. on February 20, 2008 in the media center at Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School, 45 Westminster Road, Canterbury, Ct. 06331

IN ATTENDANCE: Larry Simons, Heather DeLuca, Sally Peavey, Kimberly Coombs, Amy Labbe, Ray Sulich Jr. and Janet Tyler, Superintendent

Absent: Tom O'Rourke

ADDITIONS AND/OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

The board heard comments from an audience of visitors.

ROUTINE BUSINESS ITEMS

Approval of Minutes – January 22, 2008

In unfinished and ongoing business of the January 22, 2008 minutes it was omitted that Amy Labbe agreed to join Larry Simons as community (outreach) liaison. Amy also expressed an interest assisting anyone else who needed it.

Motion: To approve the amendments of the January 22, 2008 meeting minutes.
By: Heather DeLuca
Seconded: Larry Simons
Vote: All in favor
Abstained: Ray Sulich, Jr.

Motion: To approve the meeting minutes of January 22, 2008.
By: Heather DeLuca
Seconded: Kim Coombs
Vote: All in favor
Abstained: Ray Sulich, Jr.

Board of Education Committee/Meeting Reports

Many of the board members and Superintendent Tyler went to a meeting at EASTCONN where the commissioner of education and representatives from CABA were there to hear about the proposal for high school reform. Some additional requirements for high school students are they will be required to take Chemistry and 2 years of a language. In certain classes they would have to take end of year exams.

Ray reported on the facilities meeting. The alarm system testing began today at DHBMS. There are no smoke detectors in the cafeteria. Tom Millard is looking into that to see if they can be added without any major problems. It was noted that asbestos removal must be done in the summer, when students are out of school. Radon testing was done in the Music Room. The 1st test was bad however the 2nd and 3rd passed. The playground drainage was discussed. One way to detect a crack in the pipe was to use a "smoker". Athletic fields have \$10,000 in the CIP and will be used for safety related issues. Lawn care was discussed and we will have to invest in a well for the care of the lawn. Green products are now used in the rest rooms in both schools. Next meeting is the first Thursday at 6:30 p.m. of the month in the superintendent's office.

An engineering study was done that said what we needed to do to improve air quality. Outside air dampers was one item that would accomplish that task.

Administrators' Reports

A new report for the CES, DHBMS and Pupil Services was included. These reports indicate what's going on, and what the students are doing at both schools.

PROPOSED 2008-2009 BUDGET REVIEW:

Janice Thurlow reported: The advisor's line item has added 9 coaches to the budget. The cost is \$10,000. All of the other increases are contractual. Benefits are budgeted for a 10% increase. Utilities cost is up. We are budgeted for \$3.00 a gallon for fuel. Text books will be needed for Social Studies.

We are anticipating some transitional needs for students with special needs going from half day to full day. The increase would be one special education teacher at the elementary school. More emphasis will be on behavioral needs.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/POSSIBLE ACTION

Enrollment keeps going up.

CAPT scores have 4 areas of testing. NCLB goals are very high in Math 94%, Science 87%, Reading 87%, and Writing 92%. Superintendent Tyler said these are very good scores.

In-school suspension legislation states that a student cannot be suspended out of school unless they are a threat to themselves or other students. The state mandates this, but does not fund it. A substitute teacher would be called for any in-school suspensions.

Budget updates are still very good. We are still not frozen. We have been able to purchase some Science kits. We did have some technology woes that have been addressed. The phone problems are being taken care of on a daily basis. Ray suggested looking into voice over IP. Janet stated that since a great deal of money was put into the system a few years ago, we will stay with the present system. The voice over IP is an option in the future.

The Board will go over the first read of Goals and Objectives at the next meeting.

UNFINISHED AND ONGONG BUSINESS

The audit for the cafeteria was positive. The school had problems with the school lunch program. This has been on-going for about 3 years. The board allocated some funding 3 years ago to the cafeteria to get them out of the red. At that time our major concern is that we don't want to make this an on-going situation. We want this to be a break even situation. The main problems had to do with balancing at the end of the year. We are going to look at some of the recommendations the auditors had. The biggest problem was not doing an inventory. We will also lock out any date typed incorrectly using Quickbooks if the date occurs in the past.

BOE Committee and Liaison Assignments: Amy Labbe was added to the communications and outreach group as well as Larry Simons.

Arts Magnet School participation was discussed by Superintendent Tyler. They are asking 2 – 4 slots per year and to keep adding 2 seats until a total of 8 is reached. Presently we have one student there. We will revisit this if we find more of our students are interested.

NEW BUSINESS

A letter of resignation was received from Dawn Paglerini effective June 30, 2008.

Motion: To table the acceptance of the resignation.
By: Kim Coombs
Seconded: Heather DeLuca
Vote yes: Kim Coombs, Heather DeLuca, Larry Simons, Sally Peavey, Amy Labbe
Vote no: Ray Sulich, Jr.

RECOGNITION OF AND COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

The board heard comments from an audience of citizens.

Board Member, Amy Labbe left the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: To adjourn into executive session at 9:27 p.m. for the purpose of personnel contract negotiations.
By: Heather DeLuca
Seconded: Larry Simons
Vote: All in favor

Board Member, Larry Simmons left the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Heather DeLuca,, Ray Sulich and Sally Peavey adjourned from executive session at 10:30 p.m.

Vote: no quorum

Respectfully submitted:

Heather DeLuca, Secretary to the Board