

Ray Sulich Jr., Chairperson, called the Canterbury Board of Education to order at 7:02 p.m. on September 12, 2006 in the media center at Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School, 45 Westminster Road, Canterbury, Ct. 06331

IN ATTENDANCE: Heather DeLuca, Sally Peavey, Kimberly Coombs, Ray Sulich Jr., Carl Thurlow, Aaron Spruance, and Dr. Sandra Suplicki, Superintendent

Absent: Pat Arnio

#### **ADDITIONS AND/OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Motion: To accept the agenda of September 12, 2006.  
By: Kim Coombs  
Seconded: Aaron Spruance

Ray Sulich, Jr. added Item 3. Chairman's Comments and then renumbering from 4 down. Under New Business letter d. was added to read "Appointment of Board Members to Various Agencies." Under executive session add letter b. Discussion of a personnel matter. Dr. Suplicki asked that the order be changed to a. Discussion of a personnel matter and b. Superintendent's Evaluation.

Motion: To accept the agenda of September 13, 2006 as amended.  
By: Kim Coombs  
Seconded: Aaron Spruance  
Vote: All in favor

#### **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT**

Ray Sulich Jr. mentioned that there was some finger pointing done on Saturday when volunteers were spreading mulch at CES. The rumor was that it was the PTO's fault that the playground was not ready for the opening of school. Ray made it clear that it is the district's responsibility to make our facility ready, safe and operational every day of school. We have nothing but thanks for all of the PTO volunteers and every individual that came out and gave their time and effort.

#### **RECOGNITION OF AND COMMENTS FROM VISITORS**

The Board heard comments from the audience.

A 10 minute recess was called by Ray Sulich Jr. so that the Board could review a report from the insurance company regarding the CES playground.

MOTION: To recess at 7:29 p.m. to read and review the report from the insurance company on the CES playground.  
By: Kim Coombs  
Seconded: Aaron Spruance  
Vote: All in favor.

Ray Sulich, Jr. called the meeting back to order at 7:40 p.m.

MOTION: To add an additional item 8. e. to the agenda "Discussion of the Playground Report" then renumber the agenda.  
By: Aaron Spruance  
Seconded: Sally Peavey

Ray thought that it should become item 5. on the agenda and then renumbered.

MOTION: To add an additional item number to the agenda which would be new item 5. "Discussion of the Playground Report" then renumbering the rest.  
By: Aaron Spruance  
Seconded: Sally Peavey  
Vote: All in favor.

Discussion of the condition of the playground and the playscape ensued. A Wednesday morning walk through was planned for 8 a.m. by Dr. Suplicki, Principal Ferguson, Ray Sulich, Jr, and Sally Peavey.

MOTION: To close the playscape until after tomorrow's inspection.  
By: Aaron Spruance  
Seconded: Kim Coombs  
Vote: All in favor.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion: To approve the minutes of 7/31/06.  
By: Heather DeLuca  
Seconded: Sally Peavey  
Vote: All in favor.  
Abstained: Aaron Spruance

Motion: To approve the minutes of 8/8/06.  
By: Sally Peavey  
Seconded: Heather DeLuca

Under Distributions it should be clarified that the first line should read "On a high note, the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter honor roll stated that 15 out of 60 made honors from Griswold High School. Also on Distributions, Kim Coombs noted that the line "There is a big push on health and wellness. We always keep learning, said Dr. Suplicki", should be removed.

Vote: All in favor.

Motion: To approve the minutes of 8/8/06 as amended.  
By: Sally Peavey  
Seconded: Heather DeLuca  
Vote: All in favor

Motion: To approve the special meeting minutes of 8/28/06.  
By: Kim Coombs  
Seconded: Sally Peavey

It was noted that Aaron Spruance was at this meeting and it was not noted.

Motion: To approve the special meeting minutes of 8/28/06 as amended.  
Vote: All in favor  
Abstained: Carl Thurlow

### **CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATIONS**

Kim volunteered to write the Board article for the town newsletter.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/POSSIBLE ACTION**

Dr. Suplicki noted that the Mohegan Sun donated ten computers and monitors. Letters of thanks have been sent. Removal of the old gym floor is scheduled for October 6, 2006. Waste Management donated a dumpster. The floor is to be delivered on September 18, 2006. Installation will begin October 10. The scoreboard was also ordered.

The budget update shows that 71.4% of the budget has been encumbered so far. However, Dr. Suplicki stated that this is not a true picture. Specifically the telephone, trash, administrators' payment in lieu of insurance and administrators' contracted professional development have not been encumbered. Transportation appears to be in better shape. However, the amount for fuel is based on what was spent last year, which she believes, is a low figure. We are locked in for oil at the moment but not diesel. Diesel is too volatile at this time. In addition, parts for the buses need to be replaced throughout the year. The amount budgeted is less than what was spent last year.

CMT was briefly discussed and will be tabled for a later meeting. Dr. Suplicki however did say that this CMT testing was a different generation of test. She explained that there are a lot of factors to consider. For instance, girls generally do better than boys on the CMT testing. She explained if you have 60 children with 20 girls and 40 are boys you will have a different profile and test scores than if you had 40 girls and 20 boys.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Motion: To table the second reading of revised policies 9100, 9122 and 9221.  
By: Kim Coombs  
Seconded: Sally Peavey  
Vote: All in favor

Dr. Suplicki noted that most of the NFA graduates are going on to college.

Dr. Suplicki stated that we have not had a response to our letter to EASTCONN. Aaron Spruance was going to think about being the EASTCONN Representative.

Motion: To table the job description for the Accounts Payable Clerk.  
By: Kim Coombs  
Seconded: Heather DeLuca  
Vote: All in favor

Dr. Suplicki gave a slide show on the donations from Staples. There were pencils, pens, eraser boards, chairs, markers, etc. The gym was full of much needed supplies. It was all divided up among all of the classrooms.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Motion: To table the first reading status – Continuance of Series 4000s.  
By: Kim Coombs  
Seconded: Sally Peavey  
Vote: All in favor

Dr. Suplicki said there is a new program called “The School Nutrition Standards and Healthy Food & Beverage in Schools”. If we sign on there is extra reimbursement for the food service program as well as added nutritional benefits.

Motion: To authorize and approve the signing of the SDE.  
By: Sally Peavey  
Seconded: Aaron Spruance  
Vote: All in favor

The consolidated grant is considerably less this year than last. This is an entitlement program from the State that requires Board approval.

Motion: To approve the ESEA Federal Consolidated Grant for 06/07 school year.  
By: Sally Peavey  
Seconded: Carl Thurlow  
Vote: All in favor

Aaron Spruance asked if there could be possible placement of board members to various agencies. Dr. Suplicki said that as a board, we have not been very active with CAFE. We use their services and go to their workshops but we really haven't been active in terms of someone being on their Board of Directors. A liaison from our board is really needed. Kim volunteered to be the CAFE Representative. Heather is active with the Baldwin PTO and cannot commit to another meeting per week but can get the minutes. Sally will help with the CES PTO. Heather could be the primary and Sally could be the alternate.

Motion: To appoint Ray Sulich, Jr. as the legislative liaison for the districts.  
By: Sally Peavey  
Seconded: Kim Coombs  
Vote: All in favor

## **DISTRIBUTIONS**

The first day of enrollment had 2 grades ending up much smaller enrollments than anticipated. One was the 3 year olds which usually starts out small and grows. The other was the Kindergarten. All of the state projections estimated that we would have a class of 75 Kindergarten students. The actual number is 56. The trend for the state is usually low but this year they were totally off. What we did have was have an influx in high school students. High school enrollment was 4 more students than anticipated for a total tuition cost of \$36,964.

Waltham is our pest removal services. Monthly reports will be provided to the Board.

Our legal retainer for the year is \$8,000. We also have another \$3,900 budgeted for legal expenses.

## **RECOGNITIONS AND COMMENTS FROM VISITORS**

The board heard comments from visitors.

Motion: To adjourn into Executive Session at 10:00 p.m.  
By: Kim Coombs  
Seconded: Sally Peavey  
Vote: All in favor

MOTION: To come out of executive session at 11:32 PM.  
By: Aaron Spruance  
Seconded: Kimberly Coombs  
Vote: Unanimous

MOTION: To adjourn at 11:33 PM  
By: Aaron Spruance  
Seconded: Sally Peavey  
Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted:

Heather DeLuca, Secretary to the Board