

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION

DATE: October 22, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Eastern Middle School

PRESENT:

Board: Mrs. Nancy Weissler, Chairman
Mrs. Leslie Moriarty, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Michael C. Bodson, Secretary
Mr. Steven B. Anderson
Mr. Jonathan Cohen
Mrs. Marianna Ponns Cohen
Dr. Susan S. Ellis
Ms. Natalie Queen

Administration:

Dr. Sidney Freund, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Ellen Flanagan, Deputy Superintendent
Dr. Susan Wallerstein, Asst. Superintendent
Mr. John Curtin, Special Projects Manager
Mr. Rich Calcavecchio, Director of Budget and Systems
Ms. Mary P. Forde, Director, Pupil Personnel Services
Ms. Kim Eves, Director, Communications

Other:

Mrs. Cathy Delehanty, GEA; Mrs. Sue Rogers, Mrs. Rianne Fernandez Staps, Mrs. Christina Russell, PTA Council; Mrs. Pam Speer, Mrs. Jackie Welsh, Mrs. Julie Faryniarz, Mrs. Laurie Caputo, Mrs. Kathy Harrington, Mr. Ralph Mayo-Principal, Eastern Middle School; Mrs. Camille Broderick, Mrs. Adriana Ospina, Mr. Txema Palacio, Mrs. Theresa Stanton, Mrs. Jane Sims, Mrs. Laurie Heiss Greeley, Greenwich High School; Mrs. Annmarie Graham, Mrs. Jill Marchak, Mrs. Anna Saras, Central Middle School; Mrs. Nancy Kail, Mr. Peter Sherr, BOE Candidates; Mr. Colin Gustafson, Greenwich Time, Mr. Ken Borsuk, Greenwich Post, and various members of the community. An attendance list is on file in the Board Office.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Weissler, Chairman, at 7:00 p.m.

MOTION: It was moved by Dr. Ellis and seconded by Mrs. Moriarty to accept the Agenda.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Ralph Mayo, Principal of Eastern Middle School, welcomed the Board to the school.

STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION

Dr. Freund recognized Western Middle School for obtaining the Connecticut Association of Schools Award for Exemplary School Climate. Western is one of only twelve Connecticut middle schools holding the designation. Awards were presented to representatives who served on the host committee for the site visit, as follows:

Michael Anarumo
Jim Djema
Mrs. Celia Fernandez
Dr. Stacey Gross

Reports/Comments

Dr. Freund spoke to the Board about the retirement of Dr. Susan Wallerstein, and the administrative changes that will be reflected in the new position, which will have the title of Managing Director of Operations. In addition to the areas currently under Dr. Wallerstein, the new position will also have Human Resources under its umbrella.

He advised that the interim Principal at Hamilton Avenue School, Nancy Carbone, only signed on to be interim until December 31st. A search committee was therefore attempting to find a replacement for the Principal but was unable to come up with a consensus candidate. As a result, Mrs. Barbara Riccio has been named Interim

Principal, and will begin her time in that position on January 1st, unless a new Principal has been appointed.

Dr. Freund also advised that the hiring of a Principal for Central Middle School is close. The list of applicants has been narrowed down and he expects to make an announcement soon.

He told the Board that in regard to GDDT Action Plans, the Instructional Data Teams are under way and 100% of staff members have had turnkey training re TEPL. The Science review is also underway, and the first meeting on social/emotional learning has been scheduled.

Mrs. Sue Rogers, PTA Council President, congratulated Western Middle School for their recognition, advised the Board regarding what PTAC was doing r to sponsor forums for the candidates running for Board of Education positions She then impressed upon the Board that the focus for the MISA project should be on addressing identified deficiencies that have plagued the facility – acoustical quality as well as insufficient and unacceptable music instruction space. She expressed optimism that the project would be support by the Board of Selectmen, the BET and the RTM. This project is the District's No. 1 priority.

Ms. Cathy Delehanty, GEA President, advised that she has scheduled visits to all schools which she hopes to accomplish by the Thanksgiving break This will enable her to visit classrooms, as well as lunch rooms, where she will be able to see the what is going on in classes on a daily basis. She re-emphasized the need for the Board to support teaching staff.

PUBLIC HEARING

The following people spoke at the Public Hearing:

Mrs. Collette Rogers and Mrs. Pam Speer spoke in support of the GHS MISA project, advising that the current space is under-capacity and requested that the project be kept in the 2010-2011 capital plan.

Mrs. Camille Broderick and Mrs. Adriana Ospina, GHS PTA Co-Presidents, and Mrs. Jane Simms spoke in support of the GHS MISA project

BOARD DEVELOPMENT/SHARING INFORMATION

Reports of Officers, Committees and Liaisons

Mr. Bodson reported that the TCO for the Glenville School project is expected by October 30th, but that the railings will not be fixed until November 6th. The project is under budget and still has adequate funds for contingencies. Inspections planned for this week include electrical and HVAC and the building inspection will be next week.

Mr. Anderson advised the board of the results of the GOSA Arbitration and thanked everyone including The Board, Kim Eves, Sue Wallerstein , Richard Calcavecchio and Carol DeSalvo for their efforts in this regard.

Mrs. Moriarity advised the GHS MISA Building Committee met and worked on the building schematic and costs. They hope to successfully keep going on this project and secure the funding needed to continue forward.

Dr. Ellis advised that CES would be interested in supplying the Board and/or sponsoring forums and speaks. If the Board is interested in pursuing this offer, please contact Dr. Ellis.

Mrs. Weissler spoke about the Greenwich Alliance reception, advising that in they have contributed \$270,000 over the past three years to Board of Education initiatives. They are focusing on Greenwich High School in the upcoming year.

Dr. Ellis advised that the Affirmative Action Committee invited Dr. Freund to address them at the Tuesday, December 2nd meeting.

Discussion of Options for Future of Modulars

Dr. Wallerstein led the discussion on the disposition of the modulars when Glenville moves back into their building. She advised that they have checked with vendors regarding interest in removing them from the site and have also checked with the Town to see if they may have interest in using them. There were no responses to the RFP and it seems that the resale value is questionable, especially considering the customization which needed to be done to the buildings to meet Town land use regulations' compliance. We will reissue the RFP for site restoration and removal of the units from the site. We will review if the playground equipment could be used at another location.

Second Reading, Revision to Policy E-001, Programs, Services & Curriculum

There were no questions of Dr. Ellis regarding the second reading of this policy revision.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

a. Action on GHS MISA Schematic Design

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Moriarty and seconded by Mrs. Ponns Cohen to approve the proposed changes to the Greenwich High School MISA Education Specifications.

Mrs. Moriarty provided an in-depth review of the reductions to the square foot changes in the instructional space, the storage and set design storage space, and the FF&E costs including technology. She advised that the auditorium seating capacity is aiming to include seating for half of the students.

AMENDMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Moriarty and seconded by Mr. Cohen to revise the Education Specifications to state that the Auditorium seating capacity should be in the range of 1,175 to 1,325 students, including the possibility of either one or two balconies..

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION, AS AMENDED:

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

In regards to the Capital Budget , the current figure of \$23,430.00 will be adjusted from \$28,000.00 less FF&E, set shop, galleria glass of \$615,000, less balcony, height adjustments and increased slope to the seating (\$1,070,000,) bringing the new total to \$27,815,000.

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Moriarty and seconded by Ms. Queen to authorize the building Committee to submit the schematic design documents that meet the Educational Specification as amended to land use agencies for approval.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed

MOTON CARRIED

Action on 2010-2011 Capital Plan for Submission to CIP

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Cohen to authorize the initial submission of the 2010-2011 Capital Project worksheets for consideration by the CIP Committee.

Dr. Wallerstein provided the Board with answers to the questions that were posed prior to the meeting. Mr. Bodson noted that the Administration keeping the fitness centers ensured equitable facilities would be in place at the middle schools. He also noted that in the future, when accepting gifts of such nature at one school, the subsequent impact on equitable facilities at other schools must be taken into consideration.

AMENDMENT

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Moriarty and Seconded by Mr. Cohen to amend the 2010-2011 Capital Plan for the GHS MISA project to \$27,815,000.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed

MOTION CARRIED

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION, AS AMENDED:

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Cohen and seconded by Mr. Bodson to authorize the administration to request funding from the Havemeyer Trust for the boiler replacement.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed

MOTION CARRIED

c. Action on Annual Budget Resolution

MOTION: It was moved by Dr. Ellis and seconded by Mrs. Ponns Cohen to Approve the 20010-2011 Budget Resolution without changes from 2009-2010.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed

MOTION CARRIED

Action on Monthly Financial and Staffing Report

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Cohen and seconded by Ms. Queen to approve the Monthly Financial and Staffing Report.

VOTE: 7 in favor, none opposed
(Mr. Cohen not in room)

MOTION CARRIED

Action on Transfers of \$10,000 or More

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Ponns Cohen and seconded by Mr. Anderson to approve the Transfers of \$10,000 or More.

VOTE: 7 in favor, none opposed

MOTON CARRIED

BOARD CONSENT AGENDA

- a. **Action on Monitoring Report E0=-020, Financial Management**
- b. **Action on Monitoring Report E-040, Management of Resources**
- c. **Action on Year End Expenditure Summary**
- d. **Action on Secretary's Request to Approve Minutes of September 10 (2), September 24 and September 25, 2009**

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Ponns Cohen and seconded by Dr. Ellis to approve all items on the Consent Agenda.

VOTE: 7 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

Agenda Planning – Discussion of the 2009-2010 Agenda Plan

The following item was added to the Agenda Plan:

December Work Session	Discussion of K-12 Science Program
TBA	Modular Update
TBA	Continuing Education Report

Upon motion duly made by Dr. Ellis and seconded by Mrs. Moriarty, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael C. Bodson
Secretary