

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION

DATE: December 3, 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Havemeyer Building

PRESENT:

Board: Mr. Steven B. Anderson, Chairman
Mrs. Leslie Moriarty, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Michael Bodson, Secretary
Mrs. Marianna Ponns Cohen
Ms. Nancy Kail
Ms. Natalie Queen
Mr. Peter Sherr

Absent: Mr. Jonathan Cohen

Administration:

Dr. Sidney Freund, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Ellen Flanagan, Director of Human Resources
Dr. Susan Wallerstein, Asst. Supt, Business
Ms. Mary P. Forde, Director, Pupil Personnel Services
Ms. Kim Eves, Director, Communications

Other: Mrs. Sue Rogers, President, PTA Council; Ms. Cathy Delehanty, GEA President; Mrs. Marilyn White, Julian Curtiss PTA; Mrs. Camille Broderick, GHS PTA; Mrs. Christina Russell, ALP PTA; Mrs. Dana Evans, Old Greenwich PTA; Mr. Colin Gustofson, Greenwich Time and Mr. Ken Borsuk, Greenwich Post. An attendance list is on file in the Board of Education office.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Anderson, Chairman at 7:02 p.m.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Bodson and seconded by Mrs. Moriarty to move the Action on Adding Demolition of Modulares and Site Restoration to the 2010 Capital Plan.

VOTE: 7 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

Action on Adding Demolition of Modulares and Site Restoration to the 2010 Capital Plan

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Ponns Cohen and seconded by Mr. Bodson to add Demolition of Modulares and Site Restoration to the 2010 Capital Plan.

VOTE: 7 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

First Reading, Monitoring Report E-003, Math

Mr. Southworth, Program Coordinator for Mathematics, and Mrs. Barbara Collins, GHS Program Administrator, presented the Mathematics monitoring report. Topics of discussion included middle school achievement and time allocations for math, enrollment in AP classes, math teacher retention and turnover, expectations for increases in enrollment in higher level math classes at GHS with the implementation of Algebra in 8th grade for all students, Hamilton Avenue School math achievement, and coaching. The report will return to the Board at their December 17th meeting for action.

Review of Science Curriculum

Mrs. Sheila Civale, Program Coordinator for Science and Consultant, Dr. David Moss from UCONN, presented an update on the ongoing review. They presented a description of inquiry, a “minds on”, as well as a “hands on” approach to learning, encouraging students to notice, wonder, design, investigate, journal, research answers to questions and then present their findings. They discussed short and long term targets for improvement in achievement and the timeline for the review and implementation of changes.

Report on Continuing Education

Mr. Calcavecchio, Director of Budget and Systems, presented a report on the Greenwich Continuing Education program, detailing a successful, "in the black" first semester.

Report on Summer School

Ms. Trish McGuire, Summer School Coordinator, Dr. Ellen Flanagan, Deputy Superintendent, and Mrs. Mary Forde, Director of PPS, presented the report on Summer School 2009. The data supports effectiveness of instruction. Reading and math have shown significant progress. Transportation to and from summer school is an issue.

Review of Use of Hearing Officer for Expulsions

The use of a hearing officer for expulsion hearings when a Board panel cannot be convened was instituted last year and as agreed, this represented the annual review of the success of this decision. The Board heard hearings on 11 dates and had to use a hearing officer on two dates. Feedback from attorneys has been positive. While expectations are that Board members will run the meetings (they are scheduled for Fridays when most working Board members are in town), it was generally felt that the use of the hearing officer had been successful.

Review of 2009-2010 Agenda Plan

The Agenda Plan was revised to include Action on the Use of Hearing Officer for Expulsion Hearings for the December 17th Meeting.

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Ponns Cohen and seconded by Ms. Queen to adjourn at 9:36 p.m.

VOTE: 7 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Michael C. Bodson
Secretary