

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION

TIME: May 22, 2003, 7:30 p.m.

PLACE: Eastern Middle School

PRESENT:

Board: Mrs. Sandra N. Waters, Chairman
Mrs. Susan M. Anderson, Vice-Chairman
Mrs. Colleen Giambo, Secretary
Mr. J. Robert Carey
Ms. Virginia Gwynn
Mr. William G. Kelly
Mr. Steven H. LoParco
Mr. Paul A. Toretta

Administration:

Dr. Larry Leverett, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Maria M. Melendez, Deputy Superintendent
Mr. John P. Curtin, Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Mary P. Forde, Director, Pupil Personnel Services
Mr. Frederick Baker, Director of Operations
Mr. John Spang, Asst. Director, Business

Other:

Mr. Jim Capparelle, Ms. Helaine Libowitz, Mrs. Louise Williamson Mr. Joe Williamson, Dr. Babette Caraccio, Mrs. Liz Hopper, Mrs. Laura Downes, Mrs. Linda Loftus, Ms. Cynthia Sherman, Mrs. Megan Casselman, Mrs. Katy Young, Mrs. Lori Leibowitz, Mr. Steven Rosenberg, Mrs. Christina Pegg, Ms. Chris Powers, Ms. Heather Dahle, Ms. Donna Giles, Ms. Maria Chiappetta, Mrs. Kathy Feinberg, Mrs. Wendy Otto, Mrs. LeeAnn Schmeiler, Mr. Curtis Tipton, Ms. Kathleen Beinstein, Ms. Diane Franco, Cos Cob School; Mrs. Joanne Zammit, President, Mrs. Janess Coffina, GEA; Mrs. Lorraine Mario, Mrs. Dora Williams, Mrs. Leslie Moriarty, Mrs. Kathy Rizzo, Mrs. Patte Nussbaum, PTA Council, Mr. Ivan Golden, Greenwich Time and various members of the press. An attendance list is on file in the Superintendent's Office.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Waters, Chairman, at 7:38 p.m.

STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION

Dr. Jeffrey Spector presented the All State and All New England Musicians: They were:

All State Band	Stefanie Trop Rei Yoshioka
All State Chorus	James Anderson Christopher DiGennaro Christina Kompar Matthew Krob Thomas Oppedisano Anne Waters
All State Orchestra	Anna Matsuo
All State Band/All New England Band	Brian Lewandowski Emily Low Gillian Morris Makiya Nambu
All New England Band	Thomas Bolton Sarah Colombo Eva Land Michael Skalandunas Elizabeth Zawatski

Mrs. Paige Davis, Chairman of the Special Education Services Committee, presented the award winners for this year. They were:

Fulvia Alfano Paraprofessional, Julian Curtiss School
Mike Angelis Paraprofessional, Parkway School
Mary Pat Caldwell Special Education Teacher, Cos Cob School
Anne Yazami Special Education Teacher, Eastern Middle School

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Giambo and seconded by Mr. Toretta to approve the minutes of March 27, April 28, April 29 and May 5, 2003.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARING

The following people spoke at the public hearing:

Ms. Kathleen Beinstein	Support for Gerry Petrizzi as Cos Cob School Principal
Ms. Diane Franco	Support for Gerry Petrizzi as Cos Cob School Principal
Mr. Curtis Tipton	Support for Gerry Petrizzi as Cos Cob School Principal
Ms. Cynthia Sherwin	Support for Gerry Petrizzi as Cos Cob School Principal
Dr. Babette Caruccio	Support for Gerry Petrizzi as Cos Cob School Principal
Ms. Louise Williamson	Support for Gerry Petrizzi as Cos Cob School Principal
Mrs. Laura Downes	Process of principal selection – Cos Cob School

ORGANIZATIONAL COMMENTS

Mrs. Lorraine Smario, PTA Council President, spoke on the Cos Cob School Principalship, and congratulated the Special Education Services Award winners.

Mrs. Joanne Zammit, GEA President, congratulated the Special Education Services Award winners, the Distinguished Teacher Award winners and thanked everyone for recognizing Teacher Appreciation Week. The rest of her speech was dedicated to the subject of change and how to deal with the various changes that have taken place over the last year.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Toretta and seconded by Mrs. Anderson to move Action Items A, B and C ahead of the Reports of Officers, Superintendent and Committees.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

IX.A. Action on Appointment of Housemaster for Cantor House

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Gwynn and seconded by Mrs. Anderson to approve the appointment of Stacey Gross as Housemaster for Cantor House.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

IX.B. Action on Appointment of Principal for International School at Dundee

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Kelly to approve the appointment of Teresa Ricci as Principal of the International School at Dundee.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

IX.C. Action on the Appointment of Principal for Cos Cob School

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the appointment of Robin Young as Principal of Cos Cob School.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, SUPERINTENDENT AND COMMITTEES

Board Chairman

The Chairman deferred her remarks until the Board's Self-Evaluation would be discussed.

Curriculum Study Committee

Ms. Gwynn reported on the May 8th Curriculum Study Committee Meeting where the textbook for ESL Biology was discussed. Also discussed was this year's implementation of the K-5 Science curriculum, particularly issues with instructional

time. The next meeting will be on June 2 at Greenwich High School, when public input on the ALP program will be sought.

Facilities Committee

Mr. Carey advised that the Facilities Committee will be meeting on May 28th to discuss Phase 2 of the engineering study and the status of the cladding at Dundee.

Long Range Planning Committee

Mrs. Anderson advised that the Long Range Planning Committee was going to meet next Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. and the High School's Long Range Plan for coping with increasing enrollment would be discussed.

Policy Committee

Mr. Kelly advised that the Policy Committee met on May 15th to review the gift policy, the business policies and various 5000 policies. Their next meeting is June 5th and they hope to conclude the 5000 series at that time.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Leverett acknowledged differences in opinion in the Cos Cob community regarding the principalship and addressed his willingness to work with the Cos Cob community in any way possible to help with the transition and healing process. He also spoke on the issue of the role of parents in the middle school programs and has been in touch with the PTA Council regarding that issue. He also spoke regarding input received at a public forum sponsored by the Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking and some steps that might be taken in that regard.

ACTION ITEMS

D. Action on Business Curriculum

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Gwynn and seconded by Mr. Toretta to approve the Business Curriculum.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

E. Action on Health Curriculum

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Carey to approve the Health Curriculum.

VOTE: 7 in favor, none opposed,
Mrs. Anderson abstained MOTION CARRIED

There was some discussion about the appropriateness of the specificity of some curricular objectives, such as HIV, etc., relative to more common adolescent health issues.

F. Action on Policy 2400, Superintendent Evaluation

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Giambo and seconded by Mrs. Anderson to approve Policy 2400, Superintendent Evaluation.

AMENDMENT

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Giambo and seconded by Mr. Kelly to delete the section in the policy entitled "Evaluation of Administrators and to change the title to "Evaluation of Superintendent of Schools".

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION:

8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

G. Action on Policy 5145.3, Freedom of Religion

H. Action on Policy 5145.4, Non-Discrimination

I. Action on Policy 5145.5, Sexual Harassment

J. Action on Policy 5145.51, Exploitation

K. Action on Policy 5145.6, Student Appeals Procedures

L. Action on Policy 5145.7, Due Process-Special Education

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mrs. Anderson to approve Policies 5145, 3, Freedom of Religion; 5145.4, Non-Discrimination; 5145.5, Sexual Harassment, 5145.51, Exploitation, 5145.6, Student Appeals Procedures, and 5145/7, Due Process-Special Education.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

M. Action on Policy 5145.71, Surrogate Parent Program

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Toretta to approve the deletion of Policy 5145.71, Surrogate Parent Program.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

N. Action on Policy 5145.8, Emancipation of Minors/Age of Majority

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mrs. Anderson to approve Policy 5145.8, Emancipation of Minors/Age of Majority.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

O. Action on Transfer of Funds

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Toretta and seconded by Mrs. Anderson to approve the transfer of funds between accounts, as submitted.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

INFORMATION ITEMS

A. First Reading, Indicators of Success for 2003-2004

The Indicators of Success for the 2003-2004 school year were reviewed. Mr. Curtin presented the Learner Goals, Dr. Melendez presented the Operations Goals, and Dr. Leverett discussed Ends and Means. Dr. Leverett spoke of the need to establish a better accountability system to assure that the district is fulfilling its mission to the Board and community's satisfaction. Part of the process will be reviewing the current set of Goals and Indicators to assure that they are appropriately clear, meaningful, and accessible to all who use them. Board members made some suggestions regarding changes to the Goals and Indicators, regarding studying salary steps and child care for teachers, and a change to the transportation indicator. The Facilities Indicator should be changed to indicate a 10- year plan.

B. Board Self-Evaluation Report

Mrs. Waters discussed the Board's Self Evaluation process and its results. She stated that in order to improve the Board's governance, a retreat was being organized at which the Board would be working on a model of good governance practices, including helping define the areas in which the Board should focus, such as governance issues, with less emphasis on administrative detail. Mr. Toretta and Mrs. Anderson will be called upon to help plan the retreat.

C. First Reading, Policy 5120, Progress/Records (delete)

A first reading was held on the deletion of this policy.

D. First Reading, Policy 5121, Examination/Grading/Rating

A first reading was held on this policy.

E. First Reading, Policy 5122, Assignment to Teachers

A first reading was held on this policy.

F. First Reading, Policy 5124, Report to Parents (delete)

A first reading was held on the deletion of this policy.

G. First Reading, Policy 5126, Awards for Achievement (delete)

A first reading was held on the deletion of this policy.

H. First Reading, Policy 5127, Graduation Exercises (delete)

A first reading was held on the deletion of this policy.

I. First Reading, Policy 5000, Concept and Roles in Student Policy

A first reading was held on this policy.

J. First Reading, Policy 5131.7, Weapons and Dangerous Instruments

A first reading was held on this policy. This policy will be brought back to the Policy Committee to discuss further in relationship to other related policies, such as Out of School Misconduct.

K. First Reading Policy 5131.8, Out of School Misconduct

A first reading was held on this policy.

L. Monthly Financial Report

There were no questions on the monthly financial report.

PUBLIC HEARING

There were no speakers at the second Public Hearing.

Upon motion made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mrs. Anderson, the meeting was adjourned into Executive Session at 10:22 p.m.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was moved back into Public Session at 10:50 p.m.

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Gwynn and seconded by Mrs. Anderson to approve salary increases for non-represented Board of Education employees as submitted and recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none against MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Carey and seconded by Mr. LoParco to establish a comparable guideline for the position of Confidential Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools, and to adjust the salary accordingly, as recommended by the Superintendent.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none against MOTION CARRIED

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Giambo
Secretary