

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION

**TIME:** September 28, 2006

**PLACE:** Julian Curtiss School

**PRESENT:**

**Board:** Mrs. Colleen Giambo, Chairman  
Ms. Virginia L. Gwynn, Vice-Chairman  
Mrs. Leslie B. Moriarty, Secretary  
Mr. Steven B. Anderson  
Mr. Michael C. Bodson  
Dr. Susan S. Ellis  
Mr. William G. Kelly  
Mrs. Nancy Weissler

**Administration:**

Dr. Betty J. Sternberg, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Mary Capwell, Deputy Superintendent  
Mr. John P. Curtin, Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Susan O. Wallerstein, Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Ellen Flanagan, Director of Human Resources  
Mr. Anthony Byrne, Director of Facilities  
Ms. Mary P. Forde, Director, Pupil Personnel Services  
Ms. Kim Eves, Director of Communications  
Mr. Richard Calcavecchio, Director of Budget & Systems

**Other:**

Mrs. Cathy Delehanty, President, GEA; Mrs. Janice Richards, Mrs. Kristen Kratky, Mrs. Julie Faryniarz, PTA Council; Mrs. Frances Avery, Ms. Lee Ann Hinkle, Mr. Bill Robbins, New Lebanon School; Mr. Peter Tesei, Mr. Jim Harris, BET; Mr. Robert Brady, Mr. Tom Conelius, Mrs. Christine Edwards, Mr. Chris Von Keyserling, RTM; Mrs. Trish Rabe, Mr. John McKean, Mr. Carl Marinaccio, Mrs. Kim Sitarz, Glenville School; Mrs. Genny Krob, Mrs. Eileen Wilkinson, Mrs. Arlene Zimmer, FHSPA; Ms. Keach Heagey, Greenwich Time; Mr. Ken Borsuk, Greenwich News, and various community members. An attendance list is on file in the Superintendent's Office.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Giambo, Chairman, at 7:01 p.m.

**1. Action on Appointment of New Board of Education Member to Serve the Balance of the Term of Mr. Steven H. LoParco**

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Ms. Gwynn to appoint Mr. Michael C. Bodson to serve the balance of the term of Mr. Steven H. LoParco.

VOTE: 7 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

**STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION**

Mrs. Barbara O'Neill, Program Coordinator for ALP, presented the students recognized in the Johns Hopkins CY Talent Search 2006, as follows:

Michaelangelo Federici	Parthiv Naresh
Keisuke Sawada	Jordan Abbassi
Alexandre Boaknin	Rachel Connoly
Eric Li	Ethan Amaral
Mary Harrigan	Dean McKenna
Jessica Bernstein	Daniel Carr
Robert Cheng	Esther Lee
Daniel Elkind	Samuel Savitz
Annie Zhang	Kristy Bowie
Sarah Rutledge	Matthew Alexander
Katherine Chen	Michael Ellsworth
Joseph Lee	Peter Raspe
James Yoon	Kelsey Barolak
Alexander Chou	Curren Iyer
Pieter Zenner	Matthew Sullivan
Elizabeth Gatto	Cristina Lamoureux
Xhlow Mxfocwen	Kazuki Morita
Victor Cerio	Jeeyoon Chung
Colin Crihfield	Simon Tebbe
Cecily Choi	Kelsey Dietz
Marina Kaneko	Takumi Otsuka
Lucas Siegmund	Lauren Yee
Julie Zorthian	Henry Armero
Barbara Callahan	Gregory Edelston
Dmitri Friedenberg	Emily Tebbe
Kelly Costello	Connor Grealy
Oliver Plunkett	Nicholas Carter
Vinay Kadiyala	Katherine Chen
Keisuke Sawada	Dmitri Fridenberg

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Weissler to adjourn to reception at 7:25 p.m.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was called back to order by Mrs. Giambo, Chairman, at 7:50 p.m.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

The following people spoke at the public hearing:

Mrs. Janice Richards, PTA Council President, welcomed Mr. Bodson to the Board of Education. She addressed budget assumptions and the importance of transparency. She also addressed class size guidelines concerns and requested that the guidelines be revisited. She addressed the financial management policy and the year end gift report, which indicates a disparity among schools.

Ms. Cathy Delehanty, GEA President, addressed teacher communications and the need to open the lines of communication, class size concerns, the need for more aids.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Ms. Gwynn to limit each speaker to two minutes.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed

MOTION CARRIED

The following people spoke on the GHS Auditorium in the Capital Plan:

Representative Dolly Powers  
Mrs. Sandy Waters  
Mr. John Rabe  
Mr. William Kust  
Mrs. Ruth Sherman  
Mrs. Helene Seiler

Mr. Chip Gawle  
Mrs. Genevieve Krob  
Mr. Zach Rebich  
Mr. Zach Lee  
Mr. Robert Brady  
Mrs. Cynthia Petrow

Mrs. Helen Lasorsa and Mrs. Thordis Smith, spoke on class size in Cos Cob School. Mrs. Tonya Stancil spoke on closing the achievement gap and the importance of preschool and working together.

### **BOARD DEVELOPMENT/SHARING INFORMATION**

#### **a. Reports of Officers, Committees, Liaisons and Superintendent**

Mrs. Weissler reported that the Greenwich Alliance Board has approved two programs for this year. They have also approved three areas for grants: mentoring programs, middle school programs and math and science programs in elementary schools.

Dr. Ellis advised that the Linkage Advisory Committee has been working on the October 4<sup>th</sup> preschool linkage meetings regarding high quality preschools which will be held at Temple Shalom at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the importance of preschool. Linkages will be held with community members, administrators and teachers.

Ms. Gwynn advised that the Policy Governance Committee would be looking at Policy E001. She advised that the next meeting would be at 1:00 p.m. on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Giambo advised that she attended a Streetscape Committee Meeting at Town Hall regarding the design of Greenwich Avenue traffic and other matters.

Dr. Sternberg addressed the building meetings she has been attending, the importance of taking a close look at the issue of class size, courtesy bus passes for Eastern Middle School; the Hamilton Avenue mural, and the fact that ConnCan has recognized Hamilton Avenue School as one of the 10 schools in the entire state with the most significant student performance improvement. She also address the new GOSA contract and the importance of a discussion on magnet schools.

### **BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS**

a. Discussion of 10-Year Capital Plan 2006-2016

Dr. Wallerstein led the Board in a discussion and overview of the Ten Year Capital Plan for 2006-2016. The Board had several questions, especially as the plan relates to the Auditorium and Music facilities at Greenwich High School, which has been a topic of much public input and concern. The issues centered around some suggested changes in the limitations document, including ways to frame our educational goals, district goals and the quality of performing arts, the ability of all students to avail themselves of the programs, limitations on increased size in view of the air conditioning system, and the importance of improving that part of the facility to accommodate more of the student body.

b. Discussion and Possible Action on Havemeyer Relocation Options

Dr. Wallerstein also led the discussion on the possible Havemeyer Relocation move and those options. There were several questions from Board members regarding each option. Among them were questions regarding the approval process and which process was more time consuming than the other, the necessity that the Board of Education have Class A office space, the plus and minuses for each option, etc. After much discussion, Mrs. Giambo polled the Board to see where everyone stood on this subject. Mr. Anderson stated that

Havemeyer was not suitable, and he preferred the Havemeyer South option. Ms. Gwynn preferred renovation of the current Havemeyer building. Mrs. Giambo favored the Havemeyer South option. Mrs. Moriarty stated that the Board needed to be flexible in its decision-making. Mrs. Giambo advised that the Board needed to decide now for planning purposes. Mr. Kelly was uncommitted. Mr. Anderson stated we will never have all the information necessary to make an informed decision. Mrs. Moriarty supported the Havemeyer South option.

MOTION: It was moved by Dr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Anderson that the Board direct the Superintendent to include costs associated with the construction of Class A office space and appropriate parking for Administrative Offices in the Ten Year Capital Plan with the following condition: The Board will retain its rights and jurisdiction over the Havemeyer Building and property until the approval and funding process for the new building and parking through Town Boards and Commissions is complete and the new building has received its Certificate of Occupancy, and the Administration has moved into the new building.

VOTE: 6 in favor, Ms. Gwynn and  
Mr. Kelly opposed MOTION CARRIED

#### **AMENDMENT**

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Weissler and seconded by Mr. Anderson to move forward to locate the Board of Education Administrative Offices on the South Parking Lot of the current Havemeyer Building.

VOTE: Mrs. Giambo, Ms. Gwynn, Mr. Anderson  
and Mrs. Moriarty in favor, Dr. Ellis, Mrs.  
Weissler opposed, Mr. Kelly and Mr. Bodson  
Abstained MOTION CARRIED

#### **b. Monitoring Reports/Reasonable Interpretations**

- i. Monitoring Report, Policy E-020 – Financial Management
- ii. Monitoring Report, Policy E-051 – Administrative Operations

Dr. Wallerstein presented both Policy E-020 and E-051. After discussion, it was decided to bring both of these policies back to a Board Work Session for a more thorough discussion.

- iii. Monitoring Report L-040 – Management of Resources

Leslie: My notes are confusing on this. It says Motion Ellis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Anderson to Approve – Vote 8-0 and then the next thing it says is table until questions are answered. Which was it? Sorry.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Dr. Ellis to extend the time of the meeting by 20 minutes.

VOTE 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

c. **Discussion of 2007-2008 Tuition Rates, PreK through 12**

Mr. Curtin led the discussion of Tuition rates, and what the percentage of tuition rates would be paid by certified staff, outside people, and all other staff. This item will come to the Board for action in October. There was discussion of special consideration for areas where we have a shortage of staff, benefits costs, custodian costs, etc. The discussion entered into the area of class size, enrollment decline, class size guidelines and trends.

**BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

a. **Action on Rental Rates for Facilities**

The Board discussed the proposed rental rates for Facilities.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mrs. Weissler to approve the proposed Rental Rates for Facilities.

VOTE 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Kelly will be involved in custodian negotiations on their next contract since the decision made in that negotiation will affect rental rates of facilities.

b. **Action on Approval of Contract with Greenwich Organization of School Administrators for 2007-2010**

Mr. Kelly gave the Board an overview of the changes in the contract recently negotiated with the Greenwich Organization of School Administrators for 2007-2010.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kelly and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the Greenwich Organization of School Administrators Contract for 2007-2010.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

c. **Action on Revised Board Meeting Calendar 2006-2007**

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Weissler and seconded by Ms. Gwynn to approve the revised Board Meeting Calendar for 2006-2007.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Ms. Gwynn to extend the time of the Board Meeting by ten minutes.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

### **BOARD CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Approval of Monthly Financial Report**
- b. Approval of Transfers Exceeding \$10,000**
- c. Approval of Use of Katrina Grant**
- d. Action to Revised Authorized Signers of the ED099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs**
- e. Action on the Replacement of Steven H. LoParco as the Board of Education Representative on the Glenville and Hamilton Avenue Building Committees.**

Mrs. Moriarty requested that Items A and B re pulled off the consent agenda.

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Weissler and seconded by Ms. Gwynn to approve Board Consent Items C, D and E.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

Mrs. Moriarty asked about the budget revisions, settlements and food services impact on the monthly budget.

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Moriarty and seconded by Mrs. Weissler to approve the Month End financial Report, August 31, 2006.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

Mrs. Moriarty asked about the transfer related to school crossing guards.

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Moriarty and seconded by Dr. Ellis to approve the Transfers Exceeding \$10,000.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

### **AGENDA PLANNING**

Mrs. Giambo discussed that changes that were made to the Agenda Plan from the Executive Committee Meeting.

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Moriarty and seconded by Ms. Gwynn to approve the changes to the Agenda Plan.

VOTE: 8 in favor, none opposed MOTION CARRIED

Upon motion duly made by Dr. Ellis and seconded by Mrs. Weissler, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie B. Moriarty  
Secretary