

MINUTES
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
BOARD OF EDUCATION
April 21, 2008

Members Present: Joseph Arcuri, Jeanne Doerr, Beth Duffy, Barbara Gilbert, Paul Omichinski, Phil Penn, Elaine Schiavone, Ray Sikora

Absent: Catherine Bergstrom, Karen Sullivan

Also Present: Alan Beitman - Superintendent
David Lenihan - Business Manager
Jacqueline Evans – Student Representative

- I. Call to Order - The regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting was held at Harwinton Consolidated School, and was called to order at 7:35 pm by Chairperson Paul Omichinski.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance - The Pledge was recited.
- III. Communications, Resignations – Superintendent stated a brochure explaining the '08-'09 school budget is being mailed to residents. A certificate of appreciation from UNICEF for fundraising efforts in 2007 was received. Local Boy Scout chapter is offering West Hill Pond as a place for crew to practice. Legal counsel has not found any problems with this offer. Another letter regarding status of the school resource officer will be going out to parents. Received letter from CT Commissioner of Education stating Region 10 is within racial balance and another letter stating Har-Bur was among the top performing schools in the 2007 summer reading challenge.

Chairperson listed the many recent accomplishments in indoor track of LSM student Anna Shields and, in her honor, a new timer, which will display hundredths of a second, will be installed.

The following teachers have submitted retirement requests: Alice Frazer (Chemistry), Gail Westenfeld (Family & Consumer Science) and Paul Acheson (Spanish/French) from LSM, Mary Jean Pappas and Diane Tanguay from Lake Garda School.

The following teachers have submitted letters of resignation: Karen Downes (English) from LSM, Denise Gammell and Alicia Buzzeo from Lake Garda School.

- IV. Consent Agenda – A **motion** to approve the following meeting minutes was made by B. Duffy and seconded by R. Sikora: Regular BOE Meeting of March 10, 2008
Budget Meeting of March 17, 2008, Public Meeting of April 7, 2008
Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of March 24, 2008
Special BOE Meetings of April 5, and April 7, 2008 (1) & (2)

No corrections or additions. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries.

- V. Student Representative Report – Band returned from trip to California. AP exams are coming up in May.

VI. Public Participation – None.

VII. Business –

- A. Music Festival, March 18 – 20, 2010. John Deeb requested that Region 10 be allowed to host the annual Music Festival for the year 2010. Approximately 475 students from all over New England would participate. Students would arrive on Friday the 18th, competitions (band and orchestra and chorus) would be held on Saturday the 19th and conclusion of the festival would be on Sunday, the 20th. Students would need to be housed by host families (has received offers of assistance from surrounding towns).

An additional request was to move a professional development day scheduled for February to March 18th so the only students in the facility would be the visiting ones. Dave Fortin (Buildings and Grounds), Delores Allocca (Food Services), Dave Lenihan (Business Manager) have been consulted and see no problems with holding the festival at Region 10. Superintendent stated it would be a great way to showcase the new auditorium as well as give back to other schools that have accommodated Region 10 in prior festivals. The festival will be added to a future agenda.

- B. Student Presentation of 2007 Spain Exchange. Participants of the 2007 student exchange program gave a PowerPoint presentation on this year's trip to Spain. Elizabeth Lapman, World Language Coordinator, provided information and cost (approx. \$1,200.00) on next year's trip.

- C. End of Year Activities. Board assignments are as follows:

Catherine Bergstrom	National Honor Society, Tues, May 20, 7:45 am
Ray Sikora	LSM Scholars' Breakfast, Thurs., May 15, 6:45 am
Elaine Schiavone	LSM Honors Night, Wed., May 21, 6 pm
	Flag Day, Lake Garda, Fri., June 13, 9:30 am
Joe Arcuri	HSC Grade 4 Special Event, TBD, June ??
Phil Penn	Lake Garda Grade 4 Special Event, Wed., June 18, TBD
Beth Duffy	Har-Bur End of Year Ceremony, Fri, June 20, 2 pm
	LSM graduation, Fri., June 20, 7:00 pm

VIII. Action -

- A. Appointment of New Principal of Har-Bur Middle School. After initiating the search process (nationally) and narrowing down the field of candidates and interviewing selected prospects, Superintendent announced that Assistant Principal of Har-Bur, Ken Smith, was the final choice.

A **motion** to approve Ken Smith as new principal of Har-Bur Middle School was made by B. Duffy and seconded by Phil Penn. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries.

- B. Approve FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) National Leadership Conference to Atlanta, Georgia (June 26 – 29, 2008). Barbara Angelicola-Manzoli presented information on FBLA, the competition at the State level leading to the National Conference, held this year in Atlanta. Of the 10 students eligible to attend, six are interested. Cost is approximately \$1,500 per student, which includes airfare and hotel accommodations for 5 days. Two participants from last year, Anthony DiNicola and Molly Roberts, provided positive feedback on their experience.

The group does fundraising to not only raise some revenue for this trip, but also chooses a charity each year that it donates to. The group was seeking not only approval for the trip, but some funding assistance as well.

A **motion** to approve the FBLA trip to Atlanta, Georgia and funding not to exceed \$1,800.00 (\$300.00 per student) was made by Phil Penn and seconded by Jeanne Doerr. All in favor none opposed. Abstention by R. Sikora.

C. Approve Trip to Spain for '09. A **motion** to approve next year's trip was made by B. Duffy and seconded by R. Sikora. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries.

D. Set Graduation Date. A **motion** to approve the LSM graduation date of June 20, 2008, was made by R. Sikora and seconded by E. Schiavone. All in favor none opposed.

E. Two Teacher Requests for One Year Leave of Absence. Superintendent presented two requests for one year leave of absence, recommending approval of the 1st one and denial of the second one. A **motion** to grant one year leave of absence to Cynthia Murawski was made by B. Duffy and seconded by B. Gilbert. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries.

A request to deny an additional one year leave of absence request from Alicia Buzzeo was made by B. Duffy and seconded by P. Penn. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries.

F. Board of Education Agenda Modifications. Superintendent recommends the following changes:

Currently	Change to
VII. Business	VII. Action
VIII. Action	VIII. Business
IX. Board Reports	IX. Board Reports
A. Facilities and Grounds Committee	A. Facilities & Ground Committee
B. CREC Committee	B. Curriculum Committee
C. Curriculum Committee	C. Building Committee
D. Technology Committee	D. Ad Hoc Reports (as needed)
E. Building Committee	X. Executive Session (if needed)
F. Community Relations Committee	XI. Information on next meeting(s)
	XII. Adjourn

A **motion** to accept changes to the agenda was made by R. Sikora and seconded by P. Penn. B. Duffy requested that the CREC Committee report be reinstated. A **motion** to amend the prior motion and reinstate CREC Committee report was made by R. Sikora and seconded by P. Penn. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries.

IX. Board Committee Reports

A. Facilities and Grounds Committee – Have not met since last meeting.

B. Curriculum Committee – Meeting 4-21-08.

C. Building Committee – Meeting 4-29-08. Review of completed work and final payments.

D. Ad Hoc – Meeting 4-24-08.

E. CREC Committee – Some issues covered at the last meeting include Sheff directive impact, a bill requiring all schools start on the same day, health care, pilot program for special ed. bussing.

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Board members who have gone to various civic organizations to discuss and answer questions about the '08-'09 budget stated they were well-received and had a positive experience.

E. Schiavone suggested the District look into solar energy, to which D. Lenihan replied that D. Fortin continues to research and explore this alternate energy source.

A **motion** to adjourn the meeting was made by B. Duffy and seconded by R. Sikora. All in favor none opposed. Meeting ended at 9:35 pm.

The Annual Meeting on the District Budget will be held on Monday, May 5, 2008. A referendum will be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2008 at both the Harwinton and Burlington Town Halls from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm to vote on the '08-'09 Regional School District #10 Budget.

The next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting will be held on May 12, 2008 at the Learning Center.

Raymond Sikora, Secretary