

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #19
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
FOR
TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2011
EDWIN O. SMITH HIGH SCHOOL
LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
1235 STORRS ROAD
STORRS, CONNECTICUT 06268

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by chairman, Fran Archambault

PRESENT: Fran Archambault, Herb Arico, Janice Chamberlain, Bob Jellen, Frank Krasicki, James Mark, Elizabeth McCosh-Lilie, Tim Nolan, Elizabeth Peczuh, Bruce Silva, Cherie Trahan (business manager) and Nicholas Colangelo (student representative)

ABSENT: Bob Kremer, John Meyers and Mike Sibiga

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK: No Requests

REPORTS:

Finance report – Janice Chamberlain reported that the committee discussed the recent bids that the district received for the athletic fields renovation project. The architects were very pleased with the bid results according to Ms. Chamberlain. The building committee will be meeting on Thursday, April 7, 2011 to select a general contractor.

Mr. Jellen reported that the curriculum committee had met on March 28, 2011 to review a number of curriculum documents. He noted that the documents were on the agenda for the board to receive.

Mr. Arico noted a number of EASTCONN related projects and answered board member questions

Nicholas Colangelo updated board members on activities of the Student Congress and noted that there would be a field day again this coming May.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Bruce Silva reported to the board that he had attended a meeting in March pertaining to the lawsuit against the state of Connecticut for educational funding. It appears that there will be an out-of-court settlement.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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Motion by Herb Arico, seconded by Bob Jellen, that the Regional School District #19 Board of Education approve the following items on the consent agenda:

That the Regional School District #19 Board of Education approve overnight trip to Atlanta, Georgia, May 27-29, 2011, submitted by Robert Pirrie. (Ref. #1)

That the Regional School District #19 Board of Education approve overnight trip to Orlando, FL submitted by Sue Biren. (Ref. #2)

That the Regional School District #19 Board of Education receive for review the following curricula: Engineering, Video Production 1 & 2, Plyometrics, German 4A and Spanish 2B

That the Regional School District #19 Board of Education approve overnight trip to Andover, MA, April 16-18, 2011 or the New England Drama Festival, submitted by Lenore Grunko.

That the Regional School District #19 Board of Education approve the hiring for the following positions providing the expenditures for the new employees do not exceed what was budgeted for in the 2011-12 budget: school psychologist, Latin teacher, work languages department head, p/t mathematics teacher, custodian, SWE teacher, special education director.

End of Consent Agenda

VOTE: Unanimous in Favor

Motion: by Janice Chamberlain, seconded by Bob Jellen to approve the minutes the Regional School District #19 Board of Education approve the minutes of March 1, 2011 and March 29, 2011.

VOTE: Unanimous in Favor

Mr. Silva also noted how proud he was of the quiz bowl team who were competing on the national level again for the sixth year in a row.

DISCUSSION: Mr. DeLoreto discussed the administration's proposal to eliminate the remedial level classes starting next year in 9th grade English and social studies classes. Mr. DeLoreto provided the committee with an outline highlighting aspects of the plan and noted that both the state of Connecticut Department of Education and NEASC are encouraging school districts to examine their academic leveling policies. Lou noted that a number of teachers have volunteered to receive training to help implement this change. It was agreed that the curriculum committee would discuss Mr. DeLoreto's proposal this spring and return to the full Board of Education with a recommendation .

SPECIAL REPORT:

Lon Hultgren – Mansfield Director of Public Works – spoke to board members about the proposed state easement needed for the “Downtown Project”. Mr. Hultgren updated the board on recent developments regarding the plan and noted the locations of crosswalks. He explained that a number of agencies, including the state Department of Transportation had weighed in on the crosswalk issue. Mr. Hultgren was reminded by the board that the E.O. Smith athletic project will be starting at about the same time as the improvements to Route 195.

Opportunity for the Public to Speak: No Requests

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Peczuh, Board Secretary