

DANBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2013

Administrative Center, 63 Beaver Brook Road

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to develop in all children the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values which will enable them to live a productive and self-fulfilling life and engage in responsible citizenship in a global society.

Present: E. Alberts, S. Chilian, G. Cooper, G. Falkenthal, A. Fluskey-Lattin, R. Jannelli, K. Molinaro, S. Steichen, R. Taborsak, P. Tranzillo, Board Members;
Drs. W. Glass and S. Pascarella, J. Martino, and Atty. K. Thompson from
Administration

Absent: R. Hawley

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson S. Steichen called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and those assembled recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairperson Steichen asked S. Chilian to do the roll call.

RECOGNITIONS

Board Members Richard Jannelli (Board Member since 2006) and Kathleen Molinaro (Board Member since 2005) received certificates in recognition of CABA Board Member Appreciation Month. Other Board Members were recognized at the March 13th Board Meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Tim Salem, parent of two Park Avenue students, spoke about the middle school magnet policy. He urged the Board to include all students from all elementary schools in Danbury in a fair and equitable process.
- Jill Russell, Broadview Theatre Production, introduced four Broadview students, Kate Jaksobson, 8th grade and student director; Lindsey Stampfler, 7th Grade; Leticia Quintino, 7 grade; Madeline Ressa, 7th grade; Gabriela Lillo, 7th grade. They invited Board Members to attend their production of Alice in Wonderland next Thursday and Friday, April 4th & 5th.
- Chairperson S. Steichen welcomed the Parent SEE group in attendance this evening.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION - S. Chilian moved, seconded by B. Taborsak, that the Board of Education approve the items on the Consent Calendar, as recommended. **The motion passed unanimously at 7:15 p.m.**

A. MINUTES

Board Meeting, 3/13/13

B. PERSONNEL

Accept Leave of Absence: Caroline Anyarogbu-Crouch, Kimberly Moran,
Krista Petersen, Kathleen Smith

Accept Resignations: Linda Akin, Heather Larson, Jaime Lilley

Accept Retirements: Marie Klein (35 years)

Judy Lee (27 years)

Rose Moorman (25 years)

Sharon Murray (38 years)

New Hires: 3/8/13-3/21/13

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>CERTIFIED Subject</u>
Richards, Patricia	Shelter Rock	Nurse

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Non-Certified Subject</u>
Childs, Renee	RPMS	Math Interventionist
Conroy, Sean	MRP	Temp Safety Advocate
Kulbieda, Ann	Secretary	DHS
Lindsey, Melissa	JV Softball	Coach
Savoie, Gary	South St.	Temp Safety Advocate
Schoonmaker, Wayne	Park Ave.	Temp Safety Advocate
Williams, Jaime		Head Girls' LaCrosse Coach
Alberto, Katherine		SUB Teacher
Al Hayek, Gessika		SUB Teacher
Burgess, Tamara		SUB Teacher
Henebry, Mary		Sub Social Worker
Hodgdon, A. Kathryn		Sub Secretary
Lauterbach, Martha Sue		Sub Social Worker
Ritch-Both, Catherine		SUB Teacher

EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE

Kevin Haddad, a 4th grade teacher at King Street Intermediate and Chair of the Superintendent's Advisory Committee, spoke about the shortage of substitute teachers particularly at the elementary level.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES - None

PRESENTATION - None

ACTION ITEMS

- A. February 2013 Operating Results Analysis (General Fund)
MOTION - Shirley Chilian moved, seconded by Phyllis Tranzillo, that the Board of Education accept the February 2013 Operating Results Analysis (General Fund)

Mr. Martino reported that during the month of February 2013 the District expended \$10,995,588, resulting in a fiscal year-to-date expenditure value of \$67,878,992. Also he reported on the ongoing security costs. **The motion passed unanimously at 7:25 p.m.**

- B. February 2013 Operating Results Analysis (Grants/Projects)
MOTION - Shirley Chilian moved, seconded by Phyllis Tranzillo, that the Board of Education accept the February 2013 Operating Results Analysis (Grants/Projects)

Mr. Martino reported that during the month of February 2013 the District expended \$1,719,635 resulting in a fiscal year-to-date expenditure value of \$9,814,334. **The motion passed unanimously at 7:25 p.m.**

C. Park Avenue School Additions and Alterations

MOTION: Shirley Chilian moved, seconded by Kathy Molinaro, that the Board of Education authorizes the Chairperson of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools to approve the final plans, contract specifications, and cost estimate for the additions and alterations to Park Avenue School and sign the ED042 form and submit it to the State of Connecticut for approval.

Mrs. Tranzillo asked if there are sinks in the additional classrooms. The Superintendent reported there will be a sink in the art room. The kindergarten classrooms have bathrooms, others do not. The specifications include classrooms, which are reimbursable from the State. The State does not require sinks in the rooms so that is not reimbursable. Mrs. Molinaro stated with such tight budget constraints, they put money into other things, i.e., parking lot and safety issues. Mrs. Molinaro also gave a copy of the minutes from the City Building Committee for the additions/alterations to each of the 4 schools (attached).

The motion passed unanimously at 7:35 p.m.

D. Shelter Rock School Additions and Alterations

MOTION: Shirley Chilian moved, seconded by Kathy Molinaro, that the Board of Education authorizes the Chairperson of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools to approve the final plans, contract specifications, and cost estimate for the additions and alterations to Shelter Rock School and sign the ED042 form and submit it to the State of Connecticut for approval.

The motion passed unanimously at 7:35 p.m.

Dr. Pascarella indicated that all construction is to be completed by the end of summer 2014.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Budget Update

Dr. Pascarella indicated the Mayor will be presented his budget to the City Council next Thursday. The CAUS Superintendents met with the Commissioner of Education this week. The \$1.7 Alliance money is still there. We will need to reapply each year. The new ECS money is conditional and we have to apply. Teacher evaluation, common core, reading instruction and closing the achievement gap are all included in ECS. We will not know until July 1st if the money will be there. We are working with the City on a self-insurance program. Mr. Martino is negotiating with all major carriers. We did a dependent audit survey to verify dependents on our insurance. So far 13 have been removed of the 25% reported back. Dr. Pascarella gave an update on facilities rentals. The Community Resource Center now located on the Mill Ridge campus will be relocating across the street. The preschool program and School Readiness will be moving to Sacred Heart School.

B. Audit Report for year ended June 30, 2012

Mr. Martino reported that the Auditors did not find any deficiencies in the General Fund, School Lunch Fund, or Grant Accounts. During testing of the Student Activities Accounts, one school did not properly reconcile deposits to the bank statement. Mr. Martino stated that based on a budget of \$115 million, \$23 million in grants, and \$1.4 million in student activity funds this was the only finding for the 2011-2012 audit.

C. Magnet School Policy

An Operations Plan was developed for the AIS Magnet School by Education Connection and passed onto Danbury to run. We need to establish a policy for the new middle school magnet school. The Superintendent received sample policies from CAFE which he forwarded to Attorney Tom Mooney for review. The Policy Committee will meet on April 3rd to review the policies and establish operating principles of how students apply, are selected and stay in the magnet school. The public will have the opportunity for input. Ms. Fluskey-Lattin asked why they are being called magnet schools and not academies. The Superintendent responded each school has boundaries for attendance. If you open to all students across the district it is considered a magnet school. The AIS Magnet School is an interdistrict magnet school with students accepted from neighboring towns. This would be an intradistrict magnet school with only Danbury students. Discussion ensued. Suggestion made to call them academies versus magnet schools to avoid confusion.

D. State CMT/CAPT Information

The Superintendent reported that this year's testing is done. Next year the CMT/CAPT will be based on the Common Core.

E. Even Start Funding

Mr. Martino reported that we are having difficulty getting reimbursement back from the State for the young parents program located at the First Congregational Church.

DISCUSSION

A. Teacher Evaluation Plan

Dr. Glass reviewed Exhibit 13-68 and the categories of the Teacher Evaluation Process: (1) Classroom Strategies and Behaviors; (2) Planning and Preparing; (3) Reflecting on Teaching; (4) Collegiality and Professionalism. 40% of a teacher's evaluation shall be based on observation and evidence collection related to teacher practice and performance. Our areas of focus are: (1) deepen learning for all students; (2) improve the professional practices of all teachers; improve the leadership skills of all administrators. Mr. Taborsak and Ms. Chilian attended the training sessions. Mr. Taborsak stated the group put a lot of effort into the process. It was a lively discussion and there was wide spectrums of opinions were included. Ms. Chilian stated she was impressed with the collaborative nature of the group. Dr. Pascarella stated at the next Board Meeting we will ask the Board to approve the plan.

INFORMATION

- A. 2013-2014 School Calendar
- B. 2014-2015 School Calendar

Dr. Pascarella stated we modified next year's calendar. Moved half-days to Tuesdays, which goes back to the substitute issue.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Mr. Falkenthal reported he attended the DSABC meeting and gave an overview of the work of the program.
- Mr. Jannelli stated we need to finalize a date for a Finance Committee Meeting.
- Mrs. Molinaro reported the Sites & Facilities Committee met tonight. Rich Jalbert and Joe Martino presented their March Facilities Review. Mrs. Molinaro stated for the record that Rich Jalbert was a good hire for us and he is doing a great job.
- The Safety Task Force will meet on April 3rd at 7:00 p.m. at Beaver Brook.

BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Shirley Chilian moved, seconded by Kathy Molinaro, that the Board of Education convene in Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. The motion passed at 8:50 p.m.

Present: E. Alberts, S. Chilian, G. Cooper, G. Falkenthal, A. Fluskey-Lattin, R. Jannelli, K. Molinaro, S. Steichen, R. Taborsak, P. Tranzillo, Board Members; Drs. W. Glass and S. Pascarella, J. Martino, and Atty. K. Thompson from Administration.

Absent: R. Hawley

MOTION: K. Molinaro moved, seconded by R. Jannelli, that the Board of Education return to public session. The motion passed at 9:10 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Shirley Chilian moved, seconded by Kathy Molinaro, to adjourn the March 27, 2013 Board Meeting. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Kathleen Molinaro, Acting Secretary