

**Board of Education Meeting
City Hill Middle School
May 8, 2008**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education convened at 6:20 p.m. on Thursday, May 8, 2008, at City Hill Middle School. Present were Board members Kathleen Donovan, David Heller, Michelle Kalogrides, Thomas McKirryher, Raymond Savoy, James Scully and Rocky Vitale. Dr. John Tindall-Gibson, Superintendent of Schools, and John Petuch, Business Manager were also present. Barbara Lewis arrived at 6:30 p.m. and Mayor Michael Bronko arrived at 6:55 p.m.

Lori Ferreira, Dean of Academics, and Earl Whiskeyman, Director of Technology, were also in attendance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: made and seconded to enter into executive session. Dr. John Tindall-Gibson, John Petuch, Alan Jackson and Tom Kowalchik, Insurance Representatives from USI, were also in executive session.

VOTED: Unanimously.

Mr. Petuch, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Kowalchik were excused at 6:55 p.m.; Dr. Tindall-Gibson was excused at 7:00 p.m. Executive session concluded at 7:05 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:09 p.m.

MOTION: made by Thomas McKirryher seconded by David Heller to add to the agenda a vote on an insurance carrier for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

VOTED: Unanimously.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Christine Blanchard, Interim Principal of City Hill Middle School, spoke about Jacob Simons and Shannon Hale, two students who were being recognized as scholar leaders. Mrs. Kalogrides presented certificates to Jacob Simons and to Mrs. Hale, who accepted on Shannon's behalf, as she was on-route, returning from a softball game.

Jacob Simons led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: made by David Heller seconded by Mayor Bronko to approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Education meeting of April 3, 2008, and Special Board of Education meetings of April 21, 2008, and April 29, 2008.

VOTED: Unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Theresa Forish, Principal of Andrew Avenue Elementary School, spoke about parental involvement and the Parent Liaison positions proposed in the budget.

Jill Mahoney, Parent Liaison at Andrew Avenue Elementary School, spoke in favor of these positions.

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Brendan Heller, 29 Coventry Lane, Naugatuck High School Student Council Representative to the Board of Education, informed the Board that the Mr. Greyhound Pageant was held; the baseball team visited the Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, New York; next week there will be a *Hard Truth* presentation for high school juniors; nine DECA students travelled to Atlanta, Georgia; Advanced Placement exams are taking place.

Peter Oculak, 107 Manners Avenue, whose children attend Andrew Avenue School, spoke about his experience as a parent volunteer.

FINANCIAL REPORT

John Petuch, Business Manager, distributed and reviewed the current status of the 2007-2008 budget.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Prospect Street Principal Search: Dr. Tindall-Gibson informed the Board that the position has been advertised and more than 30 applications have been received. Focus groups will be conducted next week. After discussion it was decided that the final three candidates would be interviewed by the full Board on May 28, 2008.

Hop Brook School Roof: Michael Lynch, Facilities Engineer informed the Board that the roof of Hop Brook School is in need of repair. Kaestle Boos has offered a free engineering report; Mr. Lynch has asked for a menu of options concerning price and architectural changes needed. According to Mr. Petuch, this project would be considered as part of the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan.

E-Rate Funding: Dr. Tindall-Gibson explained that E-rate funding is federal dollars that are available for technology services through a grant award. Mr. Whiskeyman and Mr. Petuch submitted application; Naugatuck schools have been awarded \$153,336.21.

Unifund Observations and Improvements: Dr. Tindall-Gibson reported that at his request, a representative from Unifund performed an analysis of our business function, and has a drafted a report which addresses mostly Human Resources and benefits side of the platform. Dr. Tindall-Gibson plans to have a final draft in June.

Teacher Evaluation & Professional Growth Plan: Mrs. Ferreira briefly spoke about this document. A committee of administrators and teachers worked for the past five months to rewrite this plan in accordance with State Department of Education guidelines.

At this point in the meeting, Shannon Hale arrived and was introduced by Mrs. Blanchard.

2008-2009 Budget Update and Discussion: Dr. Tindall-Gibson stated that from the very beginning this year, the Board of Education had planned a very conservative budget knowing that this was a revaluation year. The budget was initially at 4.9%; the Finance Board reduced it to 4.5%. It was reduced again to 4.25% by the Boards of Mayor and Burgesses and Finance. Public Hearing is scheduled for May 12, 2008. Mrs. Donovan added that the Board worked very hard on the budget and came in with a proposed budget of .05% lower than our actual funding from the town last year.

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MOTION: made by Barbara Lewis seconded by David Heller to approve going with Anthem self-insured (7.3 cap) for 2008-2009 year, as discussed with our insurance carriers.
In Favor: Barbara Lewis, David Heller, Michelle Kalogrides, Thomas McKirryher, Raymond Savoy, James Scully, Rocky Vitale
Opposed: Mayor Bronko
Motion carries.

Personnel:

MOTION: made by David Heller seconded by Michelle Kalogrides to accept the resignation of Angela Dionne, General Cafeteria Worker, Prospect Street Elementary School (effective 4/11/08).

VOTED: Unanimously.

MOTION: made by David Heller seconded by Raymond Savoy to accept the retirements of Loreen Gualtieri, Teacher, Western Elementary School (effective 6/30/08); Patricia Robinson, Art Teacher, Naugatuck High School (effective 6/30/08); Richard Robinson, Guidance Counselor, Naugatuck High School (effective 6/30/08); Gail Sullivan, Teacher, Maple Hill Elementary School (effective 6/30/08); Thomas Voycik, Physical Education Teacher, Maple Hill Elementary School (effective 6/30/08); Patricia Lawlor, School Nurse/Nurse Supervisor, Hop Brook Intermediate School (effective 6/19/08).

VOTED: Unanimously.

MOTION: made by David Heller seconded by Michelle Kalogrides to approve the appointments of Laurie Piecewicz, English Teacher/Department Chair, Naugatuck High School; Andrea LeClair, Guidance Counselor, Naugatuck High School; Valerie Lofland, Ph.D., JROTC Instructor, Naugatuck High School; Walter Klimaszewski, 2007-08 Girls' Softball Coach, City Hill Middle School. Also the following appointments to the Special Education Extended Year Program: Lead Teacher – Roseann Frank; Teachers – Kathy Schacht, Kim Andreoli, Deborah Morrone, Joan Cohen, Alison Cohen, Brian Schacht, Debbie Williams, Judy Wood, Mary Beth Schmaling, Lorraine Cohen; Paraprofessionals – Susan Ross, Deb Davis-Mendes, Kathleen Hubner, Mary Ann Hickey, Patty Laggis, Kyle Sarrazin, Debbie Kirshbaum, Kathy Litke, Kim Martin, Diane Daikus, Shirley Ostrander, Barbara Duque, Brittany Grommisch, Diane Marino, Deborah Bradley, Ann Craft, Lisa Matejek, Sara Perez; Speech Pathologist – Emily Cote; Nurse – Debbie Sauers; Secretary – Noreen Bonessi; Transportation Aides – Patty Laggis, Kim Martin, Nicole Parker, Kathy Litke, Barbara Duque, Amber Brown.

VOTED: Unanimously.

MOTION: made by David Heller seconded by Raymond Savoy to approve the leave of absence of Omayra Rosado, Paraprofessional, Maple Hill Elementary School, from 4/8/08 through 6/30/08.

VOTED: Unanimously.

MOTION: made by David Heller seconded by Michelle Kalogrides to approve the termination as discussed in executive session.

VOTED: Unanimously.

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Personnel (continued):

The Board was informed of the following transfers: Traci Healy, from Mathematics Teacher at City Hill Middle School to Mathematics Teacher/Department Head at Naugatuck High School; Joseph Longo, from Custodian at Naugatuck High School to Custodian at Cross Street Intermediate School; Raymond Ollero, from Custodian at Cross Street Intermediate School to Custodian at Naugatuck High School.

MONTHLY REPORTS

The following out-of-state field trip requests were submitted: Hillside Middle School Band to Rye Playland, New York on May 29, 2008; NHS DECA club to New York City on May 19, 2008; NHS students to Newport, Rhode Island on May 12, 2008; NHS Baseball team to Cooperstown, New York on May 3, 2008; NHS Chamber Singers Tour to Spain February 13, 2009 through February 21, 2009.

MOTION: made by David Heller seconded by Barbara Lewis to approve the above field trips.

VOTED: Unanimously.

Mrs. Donovan directed the Board to the Fire Marshal's Reports and Principals' Report in their packets.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACES: Mr. McKirryher reported that the committee met today and accepted the budget for next year with the exception of one school.

Facility Planning: Minutes of the April 20, 2008, meeting attached.

Finance: Mr. McKirryher reported that the committee had a work session on May 22, 2008. Al Lussier and Sharon Duprey of Direct Energy, attended and give a brief introduction on the natural gas market and market trends. The committee met today and reviewed the audit report from the Borough, and accepted it, as is.

MOTION: made by David Heller seconded by Michelle Kalogrides to accept Facility Planning minutes.

VOTED: Unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Heller reminded everyone that the Foley Dinner, which is sponsored by the Parent School Council, is going to be held on Tuesday, May 13, 2008. This year's recipient is Deborah Gilnack. There was a Teen Safe Driving Forum held at Naugatuck High School. The program was run by Jenn DeWitt of the Central Naugatuck Valley Regional Action Council and the high school PSA; over 100 people attended.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Cocchiola inquired about reducing administrator positions at intermediate schools and the status of full-day kindergarten.

Fred Scheithe, 243 Millville Avenue, spoke in favor of an Assistant Principal position at the intermediate school level.

MOTION: made David Heller seconded by Barbara Lewis to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

VOTED: Unanimously.