

Board of Education
June 2, 2010
Special Meeting

A special meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, June 2, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler High School Shaw Media Center. Since there was not a quorum, this was a non-meeting. Present were Mrs. Ricker, Mr. Hundt, and Mr. Testa. Also present were Dr. Pukas, Mr. McCarthy, Mrs. Wilkison, Mrs. Costa, Mr. Susi, and Mr. Sandford. Vice Chairman Ricker started the non-meeting at 7:00 p.m.

2. Public Comment – Mr. George Palmer had comment and concern about how an incident involving his son and a teacher was handled. Board members commented. Mrs. Candace Palmer read a statement concerning the events. There was further comment.

3. Community Relations – There were other articles at the Board Members' places.

4. Presentations – a. Elementary School Writing Contest Winners – Mrs. Wilkison introduced Mackenzie Turrisi who was a finalist in the *Letters for Literature* competition. Miss Turrisi read the letter she wrote to author, Ann Martin.

b. Grade 5 Essay Contest Winners – Mrs. Wilkison introduced Ella Secchiaroli as the winner of Representative Joe Courtney's essay contest. Miss Secchiaroli read her poem. Mrs. Wilkison introduced Adam Crowley, Tyra Howell, Alyssa Perez, and Ryan Valez as winners of the *CHET Dream Big* competition. She told the Board that teacher Stephanie Vaughn had been recognized for having 69 students enter the contest.

c. Representative Diana Urban – Representative Urban reviewed the study she had given the Board at the last meeting regarding an assessment tool for high schools that was developed based on an economic study at UCONN. She elaborated and explained this tool focuses on more than just test scores. Representative Urban said without representatives from UCONN here, all she can do is provide the figures. She said she would get more information to the Board.

d. Elementary and Middle School Data Walls – The middle school presentation will be at a later date. Mrs. Wilkison presented the boards from reading, first grade and fifth grade.

The Board moved to 9a, Old Business, Kindergarten Entrance Inventory Follow-up.

9. Old Business – a. Kindergarten Entrance Inventory Follow-up – Mrs. Wilkison told the Board this was the third year the State has done the Kindergarten Inventory. She explained the first two days of school for kindergarten are used for screening the children. She elaborated on the inventory and said there is no rubric; it's just a feel on how the students are at the start of the kindergarten program and is very subjective. There were questions asked and answered.

5. Administrators' Reports – Mrs. Wilkison told the Board the grade 4 and 5 band concert was held. She spoke of upcoming events including field day, a Flag Day ceremony, the chorus concert, DARE Graduation, a diabetes walk, and the Grade 5 Promotion Ceremony. Mr. Sanford spoke of happenings at the middle/high school including the Senior Project presentations, Parish Hill High School visiting to view the Senior Projects, the State baseball tournament, the junior/senior prom, the badminton tournament, Larry Chappell and Bruce Wilkinson being named Wheeler's Distinguished Alumni, and Meredith Milligan being highlighted in *The Day* newspaper.

6. Administrative – a. Approval of Minutes – May 12, 2010 – No action taken.

b. Correspondence – None.

c. Personnel – Dr. Pukas told the Board that Mr. Steve Sujecki was retiring at the end of the school year after 37 years. She said she had accepted his retirement the day she received his letter.

7 Reports – a. Superintendent – Dr. Pukas told the Board she was stepping down as president of SECASA, and as a member of the Board of Education Directors of CAPSS. She said the Principal Interview Committee will be meeting soon. She said a special meeting will have to be set up for the Board to interview the finalists. Dr. Pukas told the Board that Judy Fitzgerald was retiring from her position as cafeteria aid. There were comments from the Board including questions as to the need for this position to be filled. There was discussion.

b. BOE Chairperson – None.

c. Committee Chairs – The Personnel Committee will be bringing recommendations to the full Board at the next meeting.

d. PSPBC Liaison - Mr. Testa told the Board the flashing scope language is still being reviewed and the project will need to go to the Town for funding. There were questions asked and answered about the gym being used if the work was done during the school year instead of during the summer.

e. Committee Action List – Priorities for end-of-year spending are maintenance, capital, educational needs, and contracted obligations.

8. Finance – None.

9. Old Business – a. Kindergarten Entrance Inventory Follow-up – Covered above.

b. Ad Hoc School Building Committee Recommendations Report – Dr. Pukas said in the Board's packet was a timeline stating that June 25th was the date they needed information from faculty and the Board of Education to see if the building plan meets the educational needs.

10. New Business – a. Summer Meeting Schedule – No action taken.
12. Public Comment – None.
13. Proposed for Executive Session – None.

The non-meeting ended at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck McCarthy, Secretary Pro-tem

The minutes were reviewed at a special meeting on June 23, 2010. The motion to approve these minutes did not pass.