

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2010

1. School Community Session- 6:00 p.m.

- 1.1 Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance – Chairman Hall called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 1.2 Public Participation – There were no public comments.
- 1.3 Presentation of NYSSBA Plaque- Mr. Meyers presented the Board members with a plaque from NYSSBA.

2. Consent Agenda (*Business Manager*)

Chairman Hall requested a motion to add additional warrants in the amount of \$77,692.92 to the consent agenda.

Motion made by Janio Spinola, seconded by Maria Frank. Motion carried: 5-0.

2.1	Warrants Payable	Total Amount of Warrants	\$127,913.18
	• Payroll Warrant	#46	\$29,473.88
	• Payroll Warrant	#47	\$26,400.76
	• MultiFund Warrant	#48	\$70,105.54
	• Faculty Housing Warrant	#49	\$ 1,933.00
2.2	Transfers (<i>Resource Packet</i>)		
2.3	Budget Status Report (<i>Resource Packet</i>)		
2.4	Budget Status Report – Special Aid Fund (<i>Resource Packet</i>)		
2.5	Budget Reconciliation Summary (<i>Resource Packet</i>)		
2.6	Revenue Status Report (<i>Resource Packet</i>)		
2.7	Anticipated Cash Flow Report (<i>Resource Packet</i>)		
2.8	Extra-Curricular Ledger Report (<i>Resource Packet</i>)		

Janio Spinola made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Sara McLean. Motion carried: 5-0.

3. Work Session on Mission and Goals (*Consultants via SKYPE*)

The Board members participated in a work session on Mission and Goals with Doreen Marvin and Lisa Cooney, the consultants from LEARN, via SKYPE and speaker phone. The discussion focused on reviewing the wording of the Fishers Island School mission statement and Board of Education goals for the time period of 2010-2012 which resulted from meetings with the Board in July, 2009 and with the faculty members in September 2009. The Board discussed the draft which was written by the consultants in addition to a draft written by Mr. Meyers. The Board decided that they will e-mail Mr. Meyers with any further suggestions or changes by January 29. Mr. Meyers will communicate with LEARN consultants who will then formulate a second draft of the mission statement and goals to have ready for discussion at the February Board meeting. The Board intends to finalize the school's mission statement and goals at the next meeting. Board member Nina Schmid participated in the meeting by speaker phone.

4. Action Items: (*Board Chairman*)

- 3.1 Motion: To approve the Minutes of the December 16, 2009 Board of Education Meeting (*Resource Packet*)
Motion to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2009 meeting with the corrections as noted made by Janio Spinola, seconded by Maria Frank. Motion carried: 5-0.

- 3.2 Motion: To approve appointment of Cynthia Riley as Drama Club Director (*Resource Packet*)
Motion to approve the appointment of Cynthia Riley as Drama Club Director was made by Maria Frank, seconded by Janio Spinola. Motion carried: 5-0.
- 3.3 Motion: To approve Meredith Blanzaco's request for reimbursement for graduate tuition at the University of New Haven in the amount of \$4800. (*Resource Packet*)
Motion to approve Meredith Blanzaco's request for graduate tuition reimbursement in the amount of \$4,800 was made by Sara McLean, seconded by Janio Spinola.
Motion carried: 5-0.
- 3.4 Motion: To approve Carrie Sawyer's request for reimbursement for graduate tuition at The New York Center for Teacher Development, Inc. in the amount of \$1,725. (*Resource Packet*)
Motion to approve Carrie Sawyer's request for tuition reimbursement in the amount of \$1,725 was made by Sara McLean, seconded by Janio Spinola.
Motion carried: 5-0.
- 3.5 Motion: To approve of Meg Atkin's request for professional leave March 31 – April 12. (*Resource Packet*)
The Board decided to table Meg Atkin's request for professional leave and asked Mr. Meyers to speak with the Teacher's Union to determine if this would be precedent-setting.
- 3.6 Motion: To approve the contract with Coughlin, Foundotos, Cullen & Danowski, LLP Certified Public Accounts, to provide auditing services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010. (*Resource Packet*)
Motion to approve the contract with Coughlin, Foundotos, Cullen & Danowski, LLP to provide auditing services for the fiscal year ending June 20, 2010 was made by Sara McLean, seconded by Maria Frank.
Motion carried: 5-0.
- 3.7 Motion: To approve Nathan Matzdorff's request for reimbursement for graduate tuition at Converse University in the amount of \$598.00
Motion to approve Nathan Matzdorff's request for graduate tuition reimbursement in the amount of \$598.00 was made by Sara McLean, seconded by Maria Frank.
Motion carried: 5-0.

5. Discussion Items (*Superintendent*)

- 4.1 Budget Priorities for 2010-2011- Mr. Meyers discussed possible budget priorities for next year. He proposed that the Board set aside funds for laptops or notebooks for all students in grades 8-12. Mrs. Bean is researching the costs involved. Issues of security and maintenance would have to be addressed. Mr. Meyers also mentioned professional development for teachers. He has contracted with a company called Info- Source to provide learning modules for teacher in-services coming this spring. Mr. Meyers suggested documenting a Fishers Island School curriculum, based on New York and National standards to be posted on the website. He also discussed setting funds aside for possible capital improvements to the existing facility as recommended by Strategic Building Solutions. Renovations to the existing building would be separate from any future plans for the Bowling Alley.
- 4.2 New Course Proposal – Team Sports and Fitness – Mr. Gillan would like to teach this course, which will be placed in the Program of Studies for next year, and submitted to the Board for approval at the next meeting. While it remains to be seen whether it will actually fit into the schedule, there is student interest in having a P.E. elective. Mr. Meyers suggested that this would be a good opportunity for students in grades 10-12. It would be a .5 credit course.

- 4.3 “Schools Attuned” Status- The faculty discussed the “Schools Attuned” training at their recent faculty meeting. Mr. Meyers stated that the faculty felt that the training had been very valuable and beneficial, especially in focusing on the needs of special education students. However, in terms of moving forward, the faculty indicated a preference not to continue with the “Schools Attuned” training. The faculty realizes that they need to differentiate their instruction in order to meet the needs of all students, and are utilizing the principles of the “Schools Attuned” program. Mr. Meyers will contact “Schools Attuned” to determine the current status of the program. Mr. Meyers will also provide an update to Mr. Tony Tremaine regarding the “Schools Attuned” training.
- 4.3 Upcoming Professional Development and Curriculum Work- There are two professional development days coming up in March. Mr. Meyers will focus attention on Best Practice Instruction and curriculum development on these in-service days.
- 4.3 Magnet Program Update- Mr. Meyers stated that there was a recent Magnet Selection Committee meeting in order to establish a process for evaluating each of the current magnet students. The Committee will look at each of the magnet students after mid-terms. Mr. Meyers will place a letter to parents in each report card informing them that magnet students will be evaluated at this time. The committee also decided to put an advertisement in the Sunday New London Day newspaper for the next two Sundays accepting applications through March 1. There are only a few places open for new magnet students for next year. If all the current magnet students return next year, there are probably only 2 or 3 openings for new magnet students in order to maintain a balance of magnet students to island students.

6. Adjournment- Sara McLean made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Janio Spinola.
Motion carried: 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Name of Recorder: Leslie Tombari

Board of Education Resource Packet

For

**January 20, 2010
Regular Meeting**

“For Your Information”

Additional Materials

For

Board of Education Review

From

Office of Superintendent

January 20, 2010