

**REGULAR MEETING
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
May 23, 2011**

GBE approved 6/13/11

A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Monday, May 23, 2011 at the Griswold High School Board of Education meeting room, 1st floor. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman, Elizabeth Dorff.

PRESENT Elizabeth Dorff, BOE Chairman; Stuart Norman, Jr., Vice-Chairman; Kimberly Brunelle, BOE Secretary; Laurie Sorder and Frank Everett, BOE Members.

ALSO PRESENT Dr. Paul Freeman, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. John DiIorio, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Madeline Illinger, Director of Special Education and Services; Holly McCalla, GPS Business Manager; Susan Rourke, GES Principal; Joseph Bordeau, GES Assistant Principal; Thanh Nguyen, GMS Principal; Dr. Mark Frizzell, GHS Principal; and Matthew Peel, GHS Associate Principal; Glenn LaBossiere, Athletic Director; Retirees: Wendy Zajac, Karen Cholewa, Sheryl Snurkowski, Charlene Saporita and families; and Karen Porzio, Adult Education Coordinator.

ABSENT Dr. Theresa Madonna and Ken Fitzgerald, BOE Members; Sarah Cary, GMS Assistant Principal and Griswold Alternative School Principal.

BOE Chair, Elizabeth Dorff, requested an addition to the BOE agenda under item 6F. Class Trip Approval.

MOTION By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Frank Everett
To add to the BOE agenda under item 6F. *Class Trip Approval.*
Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded Frank Everett
To approve the regular meeting minutes of May 9, 2011, with correction to the following: *BOE Chair, Elizabeth Dorff, requested an addition to the BOE agenda under item 7B. Contract Negotiations to be taken in executive session.* Move from **HEARINGS AND REQUESTS** and list before **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**.

Ayes - Elizabeth Dorff, Stuart Norman, Jr., and Frank Everett.

Nays -

Abstain - Kimberly Brunelle and Laurie Sorder

Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

HEARINGS AND REQUESTS

None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Presentation of Retiring Staff Members – The Superintendent and the Administrators acknowledged and recognized four staff members who have announced their plans to retire. Their contributions to the schools, the community and to the children of Griswold have made a difference in the lives of many, and we wish them long and happy retirements. The retirees are: Wendy Zajac, Karen Cholewa, Sheryl Snurkowski and Charlene Saporita. Congratulations!

The Board recessed at 6:15 p.m. for refreshments with retirees.

The Board re-convened at 6:27 p.m.

- B. Adult Education Overview – Curriculum Director Dr. John DiIorio, Karen Scholl, Carl Mendel and students participating in the Adult Education program at Griswold High School made a presentation to the Board. The successes of that program in its first year have been exceptional.
- C. Strategic School Profile Overview – The Superintendent and the Administrators presented the 2009-2010 Strategic School Profiles to the Board and answered questions pertaining to the reports.
- D. Campus-Wide Activity and Athletic Director/Job Description – The Superintendent presented a newly written job description for the position of Campus-Wide Activity and Athletic Director to replace the current teacher-with-stipend position. He asked for the Board's approval to create this new position.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.

Seconded by Kimberly Brunelle

To approve the job description and position of Campus-Wide Activity and Athletic Director, as presented.

Motion unanimously carried.

- E. *Pending Litigation – This item was referred to executive session.
- F. Senior Class Trip Approval – A senior class trip to Six Flags in New Jersey was presented to the Board for approval. The trip is planned for Thursday, May 26th and the administration is asking the Board for approval.

MOTION

By Frank Everett
Seconded by Kimberly Brunelle
To approve the senior class trip to Six Flags, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. 2011-2012 Budget Update – At this time, the budget, as originally approved by the Board of Education, has been reduced by some \$865k. A portion of these cuts were required from the BOF prior to referendum, a portion represent reductions made to the capitol improvement budget in ways that effect the schools, and a portion (\$200,000) are reductions made to the school operating budget as a result of a failed referendum. The Superintendent distributed a detailed report of the proposed budget cuts and asked the Board to approve the reductions, as presented.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Frank Everett
To approve the reductions, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

- A. Financial Update, 2010-11 – Business Manager Holly McCalla presented an update on the current status of the 2010-11 budget.
- B. GHS CNA Nursing Program Update – Principal Mark Frizzell was proud to announce that 14 students took and 14 students passed the State of Connecticut certification test to become certified nursing assistants through Griswold High School. Congratulations to the following students: Tyler Burns, Megan Conrad, Zackary Cowan, James DeRosa, Kelsey Francis, Laurel Garrison, Kristofer Knerr, Shaye Lavallie, Shawna Lord, Brooke Martell, Lauren Oates, Niralee Patel, Jayde Seyler, and Marla Shelton.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations – The Superintendent reported on the resignations of the following individuals: Marlo Burke, GES Remedial Reading teacher; Charlene Saporita, full-time instructional assistant; and Christopher Morth, GHS boys JV soccer coach.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Frank Everett
To accept the resignations of Marlo Burke,
Charlene Saporita and Christopher Morth, with
regret, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

The Superintendent also reported on the appointments of the following individuals:
Angie Sposato, full-time instructional assistant; Christopher Morth, GHS varsity
girls' soccer coach; and Ken Martin, GHS JV girls' soccer coach.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Frank Everett
To approve the appointments of Angie Sposato,
Christopher Morth and Ken Martin, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

- B. CREC Feasibility Study for Closing of Wheeler High School – The Superintendent reported to the Board that we have provided information to CREC as part of a feasibility study they are conducting for the town of North Stonington addressing the possibility of closing Wheeler High School. We have expressed a strong interest to have the Wheeler students join us at GHS should North Stonington decide to close that school.

COMMITTEE/BOARD REPORTS

- A. Building Committee – Committee Chairman Frank Everett updated the Board on the progress of the building project.

OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD

GHS Principal Mark Frizzell updated the Board on the CT Young Writers Competition and noted that two students out of fifteen finalists were chosen from GHS: Jacquie Longacre and Brendan Perry. Congratulations!

GHS Principal Mark Frizzell updated the Board on two students, Stephen Deschamps and Jennifer Moore, who received \$1,000 scholarships each through Big Y.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Frank Everett
To move in to executive session at 7:57 p.m. for the
purpose of updating the Board on pending litigation.
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.

Seconded by Frank Everett

To amend the last motion to move into executive session at 7:57 p.m. for the purpose of updating the Board on pending litigation, and invite Business Manager Holly McCalla.

Motion unanimously carried.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:20 p.m. with no action taken.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.

Seconded by Frank Everett

To adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Holly McCalla & Robin Drobiak