

APPROVED

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
 MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MAR 09 2010

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Minutes of the Business Meeting of the Board of Education held Tuesday, February 23, 2010, at 501 Kings Highway East, 2nd Floor Board Conference Room.

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Vice Chairman Mrs. Pamela Iacono. Other Board members present were: Mrs. Sue Dow, Mr. Paul Fattibene, Mr. Tim Kery, Ms. Stacey Zahn, and Mrs. Catherine Albin (arrived 7:38 p.m.). Mrs. Sue Brand, Mr. Perry Liu and Mr. John Mitola were absent. Also in attendance were Superintendent Dr. Ann Clark and members of the administrative staff. Approximately 30 people comprised the remainder of the audience.

1. Mrs. Iacono led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Ms. Zahn moved, seconded by Mr. Kery to separate the minutes.
Motion carried: 5:0:0.
3. Ms. Zahn moved, seconded by Mrs. Dow that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 28, 2010.
Motion carried: 5:0:0.
4. Ms. Zahn moved, seconded by Mrs. Dow that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 11, 2010.
Motion carried: 4:0:1. Mrs. Iacono abstained.
5. New Business

A. Presentation of Middle School Family & Consumer Science Curriculum

Dr. Gary Rosato introduced Michelle Flashman, a teacher at Roger Ludlowe Middle School and liaison for Family & Consumer Sciences at the middle school level.

Ms. Flashman stated that the Family & Consumer Science program at the middle school is designed to emphasize an activity oriented approach to learning through laboratory experiences. She provided an overview of the 6th and 7th grade program which includes: home and life safety, foods and nutrition, and fabric art. The 7th grade program builds on the basic knowledge and skills from the 6th grade program. 8th grade is an elective program. Students may elect to take foods, fabric art or both for one or more quarters of the school year. She highlighted what each unit of study consists of. She presented the 7th grade family meal project where students prepare a nutritionally balanced meal for their family. Students select a menu, plan the meal, grocery shop, prepare the meal, and clean up.

Board comments and questions followed.

6. Public Comments and Petitions -- None
7. Reports and Recommendations-
 - A. Superintendent's Report-

Strategic Plan--Dr. Clark reported that at the March 23rd Board meeting Dr. Rosato will do a presentation on the Strategic Plan in terms of where we are with each of the components of the plan.

NEASC--Dr. Clark reported that within 10 days or so she will send the Board a draft of the NEASC Report to Fairfield Warde High School. The teachers and administration at Fairfield Ludlowe High School are working on responding to the recommendations that they had, and their two year report is due in October.

Plan to Improve Racial Imbalance--Mrs. Cutaia-Leonard reported that letters and applications were sent out to families regarding opt in to McKinley. The local area preschools in town all received information on the option to opt in to McKinley and an invitation to the Open House that will occur tomorrow night at McKinley. Incoming kindergarten families received a letter notifying them of the option to opt in to McKinley along with an invitation to the Open House. We have a Fair TV advertisement, a 60 second screen shot between programs, notifying parents of their option as well as the Open House. We have also done a Press Release and are working on Letters to the Editor from families that have opted in to McKinley and have had great experiences there. Dr. Bernardoni and Mrs. Cutaia-Leonard attended the recent Burr PTA meeting to answer questions parents may have about opting in to McKinley and they are scheduled to speak at future PTA meetings over the next three weeks at the other ten elementary schools.

8. Ms. Zahn moved, seconded by Mr. Kery that this regular meeting of the Board of Education convene to Executive Session at 7:58 p.m. to discuss secretary, paraprofessional and custodial/maintenance negotiations.
Motion carried: 6:0:0.
9. Vice Chairman Mrs. Pamela Iacono called the Executive Session to order at 8:02 p.m. In attendance were: Mrs. Catherine Albin, Mrs. Sue Dow, Mr. Paul Fattibene, Mr. Tim Kery, Ms. Stacey Zahn, and Mrs. Margaret Mary Fitzgerald.
10. Ms. Zahn moved, seconded by Mrs. Albin to return to Public Session at 8:38 p.m.
Motion carried: 6:0:0.
11. Public Session
12. Mrs. Albin moved, seconded by Mr. Kery that this regular meeting of the Board of Education adjourn at 8:39 p.m.
Motion carried: 6:0:0.

Stacey Zahn
Secretary