

**GUILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2005
MELISSA JONES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, GUILFORD, CONNECTICUT**

1. Call to Order

Chairwoman Whelan called the meeting to order at 8:10 p.m. Board of Education members present were Richard Beatty, Keith Bishop, William Dwyer, Gregory Muccilli, Kathleen Nolan, James Ralls, and Sandra Whelan. Administrators present were Barbara Truex, Charlotte Nelson and Gary Endean. Anne Keene joined the meeting in progress. Also present was Accounting Manager Linda Trudeau.

2. ACT ON Appointment of Replacement Board Member

Mr. Beatty introduced Cynthia Cartier. Ms. Cartier has been a member of the Republican Town Committee since 1999, and is being recommended to replace Margot Burkle. Ms. Cartier has been a resident of Guilford for 6.5 years and is an attorney. She has served on the Guilford Planning and Zoning Commission as Chairman and Secretary and has been a member of the Women and Family Life Center Board. As a resident of Hamden, Ms. Cartier served as 4th District Council Member and the Assistant Town Attorney.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Beatty and seconded by Mr. Bishop, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Cynthia Cartier to fill the vacant Board of Education seat until the November 2005 elections.

2.1 Administer Oath of Office

Mr. Beatty administered the Oath of Office to Cynthia Cartier. Board members welcomed Ms. Cartier.

3. Public Forum for Topics on Board Agenda Only

Diane Stockmann stated there are approximately 20 members of the Food Service department present this evening to hear the Board's discussion on the Food Service program so they can become educated and understand the process.

4. ACT ON Contract with Superintendent Search Consultants

Upon a motion made by Mr. Dwyer and seconded by Mr. Beatty, the Board voted unanimously to hire the firm of Goens/Esparo, LLC to facilitate a national search for a new Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Beatty noted that two firms were interviewed and Goens/Esparo was selected because they are more suited to the needs of our district. Chairwoman Whelan polled Board members for their availability for an upcoming Executive Session with Goens/Esparo.

5. ACT ON Educational Specifications for Three Replacement Roofs and Submission of the Projects to the BOS/BOF

Upon a motion made by Mr. Bishop and seconded by Mr. Beatty, the Board voted unanimously to approve the educational specifications for the replacement of roof sections 10A, 11, 12, 13N and 13S at Guilford High School, the educational specifications for replacement of sections 1, 2, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 3A, 4, 4A, 5 and 5A of the roof Baldwin Middle School, and endorsed the filing of an ED049 for these projects.

Mrs. Truex noted that Mr. Saisa will attend the March 7 Board of Selectmen Meeting to request they appoint a Building Committee to start the process, authorize at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications, and request they authorize the filing of the grant application (ED049). She also noted the cost of the GHS roofs are estimated at \$550,000 and Baldwin at \$900,000.

6. DISCUSS Food Service Financial Condition to Date

Mrs. Truex reported that out of the last 14 years, the Food Service program has shown a loss 10 times. Since 1990 we have lost \$156,911. This figure does not include medical costs. The revenue from food sales is only up 7.32% and the cost of food served is up 13.62%. Through January 31, 2005, we show a profit of \$5,903; however, we had a price increase of 15-20% in September.

Mrs. Truex stated that Mr. Potochney reviewed the following options: continue to subsidize the program, reorganize internally, have another price increase, close the program, close the elementary school program, or outsource the program.

Board members discussed the various options at length and dialogued on several occasions with the Food Service employees who were present. At the conclusion of the discussion, it was decided that Mrs. Truex, Mrs. Nolan and Mr. Dwyer would meet with representatives of the Food Service department to talk about their ideas for the program.

7. Communications

Mr. Dwyer noted there was a bus accident this morning on Little Meadow Road. The bus driver was not at fault and he commended the bus driver for handling the incident very well. The Board requested a thank you letter be sent to the bus driver.

Chairwoman Whelan stated she received a phone call from Bob Jacobs regarding fundraising for the playground at A.W. Cox School. Mr. Dwyer stated that he opposes the way in which Cox parents want to solicit for their playground fundraiser. Chairwoman Whelan stated that typically the building principal approves the fundraising request; however, the Board recently updated the policy. The policy will need to be reviewed again because it does not reflect current practice.

7.1 New Member to CTFSE

Mr. Bishop reported that due to time constraints Jeff Hahn had to resign from the CTFSE. Mauro Rubbo has joined the Task Force as his replacement. Mr. Rubbo works for Gilbane, has children

in our schools, and has considerable experience in school construction and renovation. He is currently working on the Amity School district's construction projects.

8. Adjourn to Committee Work for Policies

Chairwoman Whelan noted that Ms. Cartier will be joining the Policy Committee and Greg Muccilli will be co-chairing the Policy Committee with Mr. Bloss. Ms. Cartier will be the BOE liaison to Lakes School and Mr. Muccilli will be the BOE liaison to Cox School.

Due to the absence of Mr. Bloss, both policies on the agenda were tabled until the next BOE meeting.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Bishop and seconded by Mr. Dwyer, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri M. Fiondella
Clerk to the Board of Education