

GUILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
MONDAY, July 11, 2011  
GUILFORD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY, GUILFORD, CT

1. **Call to Order**

Chairperson Bill Bloss called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Board members present were Keith Bishop, Bill Bloss, John Ireland, Alan Meyers, Barbara Dudley, Susan Renner and Ted Zuse. Administrators present were Anne Keene, Anne Snurkowski, Nancy Bishop, Vince Agostine. Also present was Accounting Manager Linda Trudeau.

2. **Action on Minutes of:**

- 2.1 **June 13, 2011 (Regular Meeting)**
- 2.2 **June 20, 2011 (Special Meeting)**
- 2.3 **June 25, 2011 (Executive Session)**
- 2.4 **June 27, 2011 (Workshop Meeting)**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Zuse and seconded by Mrs. Renner the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of June 13, 2011 (Regular Meeting), June 20, 2011 (Special Meeting), June 25, 2011 (Special Meeting Executive Session), and June 27, 2011 (Workshop Meeting).

3. **Review and Approval of Expenditures for the Month of June.**

Chairperson Bloss noted that it is projected the school system will finish the year with a surplus of \$90,000.

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Renner and seconded by Dr. Meyers, the Board voted unanimously to approve the expenditures for the month of June as presented by Chairman Bloss.

4. **Public Forum for Topics on Board Agenda Only.**

None.

5. **Communications.**

Chairperson Bloss noted that correspondence about the science curriculum had been received and would be addressed during that agenda item.

6. **Student Representatives.**

No report.

7. **Superintendent's Report.**

Dr. Keene noted that a redesigned summer reading program for K – 4 students is being utilized and information is available on the web site.

Dr. Keene noted that a new edition of *Everyday Mathematics* will be used in Grades K – 5.

Dr. Keene noted that the CMT and CAPT results would be released at the State level this week. The parents will receive individual student scores in September.

**7.1 Update on High School Science Course Sequence.**

Dr. Keene noted that input on the High School Science course sequence was provided by district teachers and committee members and information was also obtained from other DRG A and DRG B districts as well. She reviewed the exhibit contents provided to Board of Education members and recommended no change to the high school science sequence.

**7.2 Update on 2011-12 Kindergarten Enrollment Projection.**

Dr. Keene reported that currently the kindergarten enrollment numbers for the fall are down approximately 40 students. She noted that the surrounding districts have also noticed a decrease in kindergarten enrollment. She commented that some parents wait until late to register their children; therefore, no action is being recommended at this time.

In response to a question by Mr. Zuse, Dr. Keene commented that if these numbers hold, there could be implications for the first grade staffing for the 2012-2013 budget year.

**8. Board Agenda.**

Chairperson Bloss requested a change in the order of the agenda with item 8.4 to be considered next.

**8.4 RECEIVE Textbook Recommendation: Algebra 2.**

Donna Pudlinski, Chairperson of the Math Department at GHS, presented the Algebra 2 textbook which was recommended by the selection committee. Committee members agreed that this book addresses the department's needs now and for the foreseeable future while meeting the Common Core State Standards. Major reasons for this choice are that the book has the same publisher as the new Geometry text, includes a broad range of differentiated materials, has readable and relevant content, includes ideas for interventions, supports the district curriculum and includes problem solving components, authentic examples and project/performance assessments for each chapter. The book would also be available online.

The Board requested that Donna Pudlinski send the login information to the Algebra 2 online textbook so that Board members could review the text online.

**8.2 Act on Science Curriculum.**

Dr. Keene named the members of the Science Curriculum Review Committee who were present. She reviewed the process conducted to evaluate the K-10 plan and come to the recommendation for this curriculum which will meet the needs of all of the students and provide background in the different sciences. She is comfortable with the recommendation that has been submitted.

In response to a question by Mr. Ireland, Dr. Keene noted that most public schools do not teach physics first, however, this practice is common in private schools.

In response to a question by Mr. Zuse, Lynn. Curtis, GHS science teacher, noted that approximately 1/3 of the freshman science curriculum is physics based. He noted that the freshman course is designed to clarify the processes and provide preparation for the following years of science including chemistry, biology, and physics. He also noted that the curriculum uses the CAPT standards as a guide but also builds on local standards to provide a challenging and competitive curriculum that develops and utilizes multiple skills. Dr. Keene added that the curriculum provides for enough flexibility to allow the individual students to learn at different rates while remaining challenged. A committee of teachers will be formed in 2011-2012 to further study the possibility of creating an appropriate physics course in grade 9 for students who have requisite math skills

Mrs. Dudley recommended that the Board respect and trust the experts who have taken a long time to develop the recommended science curriculum and move forward with voting on the motion.

After discussion, upon a motion made by Dr. Meyers and seconded by Mrs. Dudley, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Science Curriculum.

Chairperson Bloss thanked those who worked so hard on the Science Curriculum Review Committee.

Dr. Joseph Wolenski, professor at Yale University and parent representative on the committee, thanked the Board of Education members for the guidance provided by the Board.

**8.3 APPROVE \$4,185.00 Donation from the Guilford Rotary to the GHS Interact Club.**

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Renner and seconded by Mrs. Dudley, the Board voted unanimously to approve a \$4,185.00 donation from the Guilford Rotary Club to the Guilford High School Interact Club.

**8.5 DISCUSS for POSSIBLE ACTION: Recommendation to Standing Building Committee for Adams Needs Assessment.**

Mr. Ireland noted that a proposal has been received to conduct a follow-up study on Adams Middle School to assess if there are additional needs now that the initial projects are nearing completion. Three proposals for a follow-up study were solicited, and the low bid was for \$5,000. The Standing Building Committee has requested that a recommendation come from the Board of Education before they take action.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Zuse, and seconded by Mr. Bishop, the Board voted unanimously to recommend that the Standing Building Committee move forward with a follow-up study on possible additional Adams Immediate Needs utilizing available funds.

**8.6 ACT ON Recommendations from Policy Subcommittee:**

**8.6.1 Revisions to Policy 1334/3218: Soliciting Funds from and by Students and School Fund-raising.**

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Renner and seconded by Mr. Zuse, the Board voted unanimously to revise Policy 334/3218: Soliciting Funds from and by Students and School Fundraising, as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee.

**8.6.2 Removal of Regulation 1334/3218: Fund-Raising Activity Approval Gifts, Grants and Requests Form.**

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Renner and seconded by Mr. Zuse, the Board voted unanimously to remove Regulation 1334/3218, Fund-Raising Activity Approval Gifts, Grants and Bequests Form, as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee.

**8.6.3 Removal of Policy and Regulation 2114: Administration.**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Bishop and seconded by Dr. Meyers, the Board voted unanimously to remove Policy and Regulation 2114: Administration, as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee.

**8.6.4 Revisions to Policy 3418: Inventories.**

Upon a motion made by Dr. Meyers and seconded by Mr. Dudley, the Board voted unanimously to revise Policy 3418: Inventories, as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee.

**8.6.5 Removal of Policy and Regulation 3714: Food Services.**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Zuse and seconded by Mrs. Dudley, the Board voted unanimously to remove Policy and Regulation 3714: Food Services, as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee.

**8.6.6 Revisions to Policy 6514: Interscholastic/Intramural Athletics.**

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Renner and seconded by Dr. Meyers, the Board voted unanimously to revise Policy 6514: Interscholastic/Intramural Athletics, as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee.

**8.6.7 Revisions to Policy 6614: Emergency School Closings**

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Renner and seconded by Dr. Myers, the Board voted unanimously to revise Policy 6614: Emergency School Closings, as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee.

**9. Unfinished Business.**

Mr. Zuse questioned the status of the Guilford High School Code of Conduct. Chairperson Bloss asked that he send an email prior to the next agenda development.

10. **Reports of Committees.**

10.1 **Policy Subcommittee.** There was no further report from the Policy Subcommittee.

10.2 **Facilities Subcommittee.** No report.

10.3 **Finance Committee.** No report.

10.4 **Liaison to Town Committees.**

Mr. Ireland noted that the Board of Selectmen has appointed a Guilford High School Building Committee consisting of 9 regular members and 2 alternates with a mix of technical, non-technical and educational backgrounds.

11. **Public Questions.**

Kim Beckett commented on the Extended School Year (ESY) program for special education students. After providing background information on the establishment of this program, she expressed concern with what she feels are problems with the social, vocational and transportation pieces of the program. Mrs. Beckett also expressed a need to assist special needs students to prepare for life after high school. Dr. Keene agreed to meet with parents concerned about these two issues to gather information and to follow-up to work to resolve their concerns.

Marlene Bodner also expressed concern for what she feels are organizational problems for the Extended School Year Program.

12. **New business.**

No items were discussed.

13. **Executive Session.**

13.1 **Contract Negotiations: Custodians, Food Service, Clerical/Paraeducators.**

On motion made by Mr. Zuse, and seconded by Mrs. Dudley, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to executive session at 9:00 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Bishop and seconded by Dr. Meyers, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to open session at 9:20 p.m.

8.1 **ACT ON Personnel Items.**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Bishop and seconded by Mr. Ireland, the Board voted unanimously to table action on personnel items to the next available meeting.

**13.1 Superintendent Search.**

Upon a motion made by Dr. Meyers and seconded by Mr. Zuse, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:25 p.m. to discuss the superintendent search.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Meyers and seconded by Mr. Zuse, the Board voted unanimously to return to public session and adjourn the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Terry Holland-Buckley  
Clerk to the Board of Education

Approved at August 8, 2011 Board of Finance meeting