

The Regional District 13 Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, July 6, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. in the library at Coginchaug Regional High School. Board members present: Mrs. Adams, Mr. Currlin, Mrs. Golschneider, Dr. Ochterski, Ms. Parsons, Mr. Raczka, Dr. Shoemaker, Ms. Wallach. Members absent: Mr. Hicks, Mr. Hennick. Also present: Mr. Gourley.

Mr. Gourley called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The first order of business was to elect a chair.

Mr. Currlin made a motion, second Mrs. Adams, to nominate Mr. Raczka as chair of the Regional District 13 Board of Education.

There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed.

Mr. Raczka was elected as chair of the Regional District 13 Board of Education by unanimous vote.

Mr. Raczka stated it is a privilege to be on the Board of Education and to work with the members of the Board. He thanked the Board for their support and all their hard work for the students, staff and communities. Mr. Raczka welcomed Carolyn Wallach to the Board.

Mr. Currlin made a motion, second Mrs. Golschneider, to nominate Mr. Hicks as secretary of the Regional District 13 Board of Education.

There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed.

Mr. Hicks was elected secretary of the Regional District 13 Board of Education by unanimous vote.

Mr. Currlin made a motion, second Dr. Ochterski, to nominate Dr. Shoemaker as treasurer of the Regional District 13 Board of Education.

There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed.

Dr. Shoemaker was elected treasurer of the Regional District 13 Board of Education by unanimous vote.

On a motion by Dr. Shoemaker, second Mr. Currlin, the Board of Education unanimously approved that the treasurer be allowed to invest the funds of Regional District 13 according to State Statutes.

Mr. Raczka informed the Board that Kristina Burger, an ABA Therapist in the District had passed away. Services have not been scheduled at this time.

There was no public comment.

Next Board Meeting: The next Board of Education meeting was scheduled for August 24, 2005 at Memorial School. The Board meeting has been rescheduled to August 31, 2005 due to a conflict in scheduling.

On a motion by Mr. Currlin, second Dr. Shoemaker, the agenda was unanimously approved as amended to include School Lunch Prices, Committee Assignments and Retreat Date under New Business.

Dr. Shoemaker made a motion, second Mr. Currlin to approve the minutes to the June 8, 2005 Board of Education meeting. Dr. Shoemaker, Mr. Currlin, Dr. Ochterski, Mrs. Adams, Mr. Raczka, Ms. Parson, Mrs. Golschneider voted yes. Ms. Wallach abstained.

Communications: Mrs. Golschneider and Mr. Currlin attended the 8th grade step-up ceremony and stated it was a wonderful ceremony. Several members attended graduation that was also very well done.

Superintendent's Report: In Mrs. Viccaro's absence, Mr. Gourley reported the administrators recently had their retreat and worked with consultant Howard Feddema on their goals for the next school year.

Under the IDEA grant revision, districts are responsible for servicing special education students that attend private schools and pre-schools in their district no matter what town they live in. District 13 is responsible for students at the Independent Day School, Middlefield Children's Center and the Durham Co-op. District Special Education staff are required to screen the children and provide services to children with disabilities. This revision has gone into effect July 1, 2005.

NCLB: Mr. Gourley reported the cost of implementing the NCLB law is very great. CAPSS, the Superintendent's Association states that it would cost Connecticut 200-240 million dollars to meet the requirements of the act. Attorney Blumenthal is working on a potential suit against the U.S. Department of Education stating it is unlawful to require implementation of the act without providing the funding. CAPSS would like to hear from Boards of Education to know if they are in support of Attorney Blumenthal's filing the suit. The suit does not challenge the philosophy of NCLB only the fact that the funding is not provided to implement the requirements of the law.

The Board discussed this issue. They are not ready to make a motion on the suit without receiving some advice from counsel and more information on NCLB. They will discuss this issue at their next Board meeting.

School Lunch Prices: Dr. Shoemaker reported the school lunch prices will need to increase for SY 2005-06 to meet the increase in costs. They will be increased by 25 cents. The milk prices will not be changed and have not increased in 7 years.

On a motion by Dr. Shoemaker, second Dr. Ochterski, the Board of Education unanimously approved to increase lunch prices by a quarter for SY 2005-06 with no change to milk prices.

Committee Assignments: Mr. Raczka requested all Board members return their committee choice sheets. He stated there is a lot of work to be done by all committees during the next year.

Retreat Date: The Board of Education has set their retreat date for October 30, 2005. Mr. Currlin will work on getting a place for the retreat.

Building Committee: Mr. Currlin reported the building projects are nearing their end, but there are still some issues that need to be resolved. There are items that need to be completed and there are some questions about payment. There are issues with the contractors at both schools that need to be resolved.

The chillers at the high school are working and are very quiet. The next Building Committee meeting will be July 12th.

On a motion by Mr. Currlin, second Mrs. Adams, the Board of Education unanimously approved to adjourn.