

**Regular Meeting
Stafford Board of Education
Pinney Administration Building
March 12, 2007**

Board Members Present: Mr. Mark Fontanella, Chairperson
Mrs. Jennifer Davis
Mrs. Lisa Finch
Mr. Scott Nozik, arrived at 7:10 p.m.
Mrs. Tracy Rummel
Ms. Ilene Whitmarsh

Board Members Absent: Mrs. Sandy Fowler, Secretary

Also Present: Dr. Thérèse G. Fishman, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. David Bartlett, Principal, Witt Intermediate School
Mr. Michael Bednarz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Ms. Jill Gregori, Business Manager
Miss Jamie Fish, Student Representative
Mr. Francis Kennedy, Principal, Stafford High School
Dr. Barbara Macauley, Director of Pupil Services

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M. A quorum was established.

ITEM I. Secretary's Report – Approval of Minutes

Special Meeting, March 5, 2007

A consensus of the Board approved the Secretary's Report of the March 5, 2007, Board of Education special meeting, as presented.

ITEM II. Treasurer's Report

A. Report on Bills

Board Bills

February 21, 2007	\$ 81,720.54
February 28, 2007	\$100,609.23
March 7, 2007	\$302,591.55

Grants

Federal Grants	February 26, 2007	\$ 7,225.19
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State Grants	February 26, 2007	\$15,831.52
State Grants	March 2, 2007	\$21,584.66
Federal Grants	March 2, 2007	\$11,313.41
State Grants	March 2, 2007	\$39,310.09
Federal Grants	March 2, 2007	\$18,792.49

A consensus of the Board approved the Board Bills and Grants as presented.

ITEM III. Correspondence

Mr. Fontanella explained to the Board that Mr. Dobson had contacted the Superintendent of Schools regarding the availability of the Board of Education for a joint meeting with the Board of Finance. The Board agreed that Monday, March 19, 2007, at 7 p.m., would work well for them. The Superintendent stated that she would contact Mr. Dobson to see if the Board of Finance was available on that date.

Mr. Fontanella stated that Mr. Dobson was also looking for a date to hold the public forum on the budget. After discussion, the Board selected Tuesday, April 10, as the best date for a majority of the Board, with Wednesday, April 11, as an alternate date. The Superintendent stated that she would contact Mr. Dobson with these dates as well and that she would check the availability of Stafford Middle School for this meeting.

ITEM IV. Board Reports

Miss Fish reported that CAPT testing was continuing this week at Stafford High School. She also reported that the high school Washington D.C. trip would take place on March 28 -31, 2007, that there was a blood drive scheduled for March 28, and that the 3rd quarter would be over at the end of the month.

Mr. Fontanella, Mrs. Rummel and Mrs. Davis reported that the Alumni Basketball game, which was held last weekend, was a success.

ITEM V. Superintendent's Reports

A. Board of Education Appreciation Celebration

Dr. Fishman presented each of the Board members with a book containing exemplary student work and a booklet that addresses the importance of a Board of Education that is focused on student learning. She also stated that other exemplary student work was displayed around the room for Board members to view. She said that the seventh graders in Ms. Titus's classroom made some baked goods for the Board as well. Dr. Fishman thanked the Board for their efforts and told them how much she enjoys working with them.

The Board took a brief recess at 7:15 p.m. Mr. Fontanella called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

B. Head Start Final Report February 2006 – January 2007

Dr. Fishman presented the Head Start Final Report from February 2006 – January 2007, as prepared by Ms. Jill Gregori, Business Manager. She stated that it shows that the entire grant has been expended and that the amount of \$149,578 for West Stafford School renovations has been transferred to the February 2007 – January 2008 grant with the approval of EASTCONN.

C. Head Start Report through February 2007

Dr. Fishman presented the Head Start Report through February 2007, as prepared by Ms. Jill Gregori, Business Manager. She stated that this is the first report for the new grant period and reflects the transfer of the West Stafford School renovation funds of \$149,578.

ITEM VI. Public Forum

There were no comments.

ITEM VII. Old Business

A. Review and Possible Approval of Revisions to Board Policy #2400- Evaluation of Administrators and Administration, Board Policy #4131.5-Continuing Education Units, and Board Policy #6171 (a)- (b), Special Education

Mrs. Davis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Whitmarsh, that the Board of Education approve the revisions to Board Policy #2400- Evaluation of Administrators and Administration, Board Policy #4131.5-Continuing Education Units, and Board Policy #6171 (a)- (b), Special Education, as presented. Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Finch, Mr. Nozik, Mrs. Rummel, and Ms. Whitmarsh voted for the motion, which carried.

B. Review and Possible Approval of Proposed new Board of Education policy # 3516.11 (a)- (b) Hazardous Materials Communication, Board policy #4112.5/4212.5 Security Check/Fingerprinting, Board policy #4118.5 / 4218.5 (a)- (b) Acceptable Computer Network Use, and Board policy #5124.1 (a)- (c) District/School Report Cards

Mrs. Rummel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nozik, that the Board of Education approve new Board of Education policy # 3516.11 (a)- (b) Hazardous Materials Communication, Board policy #4112.5/4212.5 Security Check/Fingerprinting, Board policy #4118.5 / 4218.5 (a)- (b) Acceptable Computer Network Use, and Board policy #5124.1 (a)- (c) District/School Report Cards as presented. Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Finch, Mr. Nozik, Mrs. Rummel, and Ms. Whitmarsh voted for the motion, which carried.

ITEM VIII. New Business

A. Board Member Appointment to Insurance Risk Committee

Dr. Fishman stated that the district is looking to reconvene this committee. The committee will be looking at ways to save money on insurance. A meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 26, 2007, at 3 p.m. Ms. Whitmarsh was appointed as the Board representative.

B. Review and Possible Approval of Grade 4 and 5 Report Card

Dr. Fishman stated that at the Board meeting on July 18, 2005, the Board approved a revised PK- grade 3 report card, with further revisions being made to the PK report card on September 25, 2006. She stated that in anticipation of opening the new Stafford Elementary School (SES), Mr. Michael Bednarz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Mr. Hank Skala, Principal of the new Stafford Elementary School, Mr. David Bartlett, Principal of Witt Intermediate School, and a committee of staff members have reviewed and revised the present report card for grades 4 and 5 to bring it in line with the revised PK-grade 3 report cards in format and design. Additionally, she said that the number of reporting periods would be changed to coincide with those of PK-grade 3. She introduced Mr. Michael Bednarz and Mr. David Bartlett to elaborate on the changes. Mr. Bednarz thanked the teachers for the time spent on this process and Mr. Bartlett for his leadership. The Board members had several questions regarding the narratives, the way that the change in format would be communicated to parents, progress reports, and the trimesters. Mrs. Davis inquired about the possibility of allowing the students that will be in grade five next year to continue to receive report cards in the old format for the 07-08 school year to help with the transition. Mr. Bednarz said that he would research that option and report back to the Board.

Dr. Fishman stated that this item will appear on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting for a second review and possible approval.

ITEM IX. Personnel Matters

A. Resignation- Certified Staff Member

Mrs. Davis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Whitmarsh, that the Board accept the resignation of Nicole C. Dastous, English Teacher at Stafford High School, effective 3/1/07. Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Finch, Mr. Nozik, Mrs. Rummel, and Ms. Whitmarsh voted for the motion, which carried.

B. Authorization of Superintendent of Schools to Give Written Notice of Non-Renewal

Mrs. Rummel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Davis, that the Board authorize the Superintendent of Schools to notify in writing before April 1 any non-tenured teachers whose contract will not be renewed for the next school year. Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Finch, Mr. Nozik, Mrs. Rummel, and Ms. Whitmarsh voted for the motion, which carried.

Mrs. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Rummel, to place Item IX.C.- Teachers Eligible for Tenure / Teachers' Performance (Executive Session Anticipated) into executive session. Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Finch, Mr. Nozik, Mrs. Rummel, and Ms. Whitmarsh voted for the motion, which carried.

The Board took a brief recess at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Fontanella called the meeting to order at 8:07 p.m.

C. Teachers Eligible for Tenure / Teachers' Performance (Executive Session Anticipated)

No action was required for this item.

Mrs. Finch made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Davis, to return to regular session. Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Finch, Mr. Nozik, Mrs. Rummel, and Ms. Whitmarsh voted for the motion, which carried. The Board returned to regular session at 8:35 p.m.

ITEM X. Student Matters

There were no Student Matters at this meeting.

ITEM XI. Adjournment

Ms. Whitmarsh made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Davis, to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Finch, Mr. Nozik, Mrs. Rummel, and Ms. Whitmarsh voted for the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine C. Marinelli, Recording Secretary

Mark Fontanella, Chairperson

Sandra Fowler, Secretary