

Hartland Consolidated Schools
Special meeting - Board of Education
October 23, 2006

Members present: T. Moody, E. McPherson-Brown, C. Aberasturi, N. Kessel, C. Sinelli, E. Jankowski, K. Kaszyca
Members absent: None
Admin. Present: L. Mayes, J. Sifferman, S. VanEpps, S. Bacon, G. Waldrup, C. Hughes, M. Otis, B. Meadows
Guests: M. Horning, M. Devitt, J. Denzer, J. Lyons, J. Horrocks-Boehmer, S. Aberasturi, G. McFarland, R. Jellison, T. Kendall

President Jankowski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Hartland Educational Support Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by McPherson-Brown, supported by Moody that the agenda for the October 23, 2006 special meeting be approved, that policy be set aside allowing Items II.B and II.C. to be treated as Action Items, and that public participation be allowed on all items. Motion carried 7-0. 10/23 AGENDA APPROVED

Motion by Moody, supported by Kaszyca that the minutes of the October 9, 2006 regular meeting be approved. Motion carried 7-0. 10/9 MINUTES APPROVED

Mark Horning spoke during the Call to Public in opposition of Proposal 5. CALL TO PUBLIC

Superintendent Sifferman introduced Jeff Dolowy of the district's audit firm, Plante & Moran, to present the 2005/06 Audit Report. Mr. Dolowy noted that the district received an "Unqualified Opinion" for both the state and federal audits. This is the highest level of assurance that can be given and indicates a clean report with no adjustments being necessary. Mr. Dolowy reviewed the revenues and expenditures for the district's various funds for 2005/06 and noted some of the challenges the district will face in the future, including unpredictable foundation allowance, health insurance and retirement costs, and uncertainty on the district's future growth. He also noted that throughout the state, even districts with fund balances at three to four times Hartland's percentage, are experiencing the same concerns. Mr. Bacon thanked Linda Mitchell and her staff for their work throughout the year. Ms. Sifferman congratulated Mr. Bacon on a clean audit and also thanked his staff. SUPT. REPORT
2005/06 AUDIT REPORT

Due to technical difficulties, the Board proceeded with Board Reports & Requests while the equipment was reconfigured for the high school presentation. Ms. Sinelli, Mr. Kaszyca, Ms. Kessel and Ms. McPherson-Brown spoke during Board Reports. (Mr. Aberasturi left here - 7:40 p.m.) BOARD REPORTS

Ms. Sifferman introduced Principal Chuck Hughes who highlighted the various happenings and accomplishments at Hartland High School. He then introduced Ms. A.J. Evenson and Ms. Judy Malecki, from the special education department at the high school. They explained what strategies they used during the 2005/06 school year to help their students perform better on standardized testing and subsequently help the high school make AYP for 2005/06. Mr. Hughes and Ms. Sifferman commended them on their creativity and dedication to their students. HHS HAPPENINGS

Ms. Sifferman then introduced Laurie Mayes, who updated the Board and public on the progress of the district's early elementary students, specifically those entering into the 1st grade. Ms. Mayes noted that in 2003/04, the last year the district received Title I funds, the percentage of students entering 1st grade who were considered "at risk" in the area of literacy was 35-40%. After introducing new professional development opportunities, literacy coaching, and reconfiguring the early childhood program, the percentage of students entering 1st grade in 2006/07 who are considered at risk is 15% (3% of whom are new to the district.) The Board thanked Ms. Mayes for her work in this area and noted that they will look forward to seeing this data play out over the next several years. Ms. Sifferman noted that when she took over as Superintendent, there were three areas on which she wanted to focus: curriculum & instruction, funding, and facilities. With the success of the new early elementary programming, the difficult decisions that will save \$5,000,000 over the next five years, and the upcoming renovation bond issue; the district is addressing all three issues.

EARLY
ELEMENTARY
UPDATE

Motion by Moody, supported by Kessel that the Board of Education adopts the Board Goals for 2006 - 2009 as presented and discussed. Motion carried 6-0.

2006 GOALS
APPROVED

Motion by Moody, supported by McPherson-Brown that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations, hires Barton Malow Company as the program manager for the 2006 Bond Issue and directs the administration to present a contract for approval at an upcoming meeting. Ms. Sifferman explained the process by which Barton Malow was chosen, including satisfaction with past work and knowledge of the district. Motion carried 6-0.

BARTON
MALOW
PROGRAM
MANAGER

Motion by McPherson-Brown, supported by Moody that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations, hires Kingscott Associates as the architects for the 2006 Bond Issue and directs the administration to present a contract for approval at an upcoming meeting. Ms. Sifferman noted that prior to the 2000 Bond the district sent out a RFP to several architectural firms and chose Kingscott for that project. The district has been satisfied with their work and would like to continue to use them for the 2006 Bond Issue, should it pass. Motion carried 6-0.

KINGSCOTT
ARCHITECTS

Ms. Mayes introduced Janel Horrocks-Boehmer and Trudi Esch, chairs of the Reproductive Health Committee, to begin the public hearing on the inclusion of the "On Fire" program to the reproductive health curriculum. Ms. Horrocks-Boehmer noted that this was an abstinence based reproductive health program with a middle school component. It is titled "Dating, Relating & Other Hot Topics" and is a free, 3-day program funded by United Way. Both she and Ms. Esch noted that this program received unanimous support from the Reproductive Health Committee and they were anxious to be able to include it as part of this semester's curriculum. This will come before the Board again at a public hearing on November 13 and the Board will take action at that time.

PUBLIC
HEARING:
"ON FIRE"
PROGRAM

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,
Elsie McPherson-Brown
Secretary

Paula Waters
Recording Secretary