

Hartland Consolidated Schools
Regular meeting - Board of Education
January 10, 2011

Members present: K. Kaszyca, M. Hutchinson, T. Dumond, E. McPherson-Brown, C. Sinelli (arrived 6:35 p.m.)
Members absent: C. Aberasturi, R. Perkins
Admin. Present: J. Sifferman, S. Bacon, S. VanEpps, L. Mayes, M. Otis, C. Hughes, M. Cheney, L. Pumford, D. Minsker, B. Cain, L. Smither, J. Reck, K. Evenson, D. Petish, S. Livingway
Guests: N. O'Leary, L. O'Leary, M. O'Leary, B. Gazda, N. Spranger, E. Pankowski, T. Spears, G. Knight, A. Daniels, R. MacLean, K. Keagan, A. Jacobs, C. Stanley-Nasr, D. McNutt, M. Casault, S. Wilson, L. McElligatt, T. Parisien, S. Swann, A. Cull, D. Aown, K. Havenhill, K. Nicholson, R. Zaddock, M. Gustafsson, J. Hill, A. Valeus

President Kaszyca called the meeting to order at 6:32 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 Hutchinson that the agenda for the January 10, 2011 regular meeting be approved, that policy be set aside allowing Item II.B. to be treated as an action item, and that public participation be allowed on all items. Motion carried 4-0.

12/6 MINUTES
APPROVED

Motion by Dumond, supported by McPherson-Brown that the minutes of the December 6, 2010 regular meeting be approved. Motion carried 5-0 (Ms. Sinelli arrived here - 6:35 p.m.)

CALL TO PUBLIC

There was no response to the Call to the Public.

SUPT. REPORT

Superintendent Sifferman introduced Mikki Cheney, Principal of Farms Intermediate School. Ms. Cheney thanked her assistant principal, Lawrence Pumford, her staff, students and parents for making Farms a wonderful place to be everyday. She then introduced Margaret Bandkau who outlined Farms' Title I program. Student MacKenzie Robinson spoke regarding her positive experiences with the Title I reading program. Ms. Cheney then introduced Angela Lewis, an extended resource room teacher, who, with student Nick O'Leary, discussed the different activities and opportunities her students participate in during the school year. Ms. Cheney then discussed Farms' School Improvement model for "climate" - modeling students' behavior and attitudes by promoting reason, respect & responsibility. Mr. Pumford then presented pictures highlighting students and teachers enjoying various activities at Farms Intermediate School.

Ms. Sifferman noted that the County Collaborative Committee (CCC) had met recently and discussed the possibility of LESA doing a Headlee Override election for the special education millage. The rate is currently at 2.6 mills, however 3.31 mills is authorized by the state, which would mean an additional \$7+ million for the county. LESA will be conducting a survey throughout the county. She also noted that she had recently read "Death & Life of the Great American School System" and purchased a copy to share among the Board if they were interested. It had interesting insights into the current state of public education and how we got where we are today.

Ms. Sifferman
asked Michelle
Otis to speak to
the Board

1/10 AGENDA
APPROVED

regarding the planned updates for the high school fitness room. Ms. Otis indicated that a nine-member committee comprised of school employees and the community has met to discuss the future of this room. They also had All-Pro Equipment do an evaluation on the current equipment, its condition and lifespan. Ms. Otis noted that over the next three years, under the terms of the 2009 Bond, new equipment will be phased in. However they are currently still in the process of determining what equipment is needed for the clientele. Jason Reck, Athletic Director, noted that currently student athletes are the primary users and their preference is for free weights, whereas the public generally prefers the machines. The committee will continue to survey and discuss the best course going forward.

Ms. Sifferman noted that *Education Executive*, a national magazine, will be doing a feature on Hartland Schools for an upcoming issue. She also noted that January is Board Appreciation Month and while Hartland always appreciates the hard work its Board puts in, a more formal show of appreciation will take place at the January 24 meeting.

BOARD REPORTS

Ms. Hutchinson noted that rumors are circulating that the state will once again dip into the school aid fund in order to balance the budget. This could mean reductions of over \$1,000 per pupil. She urged everyone to contact their state representatives. Contact information for our representatives will be available on the web site. Ms. Sinelli noted that Hartland will be hosting the LCASB Annual Meeting on March 30. The guest speaker will be columnist Phil Power. Mr. Kaszyca thanked Farms for its excellent presentation and congratulated Ms. Cheney and Mr. Pumford on a successful transition. Mr. Dumond thanked Ms. Cheney and Mr. Pumford for their presentation and noted that he always enjoys visiting Farms. Ms. McPherson-Brown addressed the Board and public stating that, after serving on the Board for eight years and after considerable soul-searching, she will not run for reelection in May. She noted that it has been a privilege to serve. (Ms. McPherson-Brown left the room here - 7:40 p.m.)

PAYMENT OF
INVOICES

Motion by Sinelli, supported by Hutchinson that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations, approves the financial report as of December 31, 2010 and the payment of invoices totaling \$1,931,094.96 and payroll obligations totaling \$1,837,969.99. Motion carried 4-0.

SENIOR
ADVISORY
BOARD

Motion by Dumond, supported by Hutchinson that the Board of Education, pursuant to the Senior Center Bylaws, approves the proposed representatives to the Senior Center Advisory Board for 2011-2013 as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

2011/12 HS
CURR. GUIDE

Principal Hughes, Hartland High School, entertained questions pertaining to the 2011/12 Curriculum Guide. Ms. Sinelli noted she appreciated the detail and explanation of the rationale in the document. Ms. Hutchinson asked if there were comparable classes in other languages to the French 5 course. Mr. Hughes noted that when there is enough interest, A/P Spanish is offered, which is comparable to French 5. He also noted that some students also do dual-enrollment German as German is not offered at the high school. (Ms. McPherson-Brown returned here.)

MIPHY SURVEY
years to gather
information from
middle and high
school students
regarding drugs
and alcohol.

Ms. Sifferman explained the history of the MiPHY Survey recently discussed at a CCC meeting at LESA. It is a survey that has been conducted for the past five- eight
SUPT. REPORT
(CONTINUED)

Hartland does not currently participate. Legislation has been passed that now requires districts seeking Drug Free School money to participate in this survey. While using this survey does not guarantee Drug-Free School money, the district does use this money for a variety of student-related programs including counseling and drug and alcohol assessments. Ms. Sifferman will forward the surveys to the Board to review and this will likely come before them again.

PUBLIC
HEARING:
REPRO HEALTH

Laurie Mayes, Asst. Superintendent of Curriculum, began the public hearing regarding new materials for the reproductive health curriculum. The new materials include new videos at the fifth grade level - "Growing up for Girls" and "Growing up for Boys"; a new text book for 7th & 8th grade titled "Teen Health" with two chapters on reproductive health; and a video for grades 9 - 12 titled "Everyone Is Not Doing It" - Part II - Emotional Rollercoaster. All of these materials received unanimous approval from the Reproductive Health Committee. Ms. Mayes noted that the committee is comprised of members of the clergy, health teachers, members of the medical profession, principals and parents. Fifty percent of the parent members cannot be employed by the district. These materials will come before the Board again for a second public hearing on January 24.

BOARD GOALS
SESSION

President Kaszyca noted that the Board will again meet next Tuesday, January 18, for its goals-setting session. Superintendent Sifferman will forward last year's goals to the Board for review.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elsie McPherson-Brown
Secretary

Paula Waters
Recording Secretary

MIPHY SURVEY
(CONTINUED)