

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
CHESTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
September 23, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Chester Board of Education was held on Tuesday, September 23, 2014. In attendance were Rodney Alston, Arthur Henick, Rob Bibbiani(7:04 Arrival), David Fitzgibbons and Wendy King. Also in attendance were Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent, Dr. Joanne Beekley, Assistant Superintendent, Michael Barile, Principal, Mr. Garth Sawyer, Business Manager and Kelley Frazier, Clerk. Absent:

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. King called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Arthur Henick moved to approve the Accounts Payable report. Rodney Alston seconded the motion which carried by a unanimous vote.

**STUDENT REPORT**

No report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**OTHER ITEMS:**

**Introduction of New Hires for CES**

Mr. Barile introduced the new staff members who discussed their previous experience.

**Principal's Report**

Mr. Barile gave a brief update on the opening of the school year. Facility updates were completed over the summer. It has been a great start to the new year. Board members mentioned that they like Mr. Barile's publication "Chalk Talk".

**CMT – Science – Grade 5 Only**

Mr. Barile discussed the scores on the Science CMT. He is very proud of the results. He also discussed his plan for science for the school year to maintain the momentum.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION – INTERVIEW POSSIBLE CANDIDATES TO FILL UP BOARD VACANCIES**

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously **VOTED** to move into Executive Session at 7:16pm to interview possible candidates for Board vacancies. The motion passed. Dr Levy was invited to stay.

The Board Moved out of Executive Session at 7:45pm.

On a motion made by David Fitzgibbons and seconded by Rodney Alston the Chester Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to nominate Charlene Fearon on the Chester Board of Education.

On a motion made by David Fitzgibbons and seconded by Rodney Alston the Chester Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to nominate Crystal Sonn on the Chester Board of Education.

Ms. King introduced the new members to the Administration. She noted that new members will need to be sworn in at the Chester Town Hall.

### **REPORTS:**

#### **2013-14 Financial Status**

Chester Elementary ended the school year with a surplus. This surplus will go back to the town when the audit is complete.

#### **Cafeteria Report – Mr. Sawyer**

Mr. Sawyer gave an update on the status of the Cafeteria Budget. Our sales have increased over the past year. The Breakfast Program has helped to increase the sale numbers.

#### **Financial Status Report – Mr. Sawyer**

Mr. Sawyer gave a brief update of the financial status for Chester Elementary School. Currently Chester is projecting a small deficit. It is very early in the year and we are confident that we will mitigate this issue and come within our appropriation for the end of the year. We will keep the Board informed of any developments that may arise.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Finance**

The Finance Committee is scheduled to meet on September 30, 2014. Ms. King asked new members to consider being on this committee. We also need a person for the Policy Committee.

#### **Policy**

The Expulsion policy was completed and will be presented and voted on at the Joint Board of Education meeting.

### **Curriculum**

The summer curriculum work was completed. We are reviewing the Math instruction and how students should solve problems. MAP testing was discussed. The Professional Development Plan was posted on the website for the entire year. Teacher and Administrator Evaluation were discussed.

### **Joint PK-12 Policy Committee**

No Update

### **Supervision District**

No Update

### **LEARN Committee Update**

No Update

### **Declining Enrollment Task Force**

The meeting on Monday, September 29, 2014 will be postponed. This will be rescheduled.

### **OTHER ITEMS:**

#### **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – J. Beekley**

##### **General Update**

Dr. Beekley said that we have had a great opening to school. The MAP training has gone very well. The next Professional Development day will be reviewing the reporting from this testing. Parents will receive a report three times a year. She is looking at Professional Development for next year.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - R. Levy**

##### **District Update**

Dr. Levy said that this has been the smoothest year that we have ever had across all five schools. She is very proud of the Administrative Team. We have had a number of new hires in the district. We now have the ability to pay online for cafeteria accounts. An email will go out when balances are below zero. Dr. Levy noted that the district will work with families who have a hardship.

##### **Discussion Regarding Any Pending Policies Policy #5114 Expulsion**

The policy was discussed. This policy will be voted on October 2, 2014 at the Joint Board of Education meeting. Questions may be sent to Dr. Levy.

##### **Vote to Appoint Shipman and Goodwin as Legal Counsel for 2014-15.**

Upon a motion made by David Fitzgibbons and seconded by Rodney Alston the Chester Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to appoint Shipman and Goodwin as legal counsel for 2014-15.

### **Discuss Legal Services**

There has been discussion about going out for an RFP for legal services. This will be discussed further at the Joint Board of Education meeting. Dr. Levy and Ms .King voiced their support of continuing to use Shipman and Goodwin. They have provided our district with good support in the past. They have provided us with Professional Development training at no additional cost. Mr. Fitzgibbons noted that he feels so much could be lost if we changed our legal provider. It would be a costly and time consuming process to go out for RFP.

### **Vote to Approve Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Plans**

The plan was discussed.

Upon a motion made by David Fitzgibbons and seconded by Rodney Alston, the Chester Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Plans as presented.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Comment

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously **VOTED** to move into Executive Session at 8:35pm for the Presentation of the Superintendent's Goals. The motion passed. Dr Levy was invited to stay.

The Board Moved out of Executive Session at 9:40pm.

On a motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 9:41pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Board Clerk

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- 10.1 Joint BOE Next Regular Meeting October 2, 2014 @7:00pm (JWMS)
- 10.2 Chester BOE Next Regular Meeting November 24, 2014 @7:00pm
- 10.3 Presentation of Major Budget Drivers for 2015-16(Nov)
- 10.4 Election of Board officers (Nov. or after seating of new members)
- 10.5 BOE and Community input for 2015-16 Budget (on-going)
- 10.6 BOE Self-evaluation (TBD)