

SOUTHINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR MEETING
May 9, 2013

The regular meeting of the Southington Board of Education was held on Thursday, May 9, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Center in the Public Assembly Room located at 200 North Main Street, Southington, Connecticut.

1. BOARD RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Erardi and members of his administrative team, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. DiNello, Mr. Cox, and Dr. Murdica, recognized the Sixth Annual 2013 Profiles in Professionalism honorees for their outstanding service and contributions to the school system. Twelve honorees were selected from a pool of people who were nominated by employees of the school system. The Selection Committee was made up of last year's recipients. The honorees, which represent the best in the Southington schools, were presented with a plaque, engraved glass apple paperweight, and a box of chocolates. The honorees were:

Linda Blanchard, Executive Secretary, Director of Business & Finance
Lisa Christensen, Parent Volunteer, Kelley Elementary School
Teresa Colegrove, Technology Secretary
Alicia DesSureault, Teacher, Hatton Elementary School
Marianne Fish, Teacher, Southington High School
Irene Langlais, Volunteer, Thalberg Elementary School, "Genevieve's Teaching Garden"
Elizabeth Lutz, Principal, Kelley Elementary School
Henry Materek, HVAC Maintenance Technician I
Jennifer Paul, Literacy Specialist, Southington High School
Rosemary Savoy, Paraprofessional, Flanders Elementary School
Diane Stolz, School Nurse, Derynoski Elementary School
Mary Jane Sullivan, Teacher, Strong Elementary School

A brief recess was called and refreshments were served.

2. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Chairperson, Mr. Brian Goralski. Board members present were Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mrs. Patricia Johnson, Mrs. Terry Lombardi, Mrs. Jill Notar-Francesco, Mrs. Patricia Queen, and Mr. Zaya Oshana. Absent was Mr. David Derynoski.

Present from the administration were Dr. Joseph Erardi, Jr., Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Karen Smith, Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. Sherri DiNello, Director of Business and Finance; Mr. Frederick Cox, Director of Operations, and Dr. Perri Murdica, Director of Pupil Services.

Student Representatives present were Miss Whitney DiMeo and Miss Abigail Harris.

There were approximately 100 individuals in the audience.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The student representatives led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION: by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mrs. Notar-Francesco:

“Move to move agenda items 9c and 9d to 3a and 3b.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

MOTION: by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mrs. Notar-Francesco:

“Move to add School Safety to the Executive Session agenda.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

a. Appointment of Principal of Kelley Elementary School

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mrs. Lombardi:

“Move to appoint Marilyn Kahl as the principal for Kelley Elementary School with a start date of July 1, 2013 and a salary of \$121,105.”

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Lombardi, Mrs. Notar-Francesco, Mr. Oshana, Mrs. Queen, Mrs. Carmody, Mrs. Clark, Mr. Goralski. **Motion carried unanimously.**

b. Appointment of Assistant Principal of Southington High School

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mrs. Lombardi:

“Move to appoint Michael Halloran as an assistant principal for Southington High School with a start date of July 1, 2013 and a salary of \$120,607.”

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES –Mrs. Lombardi, Mrs. Notar-Francesco, Mr. Oshana, Mrs. Queen, Mrs. Carmody, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Clark, Mr. Goralski. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Goralski welcomed the administrators and invited them to the podium to say a few words.

Mrs. Kahl thanked the members of the Board of Education, administration, and the interview committee for the opportunity. She stated that it's been an amazing two years as an administrator and she has learned so much and looks forward to it continuing. She thanked Betty Lutz for her years of service and acknowledged that she has incredibly big shoes to fill. She stated that she would do her best to continue the wonderful success that Mrs. Lutz has had at Kelley School. Mrs. Kahl continued by thanking her mentor, Mrs. Jan Verderame and her family. Education was very important to her parents. She concluded by stating she looks forward to her future at Kelley Elementary School and she promised to do her best and make everyone proud.

Mr. Halloran stated that he is very much looking forward to the tremendous opportunities that the future holds. Southington has a well-deserved reputation for excellence in education. He is looking forward to contributing his skills and knowledge to help ensure that all students achieve success at high levels. Mr. Halloran thanked the Board and stated that it's clear that there is a tremendous wealth of skill between teachers and staff in the district. He continued that it's an honor and privilege to be able to serve his community. He thanked his wife and children and was excited to meet everyone.

A short recess was called at 7:50 p.m. to congratulate Mrs. Kahl and Mr. Halloran.

The meeting reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mrs. Carmody:

“Move to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 25, 2013.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

a. Special Meeting Minutes ~ May 1, 2013

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mrs. Clark:

“Move to approve the Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes of May 1, 2013.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

b. Special Meeting Minutes ~ May 7, 2013

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mrs. Clark:

“Move to approve the Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes of May 7, 2013.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Communications from Audience

Arthur Cyr, 103 Berlin Avenue: Mr. Cyr shared that he attended all of the middle school building committee meetings. He wanted to thank Mr. Goralski and Mrs. Clark for sitting on that committee. There was an article on April 28, 2013 in the Record Journal by Eric Cotton who wrote about budgetary items taking place in another district with their school renovations. The building committee in Southington did an excellent job in keeping to a realistic budget and they faced some big hurdles. He's amazed at what the committee and subcommittees did to institute cost changes and to still give the community two great middle schools in an adequate budget. He thanked both Mr. Goralski and Mrs. Clark.

b. Communications from Board Members and Administration

Communication from Board Members:

Mrs. Lombardi shared that the Southington FFA was recognized in a National FFA magazine, FFA New Horizons. The Southington group found a way to benefit their chapter by turning old feed bags into new shopping bags and aprons and selling them to the community. Both Mrs. Lombardi and Mrs. Johnson purchased a bag. They can be purchased at the high school and she encourages all Board members to stop by the Agricultural Science and Technology Center to view the items. They come in several different patterns.

Mr. Goralski requested a moment of silence in honor of Ms. Patricia Hurley, Ms. Luella Foley, and Ms. Cherraine Davis.

Ms. Hurley was employed with the Southington Public Schools as a World Language Teacher at DePaolo Middle School, from September 1969 until her retirement of June 30, 2003, a total of 34 years.

Ms. Luella Foley was employed with the Southington Public Schools as a school nurse from September 1961 until her retirement on June 30, 1976, a total of 15 years.

Ms. Davis was a 2012 graduate of Southington High School.

All brought a great deal to the district and deserve the recognition.

Communication from Administration:

Administration reported the following:

1. **Southington Public Schools/Library Partnership:** Dr. Erardi stated that the district has a positive relationship with the Southington Public Library and will launch a kindergarten partnership. He attached documents that are distributed to families during the kindergarten registration and orientation process. The district

encourages all kindergarteners to visit the library with their families and obtain a library card. Dr. Erardi is confident that this program will continue to be successful.

2. **Veteran Partnership: House of Heroes, April 27:** Dr. Erardi had the privilege to represent the Board of Education on April 27, 2013. During the afternoon with his veteran's partnership, he shared some remarks with two very appreciative homeowners. The House of Heroes program is intended for veterans in need. They have remarkable resources that took all day with nearly a dozen hands at each home. The end of the day was full of emotion because of the gratitude and thanks from the homeowners. Dr. Erardi shared how impressed he is with the organization and all the people who were there to help.
3. **"Because of 26" ~ June 15:** Dr. Erardi asked that the Board Members join him on June 15. There will be a planting, a memorial, a recognition, and a meaningful moment that will be shared in our community in respect to the tragedy on December 14, 2012. Many Newtown officials will be there, and Dr. Erardi is privileged to speak at the event.
4. **JFK STEM Academy ~ Promise Grant:** This was an add-on opportunity in Southington. Ms. Dale Riedinger received a Promise Grant that promotes mastery in STEM education. Through Dale's leadership, it was a pilot program at JFK. Three staff members took time in the summer of 2012 to attend a training session. The program is being rolled-out now and, in speaking with Mr. Madancy, Principal at Kennedy Middle School, it's a special learning opportunity for students. They hope to expand the program next school year in both middle schools.

c. **Communications from Student Board Representatives**

Miss Harris reported:

- Congratulations to all who were honored with the Profiles in Professionalism as it's a fantastic achievement.
- Dr. Semmel asked that she share his message of congratulations to both Mr. Halloran and Mrs. Kahl in their newly appointed positions.
- Dr. Semmel was not able to attend the meeting because he was representing Southington High School in a dodge ball tournament against Cheshire High School. Funds raised for this event are going to Relay for Life on behalf of all those who passed away in the Sandy Hook tragedy.
- Student Council is doing a school supply drive for a school in Liberia. This school was raided during conflict within the country. This puts Southington High School on a global level.

Miss DiMeo reported:

- Academics awards night was held on May 8. This is a great program that acknowledges the strengths of many students. Over 80 students were recognized.
- Next week is the last week of AP exams.

- The Scholarship Awards evening is scheduled for May 16. This year, twenty-eight percent of the class is receiving scholarships. The application process was much easier this year than in years past because students were able to complete the applications electronically.
- The Art Show is scheduled for May 13. There is a great deal of talent at the high school, and on display will be jewelry, photography, drawings, and much more.
- May 15 is the blood drive.
- May 18 is the senior prom.
- May 15 there will be senior community-grown assembly, recognizing the effects of distracted drivers. Presenting will be a trauma nurse, attorney, and school resource officer. There will be a car that was involved in a crash on display at the school. This is a symbol of what could happen when you're distracted while driving. They are hoping that, when students get the visual of the wrecked car, it will have an impact on the decisions they make when driving.

6. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

a. Personnel Report

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mrs. Carmody:

“Move to approve the Personnel Report, as submitted.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Finance Committee Meeting ~ April 23, 2013

1. Transfer of Funds

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mrs. Lombardi:

“Move to approve the Transfer of Funds, as submitted.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

2. Contracted Custodial Services – Extensions

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mrs. Lombardi:

“Move to approve the contracted custodial services extensions as recommended by the Finance Committee.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The committee recommended extensions with Performance Environmental Services for Southington High School and the Municipal Center with a zero percent increase. They also recommended Capital Cleaning for the base bid at Derynoski Elementary School, DePaolo and Kennedy Middle Schools, and for the summer at Derynoski only. Because of the construction at the middle schools, Mr. Cox will be getting an hourly cost and a price for services conducted on an as-needed basis.

Mrs. Carmody asked if the district is pleased with the job that the company has been doing at the schools, and it was confirmed that they are pleased with the work.

Mrs. Johnson asked about the process when referencing cleaning being done on an “as-needed basis.” Mr. Cox explained that approximately one-third of the facility will be under abatement. They are running a two-shift abatement program immediately following the end of the school year. They will have custodians assigned for first and second shift. Some of the work will be done by them during their workdays. Knowing the way construction schedules go, he did ask Capitol Cleaning for an hourly proposal should they need to bring in a group of people to do the final cleaning of lockers and wipe down or dusting. Thirty percent of the flooring will be removed. He predicts this will work very well and will do the same next year.

3. YMCA Reimbursement Rates 2013-2014

MOTION: by Mrs. Notar-Francesco, seconded by Mrs. Carmody:

“Move to approve the YMCA reimbursement rates for 2013-2014 as recommended by the Finance Committee.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Mrs. Notar-Francesco stated that the facilities rented by the YMCA for the before and after school program for students include Derynoski, Flanders, Hatton, Kelley, Strong, and Thalberg Elementary Schools.

Mrs. Notar-Francesco shared that there was also a Continuing Education update. Mrs. DiNello explained to the Finance Committee the history of the funding for this program. It’s a mandated program that is partially funded through state grants. The Board contribution for the program in 2010-2011 was reduced because there were funds available through the enrichment program. Those funds are no longer available. This year, the Board of Education will need to cover the shortfall of approximately \$8,000.

Mrs. Notar-Francesco further explained that the total cost of the state-mandated GED program is \$41,679. The Board of Education contribution is \$27,925. However, the Board approved only \$19,000 in next year’s budget. That means that, in next year’s budget, they will need to reallocate additional funds in the amount of \$8,925 to support the program.

An additional item from the Finance Committee meeting that she wanted to share with the Board is the conversation that Mr. Goralski initiated regarding the turf field. It was shared by Mr. Goralski that there was a misunderstanding surrounding the funding of the eventual replacement of the turf field. Mr. Goralski explained to the Finance Committee that the Turf Advisory Committee expects a \$40,000 contribution from the Board of Education budget each year to put into this turf fund. The \$40,000 amount was presented as savings by the Turf

Advisory Committee to various town elected boards when presentations were made. It seems that there are certain members who are under the belief that the Board of Education made the commitment to give that money for replacement of the field. However, Finance Committee members who were present (Mrs. Lombardi, Mr. Derynoski, and Mrs. Notar-Francesco) all shared the same recollection that the Board of Education made no such commitment to fund the field or the replacement cost through their budget. The Board of Education members on the Finance Committee shared that they would be pleased to partner with the Turf Advisory Committee to find ways to fundraise to replace the field without using taxpayer dollars. Mr. Oshana stated that he also had the same recollection. He believes that the comment made was that “there would be no money coming from the Board of Education or the Town of Southington.”

Mr. Goralski stated that he wanted to go to the Finance Committee with the request. He serves the Board of Education on the current Turf Advisory Committee. He would like to bring back a message that, although there may be some miscommunication in the original public presentations, they all saw the same presentations. The Board of Education is an active partner. They stayed very engaged and they made the motion about the placing of the turf at the football field, which is now the community field. He would like to bring back to the committee that tax dollars are tax dollars; regardless of which budget they come from. The commitment that was strongest was that no tax dollars would be used for the replacement of the turf field. To use Board of Education budget dollars in the turf replacement fund would be contrary to the biggest commitment that was made to the community. He will also state that their partnership is strong and comes in many forms. They have committed to the one-dollar ticket price, Knightvertising, and the willingness through the Booster Clubs to be actively involved in facility upgrading. The turf advisory and some of the Booster Clubs will see this to the end. They will improve the facilities for the community now that the community field exists. He will remind them of those partnerships in which we strongly believe and their willingness to be part of any activities to raise funds. He will share this message with Mr. DeFeo following the meeting.

Mr. Goralski read the minutes of March 22, 2012, that stated they would not use the operational budget for the installation of the field, and he believes that it was implied that it would not be used for the replacement. The community message was that they would not use taxpayer dollars. The exact motion from that meeting read: *“Move to approve that the recommendation of the Turf Advisory Committee as it relates to the installation of synthetic grass on the Southington High School Fontana Field and the resurfacing of the track. This approval is also based upon the provisions that the project will be funded outside of the Operational Plan of the Southington Board of Education and that the field would benefit both the school and the community.”*

Mr. Goralski continued that the motion talks about the installation, not the replacement. That is what he meant by the clarification. He believes that it’s implied. When you read the discussion that took place at that meeting, there is a statement on page 12 of those minutes from Mr. Oshana that reads, “Taxpayer dollars are taxpayer dollars.” He will bring this message back to the committee and he believes that they will move on with their partnership.

Mrs. Queen believes there is still the outstanding question that can be raised which is, “Is there a \$40,000 savings as a result of the turf committee?” Mr. Goralski stated that there was a \$40,000 cost for maintaining the fields that takes into account the maintenance staff and involves paint, water, upkeep, fertilizer, etc. There is a savings in water and other areas and that number

is in the \$15,000 range. That amount was taken into account in this year's budget. They did not reduce the workforce because there is a great deal of work still needed and being done in the district. Mrs. Queen wanted to clarify that they are not achieving a \$40,000 savings in the budget because of the turf fields. She asked if there is an increased cost in electricity. Mr. Goralski stated that the cost of electricity is one of the biggest unknowns, and that cost is monitored by Mr. Cox's and Mrs. DiNello's offices.

Mrs. Lombardi stated that it's clear and to the point in the statement read that the Board of Education is making no commitment to funding the field or the replacement costs. She recommends that he stay with that verbiage.

8. OLD BUSINESS

a. Town Government Communications

Mrs. Notar-Francesco shared that the Self-Insurance Committee met on May 2 to review the last 12 months insurance claim information and the most recent numbers. The Committee changed the funding level for 2013-2014 from \$22,400,000 to \$21,850,000 due to better claims experiences over the last 12 months. This results in a \$550,000 reduction in the funding for the self-insurance, overall fund. She asked that Mrs. DiNello speak to the possible impact to the budget.

Mrs. DiNello stated that the Self Insurance Committee reduced the funding for 2013-2014 by \$550,000. The Board of Education makes up 76.5% of the overall fund. The gross savings to the Board of Education, its employees, and retirees would amount to \$420,750. However, the anticipated budget reduction for 2013-2014 is approximately \$300,000. The difference is the reduction and the premium shares that the employees will be paying from the December rates, shared by Anthem, to the new April renewal rates. These rates take the positive trends that they had over the last 12 months into that calculation. She tried to be very vocal at the meeting to share that, although they are pleased about the savings, the employees and the retirees are sharing in that new trend data. She confirmed numbers with Bob Lindberg, consultant from Lindberg and Ripple. The calculations are almost identical in reaching the \$300,000 savings for the Board of Education budget. Premiums are increasing over the current year; however, the increase is not as large as they thought it would be in December.

Mr. Goralski reminded the Board that on Monday evening the Town Council will be taking action on the budget. He is unable to attend that meeting.

He submitted two appropriation requests on behalf of the Board for rentals and tuition and agricultural equipment. If the Board of Finance needs someone present, he will do his best to attend.

b. Construction Update

Mr. Cox reported the following:

DePaolo Middle Schools contractors' pre-bid meeting took place on May 2. Approximately 40 companies signed in and took the tour. The first bid opening will take place on May 13. There are 16 trade packages.

Kennedy Middle Schools contractors' pre-bid meeting took place on May 8. Approximately 40 companies signed in. The first bid opening will be held on May 17.

c. Administrator Evaluation Plan Update

Mrs. Smith reported that the Administrator Evaluation Plan is moving forward as of today. All administrators will fall under the category of SEED evaluation for next school year, beginning July 1. The administrator plan parallels what was presented to the Board of Education on the Teacher Evaluation and Support Plan. The administrators will end the next school year in one of four categories: Exemplary, Proficient, Developing, or Below Standard. They will reach one of those categories based on the following:

- 40% is leadership practice
- 10% of the evaluation is from stakeholder feedback
- 45% is related to student achievement and learning
- 5% is teacher effectiveness, which is measured by the aggregation of teachers learning objectives

Mrs. Smith will report back to the Board following her next workshop with the committee. Training is scheduled from now until June and will continue in August at the Administrator Institute that is scheduled for August 15 and 16.

d. Teacher Evaluation Plan Update

On May 21, a two-hour curriculum meeting is scheduled and all staff will be receiving an in-depth analysis of the Teacher Evaluation and Support Plan. It will be an intense year with new learning.

Mrs. Johnson recalled that the state gave a one-year abatement for the Teacher Evaluation, but not for the administrator plan. Mrs. Smith explained that the state did offer them the opportunity to scale back slightly with the Teacher Evaluation Plan. There are teachers of certain areas that would have a one-year abatement. However, they are including all academic areas in the training, as it's only a one-year delay. Everyone will still be evaluated officially. Areas such as art, music, physical education, guidance, etc. will delay for one year. Southington will be meeting more than the requirements set forth by the state to have at least one half of the staff participating. Therefore, it will be full participation with professional development and implementation for most groups, and all administrators. It's creating some challenges and will continue to focus on the management of this plan.

Mrs. Queen asked about the climate of the teachers and if they were feeling anxious about this new plan. Mrs. Smith agreed that there was some anxiety. However, she believes that the way it's being presented is just as important. The feedback is how we roll this out and how

we present is just as important. The committee has been working hard to create a common language script. The message is that “We are all in this together” and the learning will continue one step at a time.

Mrs. Lombardi asked if there was any role that the administration would like the Board to play in this process. Mrs. Smith explained that, at this time, there isn't anything the Board can do to assist. Dr. Erardi stated that legislation is very specific that the School Board must stay neutral without bias or prejudice just in case there is ever an appeal to the Board in regard to termination. Mrs. Notar-Francesco stated that the sole responsibility of the Board of Education is to understand the plan and its components, and support the administration by providing them with the resources they need to get the job done.

Mrs. Lombardi also wondered if the district already had an evaluation plan for administrators. Dr. Erardi stated that our evaluation for our administration team is comprehensive. Dr. Erardi and Mrs. Smith are beginning their summative evaluations for all lead administrators. To start the year, everyone must have a school improvement plan that's measureable with data in place. They must have direct goals and objectives that are focused on safety, community, and instruction. They meet with a mid-year evaluation, a summative evaluation that sets the stage for the following school year. Dr. Erardi will also be forwarding to the Board a position statement from CAFE of the concern of the projected funds that were supposed to be coming to local districts for professional development that has already been eliminated. He hopes that they all can be vocal on this topic.

Dr. Erardi also wanted to mention that, if the Board was on the outside looking in on the professional development that took place last week, they would have seen a model two hours. At 6:00 p.m., when the program was scheduled to end, the group was still enthusiastic and asking questions. The engagement was extraordinary and does not happen by accident. It was the work of the teacher evaluation committee and Mrs. Smith. Mrs. Smith took a moment to recognize and thank Mr. Bob Brown and Ms. Dale Riedinger who were in the audience. She noted that this has been successful because of the respect and relationships. Mr. Brown, president of the SEA, has done an amazing job.

Mr. Goralski asked if the Administrator Evaluation Committee also has teachers on it like the Teacher Evaluation Committee. Mrs. Smith stated that they only had one meeting. In informal conversations with some members of the committee, they would like to get feedback from teachers who sit on the Teacher Evaluation Plan since their plan will parallel the administrative plan. There will be input from teachers on some level.

Mrs. Johnson stated that she was distressed listening to all the requirements of the new Evaluation Plan and wondered if the district would be limited on taking on any new initiatives. She questioned how different the new plans are from the excellent plans the district already has in place. Mrs. Smith stated that all ongoing initiatives would continue. In reference to the differences in the plans, Mrs. Smith explained that there are some differences. For example, she and Dr. Erardi will be responsible for officially conducting formal evaluations for every new administrator four times during the year. For veteran administrators, the evaluations will be required a minimum of two times per year. The evaluations will be more focused, directed, and self-reflective. Another difference is the numerical piece at the end of the process. The district has always had a narrative and comprehensive plan.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Year-End Report on 2012-2013 Superintendent's Goals

Dr. Erardi presented his goals for the Board to review. He shared that this year, there were more hurdles, and more difficult hurdles. In all cases and at all times, the administration and the Board worked in partnership. They never lost sight of what was best for children. The document presented was a compilation of the work from the Board, the superintendent, and the central office staff.

MOTION: by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mrs. Lombardi:

“Move to accept the Superintendent’s 2012-2013 End of the Year Goals, as presented.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Mrs. Carmody agreed with Dr. Erardi. She is overwhelmed with all the goals that were set and met. It was a difficult year and she was very proud of everything accomplished as a team.

Mr. Oshana stated that it’s very important that everyone sees what was accomplished. There were a huge number of goals and all were accomplished. It’s important that the press get this document.

Mr. Goralski stated that the Board, in partnership with the administration, cabinet and staff, share this information in PTO meetings, Board meetings, and PTO Executive Council meetings. He believes that the message is clear. The document shows the work and Dr. Erardi deserves credit as the leader of the organization. Great leadership usually leads to great teamwork. He is eager to share the document with the community.

Mrs. Lombardi noted that the candidates that came before the Board for interviews commented consistently about Southington. People want to come to Southington to teach and to lead because of their reputation and the results.

Mrs. Queen commented that she is always so impressed with how extraordinary they are. She agrees with the other Board members. It epitomizes the motto, good to great. Southington sets the standard of excellence and it happens through the individual goals.

b. Healthy Food Certification

MOTION: by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mrs. Clark:

“Move that all food items offered for sale to students in schools will not meet state standards for the period of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Mr. Goralski explained that, while the motion reads, “will *not* meet” that does not mean that the district doesn’t want to be healthy. Because of the guidelines from the state, they are required to make this motion. Southington was recognized on the state level for their efforts to improve the quality of healthy foods for their students. In no way does the district not encourage healthy eating.

Mrs. Notar-Francesco asked what the reimbursement is per meal and Mrs. DiNello will get the answer and follow-up with her.

10. Executive Session for Personnel and Unaffiliated Contracts

MOTION: by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mrs. Notar-Francesco:

“Move that the Board go into Executive Session, excluding the public and the press, for the purpose of discussing Personnel, Unaffiliated Contracts, and School Safety, and upon conclusion reconvene to public session.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11. Adjournment

MOTION: by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mrs. Notar-Francesco:

“Move to adjourn.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Passamano

Recording Secretary

Southington Board of Education

**SOUTHINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION
MAY 9, 2013**

Mr. Brian Goralski, Board Chairperson, called the Executive Session to order at 9:10 p.m.

Board Members Present: Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mrs. Patricia Johnson, Mrs. Terry Lombardi, Mrs. Jill Notar-Francesco, Mr. Zaya Oshana, Mrs. Patricia Queen, and Mr. Brian Goralski.

Board Members Absent: Mr. David Derynoski.

Administration Present: Dr. Joseph V. Erardi, Jr., Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Karen Smith, Assistant Superintendent, and Mrs. Sherri DiNello, Director of Business and Finance.

MOTION: by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mrs. Notar-Francesco:

“Move that the Board go into Executive Session, excluding the public and the press, for the purpose of discussing Personnel, Unaffiliated Contracts, and School Safety, and upon conclusion reconvene to public session.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Mrs. Smith and Mrs. DiNello left the Executive Session meeting at 9:30 pm.

MOTION: by Mrs. Clark, seconded by Mrs. Carmody:

“Move to reconvene into public session.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The Board reconvened into public session at 10:01 p.m.

MOTION: by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mrs. Notar-Francesco:

“Move to adjourn.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The Board adjourned at 10:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jill Notar-Francesco, Secretary
Southington Board of Education