

East Haddam Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes
Nathan Hale-Ray High School Cafeteria
October 13, 2009
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nick Iacovelli, Tracey Gionta, Bryan Perry, Mary Beth Mordecai, Deborah Fiala, Alan Hyla, Nancy Haslam, Everett Herden, Kerri Willis

STUDENT COUNCIL REP. PRESENT: Kevin Staehly, Jonathan Comer, Skylar Vumback

STUDENT COUNCIL REP. ABSENT: Rachel Johnson

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Ellen Solek, Bob Carroll, Linda Dadona, Matt Espinosa, Jason Peacock, Roy Parker, Joanne Collins, Mary Beth Havens, David Scata, First Selectman Mark Walter, George Tripp, Carolyn Hart, Cathy Poulin, Ruth Ziobron, Suzy Miner, Jen Ingalls and approximately seven other faculty and citizens

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Nick Iacovelli.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. REPORT OF THE BOARD CHAIR

A. Communications

Cathy Poulin from Bob's Discount Furniture presented a grant check in the amount of \$5,000 to be used for cultural arts assemblies during the 2009-2010 school year at Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School. Mr. Peacock explained that Carolyn Hart had made him aware of the grant. The opportunity was sent home to parents on Edline and the winning drawing had been submitted by Mrs. Hart. Ms. Poulin reviewed various outreach programs offered by Bob's Discount Furniture.

B. Report from High School Student Council Representatives

The High School Council Representatives reported the following:

- The High School has been selected by Channel 3 to be in their "Cool Schools" Program. It will be broadcasted October 23rd. Students will need to be at school at 4:30 a.m. It will be aired at 6.a.m. Filming has started this week;
- Spirit week will be held October 19-23rd;

III. REPORT OF THE BOARD CHAIR (continued)**B. Report from High School Student Council Representatives (continued)**

- A Fall Festival Theme day will be held October 22nd, in which students are asked to dress as their favorite actor or actress;
- PSATs start October 14th for sophomores and juniors;
- SATs were offered October 10th;
- Seniors have begun requesting letters of recommendation and filling out college applications. Mrs. Shea has been assisting students with their college essays;
- There will be a Glow in the Dark Dance on October 30th;
- Volleyball, boys' and girls' soccer and cross country are still in progress.

C. Report from Middle School Student Council Representatives

The Middle School Council Representatives reported the following:

- A Toothpaste drive is underway. The collection benefits United Way. The middle school has collected over 637 tubes of toothpaste;
- Teens in Action are working in conjunction with the fuel bank;
- Peer Helpers have started this week. There are over 40 participants;
- Teens in Action is sponsoring an adopt a grandparent at Chestelm;
- Auditions have been successful for the Variety Show with over 95 participants. The Variety Show will be November 12th and 13th. MPAC is sponsoring the Variety Show;
- The soccer teams are using the new fields;
- The Lake Compounce trip sponsored by the Student Council on Friday was well attended by over 140 6th-8th graders;
- There will be a walk-a-thon this week sponsored by MPAC. Proceeds are used for field trips, cultural arts activities, assemblies, and school-wide events.

The Council Representatives were excused.

D. Report from the First Selectman

First Selectman Walter reviewed a meeting with the corporate sponsor representative, Deb Vochane from United Way and Toni McCabe. This meeting was to review making United Way visible in town. United Way is a huge benefactor in our town. Grants are given in town from United Way to benefit Early Childhood, Youth and Family Services, Boy Scouts, and Homeless Shelters. First Selectman Walter noted all of these funds totaled more than \$50,000 a year. A letter will be sent out to all town employees focusing on United Way's new campaign and encouraging participation in the program.

Ms. Mordecai noted that First Selectman Walter had been participating in Board of Education meetings for two years and asked him to reflect on what he had learned and how it helped the town. She asked if the interaction between the Selectman and the Board of Education had helped the town. First Selectman Walter replied the Board of

III. REPORT OF THE BOARD CHAIR (continued)**D. Report from the First Selectman (continued)**

Education's job was complicated, noting it was a balancing act to provide the best education for the students with the resources, staff, and programs available. First Selectman Walter stated he had a better understanding of the challenges the Board had to adapt to the State and Federal Government mandates. First Selectman Walter stated there was much talent in the teachers and staff, explaining his understanding of the rigorous focus on testing which the Board is held to. First Selectman Walter stated East Haddam had one of the better systems, with the ability to adapt well to students that were not strictly college bound; referencing the electric car program, CAD program i.e. programs teaching students alternatives to college or industrial arts. First Selectman Walter noted of his understanding of the Board's challenges.

IV. ACTION ON THE MINUTES

MOTION: Gionta, Fiala; to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of September 15, 2009.

FAVOR (7): Gionta, Haslam, Perry, Willis, Fiala, Mordecai, Hyla

OPPOSED (0): None

ABSTENTIONS (1): Herden

ABSENT (0)

MOTION PASSED

V. REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEES**A. 4-8 Middle School**

Ms. Mordecai reported warranty items were being finalized. The committee is waiting for Newfield Construction's final invoice in order to close out the project. The next SBC meeting is tomorrow evening.

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Solek presented a certificate of appreciation to Ms. Willis and a plaque to Mr. Iacovelli for their service on the Board of Education.

There was a brief recess at 7:20 p.m. for cake in celebration.

The meeting resumed at 7:33 p.m.

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (CONTINUED)**A. Field Trip Request to China**

Dr. Solek noted the Girls High School Softball team was requesting permission to take a field trip to Orlando, Florida. The request was included in Board member's packets. Suzy Miner and Jen Ingalls were available for questions.

George Tripp, High School History/Social Studies teacher, presented a trip proposal to China. The proposal and itinerary were included in Board member's packets. This trip will take place during April 2010 break. Currently, 20 people are formally committed to attending. Mr. Tripp anticipates the final attendance to be around 30. Fundraising is taking place for this trip. A scholarship fund will be made with fundraising money for students in need of assistance.

Responsive to a question by Mrs. Gionta, Mr. Tripp replied there was a 50/50 split between adults and students. Responsive to a question by Mrs. Haslam, Mr. Tripp replied this was the second year for this trip, previously they went in 2007. The itinerary has changed slightly from the 2007 trip. Ms. Mordecai questioned if people from the 2007 trip were going on this trip to China, to which Mr. Tripp replied affirmatively, approximately 6 or 7 people.

Mr. Tripp informed the Board that there were going to be monthly meetings for attendees of the trip. During September's meeting, there was a Chinese dinner. October's meeting will have historical discussions and various Chinese movies. Other meetings will include Chinese language to teach the culture and language of China prior to the trip.

B. 2009 CMT/CAPT Review

Dr. Solek highlighted the relevance of the CMT/CAPT results and reviewed the No Child Left Behind federally legislature focused around student performance. Dr. Solek noted there was nothing in the No Child Left Behind legislature promoting student growth and achievement other than the setting of benchmarks. Dr. Solek reviewed the 1996 Supreme Court ruling based on the Sheff versus O'Neil case and Connecticut adopted public act 97/290 for educational choices and opportunities. Dr. Solek noted variables for testing were always changing; such as writing prompts, and their themes had changed over the last 10 years numerous times to include descriptive writing, writing for purpose as well as the addition of science. Dr. Solek stated the changeability in the testing process made it difficult. Dr. Solek reviewed the district mission statement. Dr. Solek invited the district leadership team to provide in depth information regarding the district's focus and performance on the 2009 CMT/CAPT testing.

Mrs. Collins noted of a downward trend for reading and writing over the last 4 years. There is evidence of achievement gaps in gender between males and females for students in special education and for those considered economically disadvantaged. Mrs. Collins reviewed testing from 2006-2009 evidencing decreased or stagnant

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (CONTINUED)**B. 2009 CMT/CAPT Review (continued)**

performance in 5 of the 18 areas of math. Trends in testing indicate 3rd grade students over the past 4 years consistently have demonstrated struggles in 2 of the 4 areas of reading comprehension; making reader/text connections and examining the content and structure. Poor performance was also noted on the 3rd grade DRP indicating they are reading below grade level or their comprehension was below grade level. Mrs. Collins indicated the direct assessment of the writing trend showed that over the past two years, 36% of students scored 8 out 12. 8 is goal and 12 are the best score. Mrs. Collins stated this was an improvement over the 2 years prior. In the area of composing and revising over the past 4 years, an average of 50% of students achieved mastery in this area. Mrs. Collins noted this was also an area of concern.

Ms. Willis questioned what had changed between 2006 and 2009 to give such a discrepancy. Mrs. Collins replied they were unable to determine any major changes and that review of the continuous improvement plan would help to determine discrepancies. Mrs. Collins stated they were reviewing what had been done in the past to remediate the weaknesses and had developed different strategies. They have kept in place things that work and eliminated what has not.

Ms. Willis stated the group in 2006 would have been in grade 3 and were now in grade 6, noting that math indicated a decrease in 2009 testing.

Mrs. Collins informed the Board that they were confident that changes made would increase test scores. Mrs. Collins stated scientific research has indicated that keeping track of instructional practices, assessment practices and how they progress monitor students would result in better testing scores. Mrs. Collins stated staff was deeply involved in implementing this scientific approach and review of the data.

Ms. Mordecai questioned if as the generations of the CMTs had changed or if they got harder. Mrs. Collins replied comparisons could not be determined due to changes in the test. Ms. Mordecai commented that she was concerned with the scores and trends.

Dr. Solek stated the significant increases or decreases in test scores were the ones which administrators were watching. Ms. Willis questioned what Dr. Solek considered a significant increase or decrease in test scores. Dr. Solek replied she did not have the specific formulas but would provide it. Dr. Solek stated a 4 to 5 point change was considered significant.

Mr. Iacovelli warned of the danger faced by putting such significance in the figures, noting changes in the tests and benchmarks.

Mrs. Haslam commented she had been working with CMTs since around 1984. Mrs. Haslam stated when talking about generations of CMTs; every generation, every year had similar questions and formatting. Mrs. Haslam stated districts had found that

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (CONTINUED)**B. 2009 CMT/CAPT Review (continued)**

formatting daily work for students had shown to help improve test scores. Mrs. Haslam spoke favorably about our school system, giving teachers and administrators credit for making adjustments to improve scores. Mrs. Haslam stated these scores were only one measure on student performance, noting of the pressure the results had on teachers and administrators. Mrs. Haslam stated teachers and administrators should be proud of the 12th grade students leaving the school system.

Mr. Perry questioned how many days were used for practice for the test. Dr. Solek replied it varied depending on the sections of the tests and that there were several in class practice tests.

Mrs. Collins noted some of Mrs. Haslam's suggestions were being incorporated into the improvement of scores. Mrs. Collins reviewed changes being implemented including but not limited to:

- Targeted focus areas for foundation learning;
- Expectations in instruction delivered from pre-K through grade 3;
- Cross grade level transitions and consistent expectations within and between grade levels;
- Communication structures within and between grade levels as well as between departments;
- Implementation of instruction and assessment;
- Development of empowerment of school-based data teams to consistently review grade level and school wide data;
- The creation of scheduling opportunities for common planning time for teachers;
- Targeted student interventions periods for remediation, meetings for data teams, increased time and learning for all students;
- The infusion into daily instruction for student opportunities to prepare for testing, include all student in a 90 minute daily reading block and a 60 minute math instruction block;
- Provide more in class teacher support for all students using personnel resources;
- Implementation of scientific research based intervention practices (SRBI) with targeted focus on progress monitoring of students with intense needs;
- Utilization of 2 staff meetings per month as well as professional development district-wide days for the implementation of the above changes;
- There will be cross grade review of procedures;
- Greater implementation of a school-wide Read Naturally computerized fluency program for struggling readers;
- Universal assessment of Dibels for reading assessment;
- Implementation of the AIMES web to assist in the utilization of student data to inform instruction and to use storage for all data.

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (CONTINUED)**B. 2009 CMT/CAPT Review (continued)**

Mr. Herden noted the BOE had purchased a new reading program and questioned if it was being used. Mr. Herden questioned if the whole program of instruction was being changed to which Mrs. Collins replied no. Mr. Herden stated the new reading program was supposed to help improve testing scores. Mrs. Collins replied today's professional development had teachers reviewing and learning more about the reading and math program. Mrs. Collins stated there were certain parts of the program that the teachers were not used to using because from the beginning, they did not have the professional development time to review it.

Ms. Mordecai voiced concern with students needing enrichment. Mrs. Collins stated progress monitoring would take this into account.

Mrs. Dadona stated closing the achievement gap from a teacher's perspective would mean that the range of skills which are trying to be reached would become equal for all students. Mrs. Dadona stated the SRBI initiative's purpose was to stop the gap in achievement between students.

Mr. Hyla stated he was overwhelmed by the list of changes being implemented to improve test scores. Mr. Hyla questioned how it would be determined which changes were working. Responsive to questions by Mr. Hyla, Mrs. Collins replied some of the scheduling which did not promote time in learning had been changed. Mrs. Collins stated the elementary school teachers were incredible, noting of their hard work and dedication and were willing to implement necessary changes.

Mrs. Fiala noted the pacing guide would help with consistent expectations in and between grade levels. Mrs. Fiala questioned how they would implement additional time in learning and questioned if they were taking away time from classes like gym and health. Mrs. Collins replied they were restructuring schedules such as reducing the passing time in the hallways from 10 minutes to 5 minutes.

Mrs. Gionta voiced concern that professional development by staff on the reading program was today and not when it was originally purchased. Mrs. Gionta questioned when the program was purchased, if there was support/training from the company. Dr. Solek replied the training occurred approximately 8 – 10 years ago when the program was first purchased and unfortunately a lot of the intervention strategies did not exist at that time. Dr. Solek stated the company/publisher did send updated materials and opportunities for additional development.

Mr. Herden questioned if differentiation in instruction would be utilized. Mrs. Collins replied affirmatively adding it could help in a whole group setting or in small groups within the classroom.

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (CONTINUED)**B. 2009 CMT/CAPT Review (continued)**

Mr. Peacock stated the CMTs were a powerful diagnostic tool for the curriculum and students. Mr. Peacock stated there was a lot of data for the middle school. There are 570 students, each grade doing different tests including 25 strands of test areas. Mr. Peacock stated this equated to approximately 20,000 data points.

Mr. Peacock reviewed test scores. Mr. Peacock stated the data from the tests were used to review the curriculum. Mr. Peacock noted a 12% increase in 5th grade Science. Mr. Peacock stated in order to get this increase; staff reviewed the State framework and expectations and changed the curriculum to meet these needs. Ms. Willis questioned what had been taken out. Mr. Peacock replied random facts about planets and the solar system was taken out and concepts such as the difference between a lunar eclipse and the phases of the moon were added. Mr. Peacock stated conceptual learning was stressed and some fact based knowledge was removed.

Responsive to a question by Mr. Hyla, Mr. Peacock replied the pacing guides helped to develop a better written and taught curriculum.

Mr. Peacock stated targeting strands; specific skills on the test were successful, but that other strands generally went down (whack a mole theory).

Mr. Peacock reviewed the 6th grade cohort math scores, noting a decrease. Mrs. Haslam stated there was a trend with the 6th grade cohort and 7th grade cohort with math grades dropping. Mr. Peacock reviewed scores for specific strands on the math test, noting the curriculum has been adjusted to improve in the area strands where there was a decrease in score. Mr. Peacock stated a curriculum with appropriate pacing guides would help to improve scores.

Mr. Iacovelli stated having a standard based report card would be helpful in tracking teacher performance.

Mrs. Gionta questioned if targeting test strands was effective. Mr. Peacock replied yes, because the overall trend was going up.

Mrs. Haslam commented there were a number of downward trends in math.

Mrs. Haslam questioned if Mr. Peacock shared with parents, other than the letter going home with test scores, an explanation of the scores, noting the results were not easy to interpret. Mrs. Haslam stated parents wanted to help their children but did not know how. Mr. Peacock replied no, and that he would consider such a presentation at a MPAC meeting.

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (CONTINUED)**B. 2009 CMT/CAPT Review (continued)**

Ms. Mordecai questioned if student CMT scores matched a student's performance in school. Mr. Peacock replied he saw a very strong correlation. Mr. Peacock stated the CMT scores was the universal assessment which got all of the attention but that at the middle school, there were 7 universal assessments.

Mr. Peacock stated data teams had been developed to analyze the data to develop goals. Mr. Peacock stated over the past few years, CMT coach books had been purchased and were utilized during instruction.

Dr. Solek noted the administration and teachers were learning to be more diagnostic by reviewing data driven information in order to better instruct students. Dr. Solek stated decisions were made more soundly on educated reality by reviewing the numbers.

Mrs. Dadona reviewed the CAPT scores. There was a participation rate of 99%. AYP scores were well above target rates. Reading scores were at 89.2% target being 81%. Math scores were 87.2% target being 80%. Science scores were 17% above the state average for proficiency. Writing scores were 12% above the state average for proficiency with 98.9% proficient meaning only 1 student did not meet proficiency in writing.

Of the 97 CAPT participants, 28 scored at goal or advanced on all 4 tests, 6 of which scored at a level 5 advanced on all 4 subjects. In November there will be a celebration breakfast for the 28 students.

Mrs. Dadona stated CAPT testing was a one time test and that specific predictions could not be made. The CMT test is skill based where as the CAPT test is more application based. Mrs. Dadona stated progress monitoring subject area knowledge was difficult. Mrs. Dadona distributed CAPT 2008-2009 compared to DRG data with regards to percentage at goal and percentage at proficiency noting proficiency was the mark which the State looked for students to meet graduation requirements. The data presented put East Haddam at a 87.2% proficiency rate for math, 89.2% proficiency rate for reading, 95.7% proficiency rate for science, and 98.9% proficiency rate for writing. Mrs. Dadona noted students must meet proficiency or take an alternative.

Mrs. Dadona stated improvement in proficiency for writing was attributable to the middle school's implementation of a 90 minute language arts block.

Mrs. Dadona stated statistics for discipline referrals had gone down 25%, noting of its significance. Mrs. Dadona stated the initiative of the alternative school had contributed to this decrease.

Mrs. Dadona stated today's Professional Development was used to learn about formative assessment. Formative assessment is a tool which teaches modification as

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (CONTINUED)**B. 2009 CMT/CAPT Review (continued)**

students are learning. Mrs. Dadona stated the CAPT was not a formative test or assessment, but could be used to help diagnostically. Mrs. Dadona informed the Board that common department board assessments would be implemented by staff to help better predict student's performance on the CAPT test.

Mrs. Dadona informed the Board that approximately 40 regular education students were getting help every day. Mrs. Dadona stated they did not want to lose sight of the day-to-day success in the classroom and preparing students to leave 12th grade with a plan in place and with required skills.

Responsive to a question by First Selectman Walter, Mrs. Dadona stressed the importance of mastery of subject material.

Mrs. Haslam questioned if it was a requirement that students needed to pass the CAPT test to graduate. Mrs. Dadona replied affirmatively, that they needed to meet proficiency or do an alternative. Students that don't pass in 10th grade CAPT testing get an intervention plan. This plan accumulates alternatives through the classroom teachers. Work which students are doing is gathered to demonstrate that the failing student has met that standard covered in CAPT.

Mr. Scata stated of the importance of progress reporting. Mr. Scata reviewed direct assessment and intervention tools. Mr. Scata stated the new DIBELS test was introduced last year and it was an intervention and monitoring tool. Mr. Scata stated Aimes Web was being implemented this year with grant funding. Aimes Web is a progress monitoring program at the next stage of DIBELS. It will allow for assessments in reading comprehension, math, written language, and fluency. It will be implemented K-3 students. Mr. Scata stated Aimes Web allowed for monitoring of students in a systematic way. At the end of the school year, the DIBELS will be dropped and Aimes Web will be continued. Read Naturally is still being used K-6, which provides intervention for students with issues with fluency or reading comprehension.

LEARN has been contracted to work with the middle school on a monthly basis regarding data teams. A middle school and elementary school team will be brought to a SRBI training workshop on Thursday and Friday of this week. The focus will be on progress monitoring.

Mr. Iacovelli questioned if new teachers were being taught at the college level items such as Aimes Web, DIBELS, SRBI, etc. to which Mr. Scata replied no.

Ms. Mordecai questioned the tier level of students regarding SRBI. Mr. Scata replied they were seeing more than they would like to see in tier level 2. Ms. Mordecai spoke favorably about knowing where students' levels were at so that they could be helped.

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (CONTINUED)**B. 2009 CMT/CAPT Review (continued)**

Responsive to a question by Mr. Herden, Mr. Scata replied the tools being put in place, would provide information in a systematic way which would be universal and consistent throughout the district. Mr. Scata stated data would be inputted into a system. Mr. Peacock stated it was his goal to develop an electronic portfolio. This would allow for data to be transferred from teacher to teacher, etc. Currently most data is on paper.

Responsive to a question by Mrs. Haslam, Mr. Scata replied Aimes Web was chosen based on model school data.

Dr. Solek highlighted the need to look at all achievement, and that there were many facets to student achievement over time. Dr. Solek noted as the district continued to master the art and science of teaching and learning there needed to be a focus on diagnosing and intervening.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**A. Local Prevention Council Liaison**

Local Prevention Council met September 16, 2009. Mr. Hyla reported Youth AA meetings began October 2nd at the First Congregational Church on Friday nights from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The first meeting was well attended. They meet every Friday and it is voluntary participation. Red Ribbon week will be held the week of October 21st. It is a national anti-drug awareness prevention week. Youth Helping Youth and East Haddam Youth and Family Services have been involved. Local businesses will have baskets of red ribbons to be worn by people that week. Mr. Hyla encouraged Board members to wear red ribbons. There will be an internet safety presentation early November, details to be determined. Mr. Hyla reported that the Party Patrol went out at least twice a month. The Party Patrol consists of Youth and Family Services and the police. Mr. Hyla distributed a link about a news story reviewing of a billboard sponsored by Youth and Family Services on Route 154 in Higganum/Deep River <http://www.nbcconnecticut.com/news/local-beat/Beer-Bottle-Baby-63573437.html>. Mr. Hyla provided the tip line phone number for parents, concerned citizens and youth to report underage drinking, drug use, and unsupervised parties. The phone number is 873-5013.

B. Long Range Planning

Long Range Planning met on October 1, 2009. Mr. Hyla reviewed the meeting minutes. There was brief discussion regarding the Emergency Management H1N1 protocol. Mr. Mansfield has requested the use of the High School.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED)**C. Finance**

Finance had not met. Ms. Mordecai had nothing to report.

D. Policy

Policy met on October 1, 2009. Mrs. Gionta reviewed meeting minutes. Mrs. Gionta reported regulation #5141.221 (Pediculosis) was presented as a first reading. Mrs. Gionta noted Bullying was not included in the packet. It will be included in next month's packet. Mr. Perry suggested putting lost and found items in bags to prevent the spread of Pediculosis.

E. Transportation

Transportation had not met and Mr. Herden had nothing to report.

F. Personnel & Negotiations

Personnel & Negotiations will meet in November to discuss the non-certified contract. Mr. Perry requested to go into Executive Session at the end of the meeting.

Mr. Perry thanked Mr. Iacovelli for his 14 years of service on the Board of Education.

G. Ray Board Liaison

Ray Board had not met and Mrs. Fiala had nothing to report.

H. LEARN

LEARN met this month. Mrs. Gionta reported on a presentation regarding CMT scores and SRBI. There was also a presentation from the Region 4 Superintendent.

I. CIA

Mr. Herden reported CIA met in September. Dr. Solek reviewed assessment data analysis which will be on school J drives by the end of October.

J. Open Space

Open Space had not met. Ms. Willis suggested that the Board rethink their involvement on this committee.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED)**K. Middle School Conversion Liaison**

Mr. Herden reported the Middle School Conversion Committee will be meeting at the end of the month. Mr. Herden stated the Board needed to review the architectural plans to determine if they were in agreement with the allocated BOE space. This project will go to referendum January/February 2010. The Board will need more time than indicated by the Middle School Conversion Committee to decide if there is adequate space. The deadline was for Thursday of this week.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS AND AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

There was none.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

X. NEW BUSINESS**A. Acceptance of Consent Agenda****1) Warrant**

a. To approve the warrant for 2008-09 in the amount of \$2,964,326.90.

b. To approve the warrant for 2009-10 in the amount of \$1,805,017.70.

2) To approve the request from the High School Social Studies Department for a field trip to China from April 9, 2010 to April 19, 2010.

3) To approve policy/regulation #5141.221 (Pediculosis) as a first reading.

MOTION: Mordecai, Fiala; to approve the Consent Agenda items 1-3.

**FAVOR: ALL PRESENT
MOTION PASSED**

B. MOTION: Gionta, Perry; to approve the girls' high school softball field trip to Orlando, Florida on April 12, 2010 to April 16, 2010.

**FAVOR: ALL PRESENT
MOTION PASSED**

MOTION: Hyla, Willis; to enter into Executive Session at 10:15 p.m. for purposes of discussing personnel.

**FAVOR: ALL PRESENT
MOTION PASSED**

The Board returned to Regular Session at 10:45 p.m.

MOTION: Mordecai, Gionta; to adjourn at 10:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Everett Herden
Board Secretary