

**NEW CASTLE COUNTY VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

**April 26, 2011  
7:00 P.M.**

The following Board members were present for the School Board meeting, which was hosted by Hodgson Vocational-Technical High School: John J. McMahon, Jr., Vice President; Yvette Santiago; Robert Strong; and Mark Stellini. John F. Lynch, Jr., President, and Arnetta McRae were absent. Steven Godowsky, Superintendent, was also present.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. McMahon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**COMMUNITY/PUBLIC COMMENTS - None**

**REPORT / SECRETARY / SUPERINTENDENT**

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Strong and seconded by Ms. Santiago to dispense with the reading and to recommend approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education held on Monday, March 28, 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

**Correspondence**

- Letter from James Vivian of Yale University notifying the District that Yale has accepted two of our teachers to become Fellows this year in the Yale National Initiative. Among the National Fellows from our District is Nancy Rudolph, who will have a leading role as national seminar coordinator.

**RECOGNITION OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS - Hodgson**

**SkillsUSA 2011 State First Place Medal Winners**

Presenter: Annemarie Linden, Principal  
Cosmetology: Rocio Herrera, 11<sup>th</sup>  
Pre-school Teaching Assistant: Brianna Glen, 12<sup>th</sup>

**BPA 2011 State First Place Medal Winners**

Presenters: Sharon Zimmer, Business Technology Instructor  
Advanced Word Processing and Basic Office Systems & Procedures: Manpreet Nijjar, 12<sup>th</sup>  
Advanced Office Systems & Procedures: Taran Baidwan, 12<sup>th</sup>  
Interview Skills & Extemporaneous Speech: Melany Justice, 12<sup>th</sup>

**Ice Hockey Team 2011 State Champions**

Presenter: Chuck Haney, Assistant Principal  
Coaches: Tony Teoli, Steve Latchford, Robert Schwarz  
Captains: Trevor Sullivan, 12<sup>th</sup>  
Mike Teoli, 11<sup>th</sup>  
Brandon Witt, 12<sup>th</sup>

**PUBLIC PRESENTATION – Hodgson**

*Postponed*

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The motion was made by Mr. Strong and seconded by Ms. Santiago to approve the Financial Reports for March, subject to audit. The motion was carried unanimously.

## **BIDS, QUOTATIONS, AND CHANGE ORDERS**

### **Change Order #2, Bid #11-02, Howard Roof Project**

Change Order #2 for Bid #11-02, Howard Roof Project, from CTA Roofing & Waterproofing, was reviewed by the Board. Change Order #2 was required to add 7 roof drains with associated piping in the new roof for the amount of \$24,970.00. This change order has been reviewed and approved by Mr. Tim Kain, Facilities Supervisor, Mr. Charles Ryan, architect, and Dr. Jason Hale. The motion was made by Mr. Stellini and seconded by Mr. Strong to approve Change Order #2, to Bid #11-02, Howard Roof Project, for a total of \$24,970.00. The motion was carried unanimously.

## **REPORTS: PRINCIPALS / DIRECTORS / SPECIAL**

Discussions were held regarding Board members' comments on, and inquiries into, the monthly administrative reports.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Recommended Changes to 2011-2012 Student/Parent Handbook**

Mr. Allen reported that no comments were received during the posting period and recommended the proposed changes be approved. The motion was made by Ms. Santiago and seconded by Mr. Strong to approve the recommended changes to the 2011-2012 Student/Parent Handbook. The motion was carried unanimously.

### **Race to the Top (RTTT) & Partnership Zone (PZ)**

Dr. Godowsky requested that the Board review information provided in the Board folder, and if there are any questions, to contact him. Mr. Stellini commented on the District's handling of the PZ plan and avoiding the negative press taking place with the Christina School Board. Dr. Godowsky also referred to the newspaper articles regarding those events that were included in the Board packet

### **Superintendent Search Plan and Schedule**

Dr. Godowsky referred to a calendar provided in the Board's folder blocking out the dates needed for screening applicants and interviews. It is requested that the Board notify the District of their availability during those days blocked out on the calendar.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Personnel**

A motion was made by Mr. Strong and seconded by Ms. Santiago to approve personnel actions, including addendum (page 102 a.), as recommended:

LOCATION	POSITION	NAME	EFFECTIVE
<b><u>NEW APPOINTMENTS—Date of Hire Adjustments</u></b>			
St. Georges	Special Education Learning	Jennifer Lyman	03/14/11

St. Georges	Support Coach – Temporary Special Education Learning Support Coach – Temporary	Nicholas Schaefer	03/14/11
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**FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE OF ABSENCES**

Hodgson	English Instructor	Christiana Smith	03/25/11
St. Georges	Mathematics Instructor	Peter Munsterteiger	05/09/11
Hodgson	Custodian	Frank Garcia	03/14/11 <i>addendum</i>

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Howard	Principal	Timothy Capone	03/28/11
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**RETURN FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Delcastle	Physical Education/Health Instructor	Kathy Plumline	03/29/11
Hodgson	Custodian	Frank Garcia	04/18/11 <i>addendum</i>
Howard	Principal	Timothy Capone	04/05/11 <i>addendum</i>
St. Georges	English Instructor	Tristan Spates	08/24/11 <i>addendum</i>

**RESIGNATIONS**

Howard	Public Service Instructor	Rita Crowley	04/26/11
St. Georges	Custodian	Christopher Sarver	05/02/11

**RETIREMENTS/SERVICE**

Delcastle	Cafeteria General Worker	Lorraine McLaughlin	07/01/11
Delcastle	Special Education Team Leader	A. Jane Donovan	07/01/11
Hodgson	Social Studies Instructor	John Pickett	07/01/11
Hodgson	Instructional Paraeducator	Tunis Foltz	07/01/11 <i>addendum</i>

The motion was carried unanimously.

**Staff Recommendations for 2011-2012 School Year**

Dr. Godowsky referred to the Staff Recommendations for 2011-2012 (Red Booklet) that was sent to the Board for Board action. An addendum is also included:

Personnel Letter Rescinded:

*Loss of Certification/Non-Tenured Letter: 3988 addendum*

The motion was made by Mr. Stellini and seconded by Mr. Strong to approve the 2011-2012 Staff Recommendations (booklet and addendum). The motion was carried unanimously.

**Recommended Changes to Adult Education Division 2011-2012 Student/Parent Handbook**

Mr. Schrum reviewed the few minor changes being recommended. The motion was made by Ms. Santiago and seconded by Mr. Strong to post the recommended changes to the Adult Education Division 2011-2012 Student/Parent Handbook. The Board will consider for approval the recommended changes to the AED Student/Parent Handbook at the regular May Board meeting, pending comments received. The motion was carried unanimously.

**Summer Hours for District and School Offices**

The Board reviewed the memorandum regarding summer work hours as part of the District's energy conservation plan. The District will switch to a four-day workweek beginning June 20, 2011, through August 19, 2011. Work hours for this time period will be Monday through Wednesday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (30-minute lunch) and Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (30-minute lunch). A motion was made by Mr. Strong and seconded by Mr. Stellini to approve the Summer Hours for District and School Offices. The motion was carried unanimously.

### **Proposed School-Based Wellness Center Parent/Student Consent Forms**

Dr. Godowsky explained the reasons for the consent forms presented in the Board Report. The Board is being asked to review the forms and to select one of the forms for approval to be used by our Wellness Centers. The Wellness Center is adding services regarding reproductive health, i.e. HIV testing, birth control, etc. The Board must approve one of the options with parents also having the choice of service options. Due to a mistake in the DHSS Wellness Center forms, the Board decided to table their review of the forms and discuss them at the May Board meeting.

### **School District Financial Position Report**

The motion was made by Ms. Santiago and seconded by Mr. Stellini to approve the School District Financial Position Report and submit it as required to the Department of Education. The purpose of this report is to project the District's revenues and expenditures through October 15, 2011, to ensure sufficient balances exist to meet our projected financial obligations. The motion was carried unanimously.

### **Hearing Officer's Reports**

After having reviewed the Hearing Officer's reports, hearing transcripts, various other documents, and administration recommendations, a motion was made by Mr. Strong and seconded by Mr. Stellini to accept the Hearing Officer's recommendations to expel student #042611M-A and student #042611M-B from Delcastle for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year. The motion was carried unanimously.

### **Proposed Holiday Schedule for Twelve-Month Employees**

The motion was made by Ms. Santiago and seconded by Mr. Strong to approve the Holiday Schedule for Twelve-Month Employees for the 2011-2012 school year. The motion was carried unanimously.

### **Senate Bill 5: Vocational Technical School District Consolidation**

Dr. Godowsky referred to the Executive Summary and Position Paper provided in the Board Report that has been used to present our opposition to this bill. Dr. Godowsky, Mr. Lynch, and Dr. Hale went to Legislative Hall and attended the Senate Education Committee hearing, at which Dr. Godowsky testified. Sussex Tech and Polytech superintendents and business managers also attended the hearing. The Bill was passed out of committee and is on the ready list to be brought before the floor for a vote. Dr. Godowsky expressed his thanks for the team that developed the position paper, especially given the short notice. Dr. Hale authored a significant part of the position paper, with support from Polytech and Sussex Tech, along with Kathy Demarest. Dr. Godowsky said he would keep the Board updated on the status of Senate Bill 5.

### **Fiscal Year 2012: 27 Pays**

Dr. Hale reported to the Board that every 11 years, an anomaly occurs in which 27 biweekly pays take place between July 1 and June 30, instead of the standard 26. The Governor's budget proposal includes \$55 million to fund the 27<sup>th</sup> pay, leaving the biweekly pay unadjusted, which will cause the local school districts an increase in salary expenses of \$14.2 million for the additional compensation. The impact on our District would be \$920,000. It is the position of the school districts to divide the employee's annual salary by 27 pays so employees would still receive 100% of their contract salary. The \$55 million could then be utilized to fill the budget gap and restore education cuts for FY'12.

Currently, school districts have taken the position that the local salary will be divided over the 27 pays for FY'12. If the State chooses to not make adjustments, the local districts will consider the payment of the State portion on a 1/26 basis and the local portion paid on a 1/27 basis. Dr. Godowsky reported that several superintendents have had meetings with the State Budget Director and staff to attempt to settle this issue. He said this information was brought to the Board's attention since it will potentially require a decision on how to proceed with the 27<sup>th</sup> pay.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Board and Dr. Godowsky congratulated Dr. Zych and others for the grant award of \$150,000 for Project Lead the Way (PLTW), which will support our engineering and health service career programs.

Dr. Godowsky pointed out to the Board the several articles provided for review and the PZ information.

Dr. Hale reported to the Board that the District has been approached by the Reybold Company to purchase a piece of property at Hodgson; a 5.6 acre piece of land-locked, non-utilized shrub area at the back of the property. Dr. Hale researched legislation for the process of this type of transaction. He has discussed the location of the parcel affected with Paul Ignudo and Tim Kain. The land can't be used for educational purposes. The District is considering having a public meeting next month to entertain questions and comments on the potential sale of this property and bring a recommendation to the Board. If an agreement is reached to move forward, we will get an appraisal. The regulations state that we must first offer the land to the state and then the local government. Dr. Hale asked the Board for permission to move forward to gather more information and hold a public meeting. Dr. Hale said this piece of land has a \$100,000 value. The Board requested that Dr. Hale talk to DeIDOT before the District considers talking to Reybold or holds a public meeting. This item was tabled until next month's Board meeting to give administration time to investigate further.

#### **Dates to Remember**

Dr. Godowsky reminded the Board members to schedule graduation dates beginning in May.

Dr. Godowsky informed the Board, regarding the end of the school year schedule that the District will need to make up all the days lost except one day that was forgiven by DOE. The last day of school will be June 15 for students, and June 17 for teachers.

**DSBA Information** - None

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The motion was made by Mr. Strong and seconded by Mr. Stellini to adjourn at 7:43 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously.

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Steven H. Godowsky, Superintendent