Bethany Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2007

PRESENT: Laura Adair, Sal Amadeo, Maura Harrigan, Laszlo Nemeth, Lucy Painter, Barbara Sherman (7:30PM)

ALSO PRESENT: Tim Connellan, Tim Charron, Mary Federico, Rob Spino

ABSENT: Dawn DeFeo, Sal Ferrante, Ruth Ann Ornstein

CALL TO ORDER: Co-Chair Harrigan called the meeting to order at 6PM.

Motion by Adair, seconded by Painter to move to executive session for discussion of student records. Voted unanimously

Return to open session at 7:00PM

VISITORS: CoChair Harrigan welcomed board elect Jamie Sterling, who will assume membership on July 1. Teachers Doreen Canzanella and Woody Jakubson gave an overview of a joint comprehensive interdisciplinary project which incorporates art & music and language.

Sherman arrival (7:32 PM)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Nemeth, seconded by Amadeo to approve the April 11th meeting minutes as presented. Voted unanimously.

Motion by Painter, seconded by Adair to approve the revised meeting minutes of March 14, 2007 as presented. Voted unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:
(a) Healthy Food Certification Statement for 2007-08 is required by the state.

Motion by Painter, seconded by Sherman to authorize the superintendent to certify that all food items sold to students will meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and to submit the certification statement including the Exemption Statement pursuant to CGS 10-215f. Voted unanimously.

(b) Motion by Painter, seconded by Adair to authorize the superintendent to expend Open Choice Grant funds by June 30th with monies being used to build classroom libraries for Reader’s Workshop, distributed across all grade levels. Voted unanimously.

(c) Technology Infrastructure Grant Application – proposal to be submitted for cable replacement and switches which will improve/increase classroom access to CEN – CT Education Network.

(d) State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report is available for viewing on the SDE website. The documents show how state is complying with Individuals with Disabilities Act.

(e) Amity High School Dedication – 5PM at high school on May 10

OLD BUSINESS:
(a) Budget 2007-08: Received competitive bid from HealthNet.

Motion by Amadeo, seconded by Sherman to authorize the superintendent to pursue the HealthNet bid and work it thru if it results in significant savings. Voted unanimously.

(b) Transportation – Waiver of bid process approved by Selectman. Application packets have been distributed to our contractors to extend the contracts. Anticipate receiving paperwork next week.

(c) Request to enroll non-resident student of staff member. Discussion held on current class size policy, noting that the school is presently at or above the recommended size for incoming Kindergarten – (with a 20% variance up or down).
Motion by Painter to approve enrollment of non-resident student of staff member. Motion not accepted.

Motion by Nemeth to accept this child conditional to space being available in Kindergarten under our class size policy at the end of the 1st week of school and once the class size is confirmed. AYE: Painter, Nemeth NAY: Sherman, Amadeo, Harrigan. Motion does not move, motion does not pass.

Motion by Amadeo, seconded by Harrigan not to accept the student at this time with regrets. AYE: Amadeo, Harrigan, Sherman ABSTAINED: Painter, Adair. Motion passed.

(d) Proposed text book acquisition/change in language/spelling discussed/ books available for viewing by BOE members at meeting and during school day in Curriculum Office.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS
Superintendent
(a) Technology Implementation Partnership Grant – Grant involves technical assistance to improve performance of students with disabilities. Grant activities will be equivalent of about $50,000.
(b) Website in conjunction with FinalSite – on track for July 1. More information will be available to parents and members of the community.
(c) Long Range Planning Committee meeting tasks include look at existing goals and objectives; draft goals for 07-12, add objectives/items which address initiatives to be included in the objectives
(d) BOE retreat scheduled for June 20th with the regular meetings scheduled for June 13th, July 11th and August 22. New BOE members to be invited to June retreat.
(e) Staff recognition evening to be held at the September staff reception. School volunteers to be recognized in June.

Housemaster/s, Curriculum Coordinator and Special Education Coordinator Reports
Information shared on the summer curriculum work.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. Budget/Finance: Motion by Adair, seconded by Nemeth to approve the expenditures and adjustments to the 2006-07 operating budget for April 2007 as presented with 97% expended. Voted unanimously.
b. Program / Curriculum: None
c. Policy: None
d. Transportation: None
e. Negotiations: None
f. Facilities: None
g. ACES: Monthly Report
h. CABE: Monthly Report
i. Communications: None

CORRESPONDENCE: So noted

VISITORS: Board elect Jamie Sterling shared information on health insurance cost sharing.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM by Co-chair Harrigan.

Submitted,

Phyllis Rohloff
Recorder