



**Columbia Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2010 (Tuesday)**

7:30 P.M.

Horace W. Porter School Library Media Center

6:30 - 7:00 p.m. – Building Walk Through

7:00 - 7:30 p.m. – New Staff, Teacher of the Year and Newly Tenured Teachers Reception

Board Members Present: Paula Belekewicz, Lisa Jurovaty-Vice Chairman, William Mulcahy, Nelson Petrone-Chairman, John Schroder, James Thorn

Board Members Absent: Lauren Perrotti-Verboven

Administration Present: Francine Coss-Superintendent, Jacqueline Middleton-Director of Student Services, Jean Trask-Principal, Robert Parenti-Assistant Principal

Staff Present: Marian Lowry, Janet Stice

Others Present: Diane Schatz

I. Call to Order

Nelson Petrone called the September 7, 2010 regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Proclamation

- New Staff: Ms. Nicole Henry-Kindergarten Teacher
- Teacher of the Year: Ms. Karen Martin-Special Education Teacher
- Newly Tenured Teachers: Mr. Thomas Doyle-Grades 7/8 Mathematics Teacher & Mrs. Aliza Petrucci-Grade 3 Teacher

Mr. Petrone welcomed Porter's new staff member and congratulated Columbia's Teacher of the Year and newly tenured teachers.

IV. Approval of August 23, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes – Take Action

L. Jurovaty **MOVED** and J. Thorn **SECONDED** to approve the August 23, 2010 regular meeting minutes with the following correction: item IV. Comments from the Audience - remove the word results and insert "printed reports".

MOTION CARRIES: 5-0-1

L. Jurovaty, W. Mulcahy, N. Petrone, J. Schroder, J. Thorn VOTED FOR THE MOTION

P. Belekewicz ABSTAINED

V. Comments from the Audience (Bylaws of the Board #9300)

Time allotted for public participation—30 minutes, time allotted for an individual speaker—3 minutes

VI. Correspondence/Communications/Information

- To Columbia Board of Education Members From Porter First Grade Team – Thank You for Delicious Lunch**
- State of CT to Mr. Christian Urban, Hot Lunch Director – Administrative Review Notification**

VII. Presentation

- School Improvement Plan (Including Connecticut Mastery Test Results) – Principal Jean Trask, Principal Robert Parenti, and Director of Student Services Jacqueline Middleton**

VII. Presentation - continued

Ms. Trask acknowledged students and staff for their hard work on the CMT's. Every cohort group showed improvement in Math, Reading and Writing. The district is seeing positive trends with positive teaching strategies. The district goal is to move left in Columbia's DRG. Columbia achieved State Adequate Yearly Progress and met last year's School District Improvement Plan goals. Mr. Parenti reviewed data which compared Columbia's performance to that of students in the DRG and state average. Results were reviewed to analyze individual student scores and to generate revised S.M.A.R.T. goals at every grade level as well as for the entire school as part of the School Improvement Plan. The percentage of student cohorts scoring at goal or above will increase from 68% to 71% for the 2010/2011 school year.

Board members discussed the need for greater improvement of district test scores. Members would like to see the bar raised and a greater percentage of improvement achieved.

VIII. Financial Review

A. Payment of Bills

B. Actual & Budgeted Expenses and Encumbrances – Encumbrances will be added for the 9/20/10 meeting.

C. Final July 2009 through June 2010 Numbers – Mrs. Coss handed out the final end of year numbers. \$207,614.56 from the tuition line has been returned to the Town.

IX. Reports/Discussion

A. Board of Education Chairperson

B. Board of Education Subcommittees

1. September – December 2010 Meeting Date Schedule Draft – After certified negotiations are wrapped up Mr. Petrone will ask members to sign up for the meetings on this schedule.

C. Superintendent's Report

1. ED001 – Mrs. Coss thanked and praised Mrs. Ciurylo for preparing the end of the year state report. She reviewed the in-kind services, food services, and tuition and transportation revenue schedules.

2. 2010 CABE/CAPSS Convention

3. Discarding World History Books – Mrs. Coss informed members two out-of-date history books will be discarded.

4. Magnet School Transportation – Mrs. Coss thanked Senator Prague for her assistance in arranging magnet school transportation for Columbia families.

5. 2010/2011 Horace W. Porter School Staff List

X. Action Items/Discussion

A. Fundraising with Food and Beverages

P. Belekewicz **MOVED** and L. Jurovaty **SECONDED** to approve the Butter Braid and Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction fundraisers as presented.

MOTION CARRIES: 6-0

B. 2010 Co-Curricular Assignment Appointments

P. Belekewicz **MOVED** and W. Mulcahy **SECONDED** to approve the co-curricular listing dated September 7, 2010 as presented with the addition of Marian Lowry as Technology Team Leader.

MOTION CARRIES: 6-0

Mr. Thorn said it is time to look at co-curricular positions and the impact on students when multiple co-curc tasks are taken on by the teaching staff.

XI. Future Agenda Items

- September 20 – High School Choices for Columbia high school students

XII. Board of Education Member Comments

- Lisa Jurovaty commended the Facility Technicians for doing such a good job getting the building ready for the start of the new school year. She thanked the FT's for taking such pride in the building.

XIII. Executive Session for Pending Claims and Litigation Discussion (Suit by Lebanon Board of Education Against Columbia Board of Education Regarding High School Contract)

L. Jurovaty **MOVED** and J. Thorn **SECONDED** to enter into executive session for pending claims and litigation discussion (suit by Lebanon Board of Education against Columbia Board of Education regarding high school contract) at 9:18 p.m.

MOTION CARRIES: 6-0

P. Belekewicz **MOVED** and L. Jurovaty **SECONDED** to adjourn executive session at 10:18 p.m.

MOTION CARRIES: 6-0

XIV. Adjournment

P. Belekewicz **MOVED** and L. Jurovaty **SECONDED** to adjourn the meeting at 10:19 p.m.

MOTION CARRIES: 6-0

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Jurovaty
Columbia Board of Education Vice-Chairperson