**CITY OF DERBY**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**SPECIAL MEETING – CITY HALL, ALDERMANIC CHAMBERS**

**August 26 2009**

**MINUTES**

**Call to order**

Meeting called to order at 7:12 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

all rose and pledged allegiance

**Republican Caucus** Mr. Tobin said the Republicans had a caucus and have a new board member - Casey Picheco. Ms. Parizo inducted the new board member.

**Roll Call**

Present: Brad Tobin, Sheila Parizo, Chairwoman, Kim Kreiger (arrived at 7:17 p.m.), Jodi Chevarella, Rebecca O'Hara (left at 7:17 p.m.), Jim Stadt, Ken Marcucio (left at 8:17 p.m.) and Tara Hyder.

Also Present: Dr. Tracy, Superintendent of Schools and Dr. Lois Knapton, Director of Special Education, Fran Gallo - Principal of Irving School, Fran Thompson - Principal of DHS and Sally Bonina - Principal of DMS.

**Public Participation**

No one from the public spoke. Public Portion closed.

**Approval of Minutes**

Special Meeting June 10 2009

**Motion** *to table until the September meeting* *by Mr. Marcucio, second by Mr. Stadt, all in favor,* **motion carries.**

Special Meeting July 23 2009

**Motion** *to approve the minutes by Mr. Marcucio, second by Mr. Stadt, all in favor,* **motion carries.**

Special Meeting August 5 2009

Mr. Stadt said the minutes need to be amended as he was excused from this meeting and not absent: **Motion** *to accept as amended by Mr. Tobin, second by Ms. Chevarella, all in favor,* **motion carries.**

**Old Business** - none

**New Business** - none

**Action Items**

**Motion** *by Ms. Chevarella with a second by Mr.Tobin that the Board of Education approve the FY 2008-2009 Closing Financial Report as presented by the Business Manager, all in favor,* **motion carries.**

**Motion** *by Ms. Kreiger, second by Mr. Tobin that the Board of Education approve a School Choice Plan for students at Irving School, as required by Federal Law, all in favor,* **motion carries.**

**Motion** *by Ms. Kreiger with a second by Ms. Chevarella that the Board of Education approve the continued use of selected cellular devices as recommended by the Superintendent....discussion:*

Dr. Tracy said this is a different proposal to bring back some of the service but not all of it. There is an existing contract that requires our best efforts to provide cell phone service in each of the school buildings. Dr. Tracy has concerns with reaching people in emergency situations. Dr. Tracy said there was not much unemployment created as a result of the layoffs.

Mr. Tobin said any money that gets put back into the budget should go to the kids. Everybody has a phone today.

Mr. Marcucio would like to see a priority list of how we can bring things back. There was a loss of 7.8 teachers and 12 paraprofessionals.

Mr. Stadt wants to know if there is a priority list also. He wants to see a list of what was cut, taken away from teachers and kids. He can't see with the layoffs and cuts in central office, to say go ahead with this.

Dr. Tracy said the board can see where we stand with the August financial statement at the September meeting.

Ms. Chevarella said we are under agreement and contract. So we either give them a cell phone or we don't.

Dr. Tracy said we already own the phones. This is for the service. If a grievance were filed the board's position would be we could not reasonably pay for the service. The gross service cost per unit is $348.00 to run cell phone for the year times four - $1300.00.

The board could choose to reimburse the cell phone users with a receipt.

Mr. Marcucio said no one is against them having a cell phone, the problem is there is no middle school sports, there are too many problems to deal with and if you give away two thousand here, three thousand there, five thousand there, it adds up to a paraprofessional. He would like to get a ruling from Nick. If Nick says we have to give it to them, then we have no choice. Mr. Marcucio never had a phone when he was an administrator. Mr. Marcucio wanted to know how many emergencies there were last year where they used their blackberries.

Ms. O'Dea-Wyrick said she uses hers all the time. She uses the email service when she can't get voice mail service. She used it on vacation and put in a day's work. If we look at the electricity going out at the high school on a Friday and the freezers don't crank up again, there is all spoiled food on Monday. When the servers go down, the IT manager gets an immediate notification on his blackberry.

Mr. Marcucio said they could get a cell phone with the service you need, but it is not a blackberry.

Mr. Tobin feels you could use cell phones or home phones for custodians.

Ms. Parizo said we own the blackberries already and 60% is e-rate reimbursement.

Mr. Marcucio said it is still $3,000.00 worth of services. Mr. Marcucio would like to get a ruling on this from Nick.

Ms. O'Dea-Wyrick said everybody has to do more with less which means we have to maximize their ability to be as efficient as possible. The walkie talkies they had prior were not very effective. It makes the facilities staff much more efficient.

**Motion** *to table by Mr. Stadt, second by Mr. Marcucio, all in favor (aye), opposed (aye)Roll Call: Mr. Stadt - yes, Mr. Marcucio - yes, Mr. Tobin - yes, Ms. Kreiger - no, Ms. Parizo - no, Ms. Hyder - table until we hear some information from Mr. Grello regarding the contractual language, Ms. Chevarella - no, Ms. Picheco - yes. Five tabled, Three no to table.* **Motion tabled.**

**Motion** *by Ms. Kreiger, second by Mr. Tobin that the Board of Education approve specifications for the Stairwell Renovation Project at Derby High School, as recommended by the Superintendent, all in favor,* **motion carries***.*

**Executive Session**

**Motion**  *by Mr. Tobin, second by Ms. Hyder that the Board of Education enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiation matters, and a student disciplinary matter, all in favor,* **motion carries** *at 8:20 p.m. Invited into the student disciplinary matter is Mr. Thompson and Mr. Gaillard.*

**Motion** *by Mr. Tobin with a second by Ms. Hyder to come out of Executive Session at 9:00 p.m., all in favor,* **motion carries.**

**Public Session** no one from the public spoke.

**Action Items**

**Motion** *by Mr.* *Tobin with a second by Mr. Stadt that the Board of Education approve the schedule of appointments as recommended by the Superintendent all in favor,* **motion carries***.*

**Motion** *by Ms. Kreiger with a second by Ms. Stadt, that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Jacqueline Romano - music teacher and the retirement of Anthony Brancato custodian with regret and appreciation, in the case of Miss Fall who left before she got here - accept the resignation as recommended by the Superintendent, all in favor,* **motion carries***.*

**Motion** *by Ms. Kreiger with a second by Ms. Hyder that the Board of Education appoint an Interim Business Manager (Mr. Arthur Poole from Torrington CT for the period of September 1 through November 30, 2009, as recommended by the Superintendent, all in favor,* **motion carries***.*

**Motion** *by Ms. Kreiger with a second by Mr. Stadt, that the Board of Education accept the stipulated agreement dated May 6 2009 as presented by the Superintendent with respect to a student disciplinary matter, all in favor,* **motion carries***.*

**Adjourn**

*Motion to adjourn by Ms. Kreiger with a second by Ms. Hyder, all in favor,* **Motion carries.**

*Meeting* ended at 9:03 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Denise Cesaroni*

*Recording Secretary*

**\*\*\*\*These minutes are subject to approval by the Board of Education at their next regularly scheduled meeting.**