

Waterford Board of Education
Special Meeting
March 7, 2007
15 Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT

PRESENT: Mr. Benoit, Mr. Blevins, Mrs. Cairns, Mr. Egan, Mrs. McCarty, Mrs. Ogden, Mr. Taglianetti

ABSENT: Mr. Brunelle, Mrs. Nazarchyk

STAFF: Dr. Collins, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Seroussi, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Cumming, Administrative Assistant; Mr. DeRay, Business Manager; Mrs. Lowther, Director of Human Resources; Mrs. Rosenfield, Director of Special Services; Mrs. Masterjoseph, Curriculum Director; Mr. Powers, Principal, Great Neck Elementary School; Dr. Dexter, Principal, Cohanzie Elementary School; Mrs. Fedor, Principal, Southwest Elementary School; Mrs. Macione, Principal, Oswegatchie Elementary School, Mr. Lovetere, Principal, Clark Lane Middle School

Mrs. McCarty established a quorum, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

Mr. Jacunski of Jacunski-Humes Architects reviewed the site plan, floor plan and elevation for the new Great Neck Elementary School. Mr. Jacunski proposed a curb cut on Great Neck Road for the purpose of a bus exit. Busses would enter via a dedicated entrance on Goshen Road separate from the parent drop-off loop. The plan showed a total of 94 paved parking spaces, two playscapes, and a non-regulation soccer field. Dr. Collins suggested the addition of a sidewalk at the Goshen Road entrance to run parallel with the boundary of the private residence on Goshen. If the Goshen Road residential property abutting the school were to be acquired by the Town at some point in the future, it could be utilized for overflow parking.

Floor plans showed design elements such as a platform located between gymnasium and cafeteria, grade level classroom clusters, and skylights over media center and cafeteria. Discussion followed on the height of the platform which the architect said would be same as in QH and OSW, presumably 35". The Superintendent suggested relocating the Kindergarten classroom cluster to the rear.

Exterior design elements such as slope of roof and two-tone masonry exterior were chosen to minimize visual height of the structure considering location within residential area. Discussion followed on whether it was possible to enlarge the soccer field to regulation size.

Pending Consent Agenda Approval

Construction timeline was reviewed, with submission to Connecticut Department of Education by June 2007, construction commencing in June 2008 and completion no later than fall 2010. Other design considerations such as geothermal and LEED certification (silver) will be included. Square footage would total 71,100 sq. ft.

Brief discussion followed on the Governor's proposal to decrease reimbursement rates for new school construction. Mr. Biega reviewed the budget for project estimated at \$28,890,000 with net cost to Town between \$21 and \$22 million. Dr. Collins will attend the PTA meeting for Great Neck School on March 13th to review plans with parents.

Mrs. Cairns explained her intention to vote against the plans based on her belief that if consolidation to three schools was based on decrease in student population, there should be a concurrent reduction in square footage and expenditure. Dr. Collins explained that student enrollment is cyclical and construction needs should reflect peaks and troughs in population numbers. He also reminded board members of the need for equity among schools.

Motion: That the Waterford Board of Education approves the educational specifications for submission of the grant application ED049 for the new Great Neck Elementary School.
Blevins, Taglianetti; 6—1 Opposed: Cairns

Motion: That the Waterford Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to seek the funding necessary for the construction of the new Great Neck Elementary School
Taglianetti, Blevins; 6—1 Opposed: Cairns

Motion: That the Waterford Board of Education adjourns its regular meeting at 8:35 p.m.
Ogden, Egan—Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Jody Nazarchyk
Secretary

JN:jc