

BOE Communications Sub-Committee Minutes
Regular Meeting
November 8, 2018
Stonington High School Library Media Center
5:30 p.m.

The meeting of the Stonington Board of Education's Communications Sub -Committee was called to order at 5:31 p.m., Thursday, November 8, 2018, in the Library Media Center at Stonington High School.

Attendees Present: Alexa Garvey, Chair, Farouk Rajab, Craig Esposito, Ana de Oliveira, Dr. Van Riley, Superintendent, and SHS student
Late Arrival: 6:03 p.m. – Jason Jones

Approval of Minutes – October 11, 2018 – Motion was made by Craig Esposito and seconded by Alexa Garvey to approve the minutes from the October 11, 2018 meeting.
Motion passed
Farouk Rajab - Abstained

Improve Student Communication: Alexa Garvey spoke in regards to social media and ways to communicate through Instagram to parents and students. Dr. Riley spoke of an APP used to disperse information to multiple social media sites. Jason Jones questioned who would be responsible to push out the information, whether it would be the webmasters, or administration. He explained that our Finals site website company has the capability to do this. The student at the meeting commented that these types of communications would work better with the students then posting on the webpage. Ana de Oliveira has now started adding a “pop up” on the District website page for informational messages regarding, school cancellations, late openings and other school related events.

Improve Communication with the School Community through Social Media and Website: Dr. Riley explained the website compliance requirements for the District. Ms. Garvey requested an “about” section on each school webpage giving highlights of each school including the district page. Dr. Riley will meet with the administrators to discuss this request. Ms. Garvey added perhaps a “Quick Facts” section using the same template for each school webpage. Craig Esposito voiced that students have communicated that they are not aware of certain things happening in the school district. Alexa Garvey added that the Student Government Representative might be a good person to use as a liaison to the get information out to students. Alexa Garvey requested that Ms. de Oliveira add an area on the all the webpages called “Suggestions, Questions, and Praises” to input from the community.

Website – Make more “User Friendly”: The committee discussed the fewer the clicks on the web to get to information the better. Jason Jones will gather information on how many hits the website has gotten.

Other: The committee requested a summary of data pertaining to student, staff, and parent surveys and have them all posted to each respective school's webpage. There will be another lunch meeting set up at SHS with students and the Board. Dr. Riley communicated that there will be a Middle School Consolidation Steering Committee on November 13; the Board is welcome to attend. Dr. Riley reported the district recently was trained on a new bus system with First Student that tracks the status of buses during their routes.

Adjourn - Motion made by Craig Esposito and seconded by Farouk Rajab to adjourn at 6:12 p.m. All were in favor and motion passed.

Next Meeting – December 13, 2018

Respectfully Submitted – Ana de Oliveira

