

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
NEWBURY LIBRARY-MEDIA CENTER
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES - APPROVED 2/28/18
FEBRUARY 14, 2018 – 6 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Ms. Molly Sexton Read (B), Vice-Chair Mr. Robert Jerram (NH), Ms. Mary Duran (joined at 6:20 p.m.) (B), Ms. Deborah Bell (N), Ms. Theresa Kenneson (C), Ms. Lisa Fragale (C), Superintendent Dr. Judith Palmer, Director of Finance & Operations Mr. James Gaskins, High School Principal Mr. Ken Chichester, Middle School Principal Mr. Fran Amara, Student Representative Ms. April Ruopp

ABSENT: Secretary/Treasurer Mr. Noel Gauthier (NH), Ms. Katherine Vandiver (N), Student Representative Mr. Zachary Austin

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Sexton Read called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Ms. Sexton Read took a moment to acknowledge today's difficult and disturbing news of yet another school shooting in Florida, and thanked administration, Board members, and staff in attendance for their continuing and dedicated efforts providing a safe school environment for all students within the District.

Dr. Palmer and the Board of Education presented to Housemaster Joe Masi, with congratulations, his well-deserved award for being named CAS High School Assistant Principal of the Year, praising Mr. Masi for his leadership skills, hard work, and dedication. Mr. Masi accepted his award, speaking on behalf of the school and students he gets to work with every day, and how happy it makes him to be a part of the Regional School District No. 7 administrative team.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Ms. Kenneson, to **APPROVE** Board of Education Minutes of January 10, 2018, as presented. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. **MOTION PASSED.**

REPORTS:

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES: Ms. Ruopp updated the Board on events pertaining to Red Army Snap Chat, athletic standings, our undefeated swim team, student council cross town challenge, winter semi-formal, blood drive, and Mr. Northwestern. Northwest Hill Prevention Connection meetings, mock trial event, theater spring production of Fiddler on the Roof, pep band, chorus events, SAT classes begun by Zach again, and Students Helping Students.

PRINCIPAL AMARA: Mr. Amara provided Board updates on: Middle School NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) and Smarter Balance testing dates, and a Community and Parent very successful event held in January on social and emotional learning with much positive feedback and a second session planned for March. Mr. Chichester advised that two high school teachers are being sent for the Emotional Intelligence training in order to bring the entire school together, and, additionally, Dr. Palmer is also working with superintendents in the area on programs and opportunities for social and emotional learning.

PRINCIPAL CHICHESTER: Mr. Chichester presented and provided a broad overview of the Next Generation Accountability Report, 2016-17, District Preview and advised Board members of how the Accountability Index is determined by the CSDE with indicators as outlined and the High School standings. Mr. Amara provided clarification for Middle School achievement results. Questions and discussion followed. Dr. Palmer provided clarification pertaining to District results and elementary school strategies, and is delighted with the District's results.

SUPERINTENDENT PALMER: Dr. Palmer updated the Board with information pertaining to the State Budget, and possible further reductions regarding ECS funds received in March. No Special Education revenue is anticipated for the

2018-2019 school year budget due to our own students now exceeding the number of tuition students. Kindness in Motion has been launched for this year. Questions and discussion followed.

DIRECTOR GASKINS: Mr. Gaskins provided the Board with updates pertaining to: audit review, electric rates, copier quotes, Food Service negotiations, and refining the 2018-19 budget. Questions and discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS: Ms. Sexton Read began a discussion pertaining to social media policies and keeping up with District needs regarding our increased presence on Social Media sites. CAFE offers sample policies for review pertaining to social media codes of conduct. Questions and discussion followed. Ms. Sexton Read will print and make available CAFE samples as a place to begin further discussion.

Next meeting will be a Special Meeting on February 21, 2018, for the purpose of initial budget presentation by Dr. Palmer. Budget calendar was reviewed, and clarification was provided on Board budget presentation copies.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PUBLIC: None.

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **ADJOURN** at 7:22 p.m. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Respectfully submitted:

Lisa H. D'Aprile
Board Clerk