

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
 BOARD OF EDUCATION/NEWBURY LIBRARY-MEDIA CENTER
 MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 13, 2017 – 6 P.M.

Amended/Approved 10/11/17

Present: Chair Ms. Molly Sexton Read (B), Vice-Chair Mr. Robert Jerram (NH), Secretary/Treasurer Mr. Noel Gauthier (NH), Mrs. Mary Duran (B), Mrs. Deborah Bell (N)(Absent), Ms. Katherine Vandiver (N) (6:07), Mrs. Theresa Kenneson (C), Ms. Lisa Fragale (C)(6:09), Superintendent Dr. Judith Palmer, Director Mr. James Gaskins, High School Principal Mr. Ken Chichester, Middle School Principal Mr. Fran Amara, Student Representative Mr. Zachary Austin

Ms. Sexton Read called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

None.

MOTION by Mrs. Kenneson, seconded by Mr. Gauthier, to **APPROVE** Board of Education Minutes of August 23, 2017, as presented. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Gauthier, Mrs. Kenneson. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: Mr. Jerram, Mrs. Duran.
MOTION PASSED.

Student Representative, Zachary Austin, updated the Board on the start of the school year, freshmen class office elections, senior activities, homecoming preparation, Europe trip, homeroom changes, SHAPE groups, dress for success day, sports programs beginning and his goal of attending 80 games, Senate meetings, SAT study groups and organization, positive feedback on new cell phone policy, positive feedback on new AP classes and benefits, as well as student stress pertaining to college applications and Guidance Department delays. Discussion followed pertaining to new cell phone policy and Guidance Department, and Dr. Palmer thanked Zach and expressed sincere appreciation for his honest assessment and feedback, particularly with Guidance due to the changes this year within that Department.

Mr. Chichester and Mr. Amara provided Board updates and presentation pertaining to Assessment and School Accountability Index determination. A handout was provided, and extensive detail followed highlighting new standards and the relationship between school performances on percentage of points earned compared to the number of points possible as determined by CSDE indicators. Mr. Chichester reviewed very positive AP test scores and ranking, highlighting the tremendous progress made over the years with continued and increasing student participation in AP courses.

Mr. Amara reviewed the Middle School Smarter Balance test results, providing a slide presentation with Math and ELA percent of students that met or exceeded goal. Growth and progress is being made, challenges were presented, and analysis pertaining to data was discussed. CMT Science results were presented, and explanation presented on how the Middle and High School will utilize the data as well as how the information can help individual students. Questions and discussion followed.

Dr. Palmer provided Board updates pertaining to: additional clarification on AP courses with student and teacher dedication, further Guidance Department clarification and appreciation of Zach’s feedback, Legislative Update on ECS, and area Superintendents’ meeting held in Barkhamsted yesterday. Additionally, Dr. Palmer updated the Board on work being done with administration pertaining to a public relations campaign with communication as a goal. Don Tarrant has

CALL TO ORDER

PUBLIC PORTION

**APPROVAL OF AUGUST 23,
2017, BOARD OF
EDUCATION MINUTES**

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE
REPORT – ZACHARY AUSTIN**

**PRINCIPALS’ REPORT – MR.
AMARA, MR. CHICHESTER**

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

volunteered to assist with the marketing in an effort to help the public understand the many positive things happening and sharing good news at Regional School District No. 7. Questions and discussion followed. Dr. Palmer also advised of the administrative team applying and being accepted to the 2017 Inaugural Yale-Ashoka Changemaker Fellowship Cohort, dedicated to improving social and emotional learning skills within the District.

Mr. Gaskins provided thanks and appreciation to all Custodial staff for their great work over the short summer, and also provided input on school opening and positive atmosphere at Regional School District No 7. Mr. Gaskins advised of a breakfast plan that may be instituted, transportation requests resolved, completion of mandatory state reports, and audit process to begin next week.

Brief discussion followed on staff replacements and resignations.

Discussion regarding Second Reading of Policy #5114-Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process, with language explanations and suggested changes.

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mrs. Fragale, to **APPROVE** Policy #5114, Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process with language changes as discussed. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Mrs. Duran, Ms. Vandiver, Mrs. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Community Conversation, 2017, to be held on Board of Education meeting date, October 25, 2017, 6:30 p.m., in the Little Theater. Agenda items to include: activities during the 2017-2018 school year with student participation, various student club involvement, 5-year budget plans, sport programs, AP course opportunities, as well as other exciting events happening at the school. Discussion followed pertaining to meeting strategy and various methods of advertising the date and time in order to encourage community participation and awareness of this opportunity to share ideas, perception, and feedback about Regional School District No. 7.

Run Like a Deer, 5K Run & Non-Competitive Walk, fundraiser to offset graduation costs, will be held Saturday, November 4, 2017, at the Barkhamsted Elementary School. Race time is 9:30 a.m. with registration beginning at 8:00. Ms. Sexton Read will be providing all details via a flyer as in the past, and registration via Regional website will be available. Also, as in the past, volunteers are needed to assist with registration and race organization.

Ms. Sexton Read provided updated Board of Education goals, requesting Board input. Suggestions and discussion followed and will be revisited once Board members have reviewed.

None.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

OLD BUSINESS

SECOND READING: POLICY #5114-SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION/DUE PROCESS

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

RUN LIKE A DEER

BOARD OF EDUCATION GOAL DISCUSSION

CORRESPONDENCE

MOTION by Mrs. Kenneson, seconded by Mr. Gauthier, to **CANCEL** second scheduled Board of Education on September 27, 2017. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Mrs. Duran, Ms. Vandiver, Mrs. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. **MOTON PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

None.

MOTION by Mrs. Kenneson, seconded by Mr. Gauthier, to **ADJOURN** at 7:30 p.m. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Mrs. Duran, Ms. Vandiver, Mrs. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa H. D'Aprile
Board Clerk

(NEXT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING: OCTOBER 11, 2017)

**CANCELLATION OF
SEPTEMBER 27, 2017,
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING**

PUBLIC

ADJOURNMENT