

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
 BOARD OF EDUCATION/NEWBURY LIBRARY-MEDIA CENTER
 MINUTES NOVEMBER 8, 2017 – 6 P.M.

Amended/Approved 12/13/17

Present: Chair Ms. Molly Sexton Read (B), Vice-Chair Mr. Robert Jerram (NH), Secretary/Treasurer Mr. Noel Gauthier (NH), Ms. Mary Duran (B)(Absent), Ms. Deborah Bell (N), Ms. Katherine Vandiver (N)(Absent), Ms. Theresa Kenneson (C), Ms. Lisa Fragale (C)(6:04), Superintendent Dr. Judith Palmer, Director Mr. James Gaskins, High School Principal Mr. Ken Chichester, Middle School Principal Mr. Fran Amara, Student Representatives Mr. Zachary Austin, and Ms. April Ruopp

Ms. Sexton Read called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mr. Gauthier, to **ADD EXECUTIVE SESSION** to Board Agenda to discuss a personnel item. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell. NAY: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ms. Sexton Read introduced Dawn Whalen, who provided a presentation on N.E.T. (Networking Everyone Together). Ms. Whalen explained the efforts of N.E.T., which helps Norfolk households with financial needs, as well as their commitment to alleviating poverty and fostering new relationships within the community. Ms. Whalen is hoping to spread the word about N.E.T, seek volunteers and committee members. Board members thanked Ms. Whalen for her great work and presentation.

Ms. Sexton Read introduced Mary Chichester, Special Education Department Chair, who provided an overview of the special education programs at Regional School District No. 7. Middle and High school numbers were compared to state averages, programs were outlined, and Highlander Transition Academy for 18-21 year old special education students was detailed. Ms. Chichester’s presentation included: case coordinator responsibilities, schedules, skills seminar and academic support opportunities, students identified by Child Study Teams, Flex Middle School program, LINKS program for Middle and High school students with Intellectual Disabilities, Autism, and Physical Disabilities, High school AIM program, and STEP Alternative School Program. Questions and discussion followed. Board members thanked Ms. Chichester for her in-depth presentation furthering their understanding of the Special Education programs offered within the District.

MOTION by Mr. Gauthier, seconded by Mr. Jerram, to **APPROVE** Board of Education Minutes of October 25, 2017, as presented. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Bell, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: Ms. Kenneson. **MOTION PASSED.**

Ms. Ruopp provided updates on: first annual very successful Halloween event and food collection, Turkey Baskets, Mr. Northwestern, United Nations team events, communication speaker, Astronomy Club reactivation, and academic excellence achievement requirements. Mr. Austin provided updates also on Mr. Northwestern, Astronomy Club and Observatory, Homecoming week, Halloween event, sports events, AgEd degrees, and upcoming Craft Fair. Also, Mr. Austin provided updates for the Silent Auction graduation fund raiser, SAT feedback, Math Department field trip, language classes, Mr. Masi’s well deserved award, and hosting the Veteran’s breakfast.

CALL TO ORDER

**AGENDA
 ADDITION/EXECUTIVE
 SESSION**

PUBLIC PORTION

NORFOLK N.E.T.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
 OVERVIEW**

**APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 25,
 2017, BOARD OF
 EDUCATION MINUTES**

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE
 REPORTS – APRIL RUOPP
 and ZACHARY AUSTIN**

<p>Mr. Amara provided Board updates on teacher PD Day and Emotional Intelligence workshops, parent communication and engagement along with teacher conferences, Turkey Baskets in Middle School, and Veteran’s Day celebration. Mr. Chichester expanded on Veteran’s Day celebration and how the program has successfully grown since the inception along with the importance of events scheduled throughout the day in honor of our veterans. Additionally, Mr. Chichester expanded on the Emotional Intelligence programs within the building and the importance of effective communication with family members.</p>	<p>PRINCIPAL REPORTS – MR. AMARA and MR. CHICHESTER</p>
<p>Dr. Palmer provided Board updates on: proactive canine sweep which went very well and is an ongoing goal, Winsted water department providing water testing, also very good. Additionally, Dr. Palmer provided updates pertaining to: A Long Walk to Water and Crystal Peak event fundraiser, social and emotional learning project, safety meeting with Winchester Police Department, and State Budget update and the effect on Regional School District No. 7. Questions and discussion followed.</p>	<p>SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT</p>
<p>Ms. Sexton Read advised of the possibility of changing the dates for town budget presentations this year. Questions and discussion followed.</p>	<p>DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS</p>
<p>Mr. Gaskins provided updates pertaining to: 2018-2019 budget process and department requests, spending freeze lifted due to review of passed state budget and requesting conservative spending approach, recent roof issues following last storm with high wind conditions and repairs being done. Mr. Gaskins has a Bond advisor meeting scheduled to discuss funding for future roof replacement.</p>	<p>OLD BUSINESS</p>
<p>EdAdvance liaison, Ms. Bell, provided an update on events/programs provided.</p>	<p>BOARD GOALS</p>
<p>Board goals discussion followed with additional suggestions.</p>	<p>BOARD OF EDUCATION GOAL DISCUSSION</p>
<p>MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Bell, to ACCEPT Board Goals as discussed. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>	<p>COMMUNITY CONVERSATION</p>
<p>Community Conversation discussion followed and Board members feel as though this should be continued every year; and, Run Like a Deer was a successful graduation fundraiser.</p>	<p>RUN LIKE A DEER – NOVEMBER 4, 2017</p>
<p>MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Ms. Kenneson , to CANCEL second Board of Education meeting in November scheduled for November 22, 2017. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>	

<p>None.</p> <p>MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Mr. Gauthier , to ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:45 p.m. for the purpose of employee personnel discussion. AYE: : Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Bell. NAY: None. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.</p> <p>Entered into Executive Session: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Fragale, Dr. Palmer. Exited Executive Session 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Mr. Gauthier, to ADJOURN at 8:00 p.m. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <p>Lisa H. D’Aprile Board Clerk</p> <p>Next Board of Education meeting: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 (Annual Organizational Meeting followed by regular meeting), 6 p.m., Media Center.</p>	<p>PUBLIC</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SESSION</p> <p>ADJOURNMENT</p>
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