

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
NEWBURY LIBRARY-MEDIA CENTER
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
APRIL 11, 2018 – 6 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Ms. Molly Sexton Read (B), Secretary/Treasurer Mr. Noel Gauthier (NH), Vice-Chair Mr. Robert Jerram (NH), Ms. Mary Duran (B), Ms. Deborah Bell (N), Ms. Katherine Vandiver (6:07)(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 Representatives Mr. Zachary Austin and Ms. April Ruopp

ABSENT: Mr. Zachary Austin

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Sexton Read called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Ms. Sexton Read requested that an **AGENDA ITEM** be added for a **MOTION** to move the next regular scheduled Board of Education meeting from Wednesday, April 25, 2018, to Monday, April 23, 2018.

PUBLIC PORTION: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Mr. Gauthier, seconded by Ms. Fragale to **APPROVE** Board of Education Minutes of March 14, 2018, as presented. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: Ms. Duran. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Mr. Gauthier, seconded by Mr. Jerram, to **APPROVE** Board of Education Minutes of April 3, 2018, with the following AMENDMENT: Delete Motion of Adjournment and advise time that presentation ended. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: Ms. Fragale. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Ms. Fragale, seconded by Ms. Kenneson, to **APPROVE** Board of Education Minutes of April 4, 2018, with the following AMENDMENT: Delete Motion of Adjournment and advise time that presentation ended. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: Ms. Vandiver. **MOTION PASSED.**

REPORTS:

STUDENT REPORTS:

Ms. Ruopp updated the Board on items pertaining to: Model UN, Junior SAT's, Student Senate, Water for Sudan, Game Night, Middle School transition panel, Kindness In Motion projects, Fiddler on the Roof, and Foreign Language week.

PRINCIPAL REPORTS:

Mr. Amara provided Board updates related to: History Day and Awards Ceremony, Parent Forum on Emotional Intelligence, art show, band concert, and Move Up Night.

Mr. Chichester provided updates on: Winter sports, scheduling, NRG in the New England Regional's, graduation date of Friday, June 22, 2018, and Project Graduation. Questions and discussion followed on student schedules.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Dr. Palmer’s Board report included: Special Education update on program attendance and costs, sexual harassment training for administration, school safety committee established for both Middle and High Schools, and the new school website to go live in a few weeks, thanks to Chris Fray’s exceptional job with this huge undertaking for ADA Compliance. Questions and discussion followed on Berkshire League and website ADA compliance.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS REPORT:

Mr. Gaskins provided updates on the following: New copiers and lease agreement, current year budget and highlights from prior year expenditures and revenues, and presentation of Budget Transfer Report. Discussion followed on Barkhamsted budget presentation and budget transfer report.

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Fragale, to **APPROVE** the Budget Transfer Report as presented.

AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. **MOTION PASSED.**

OLD BUSINESS:

UPDATES:

Board Discussion on 2018-2019 Working Budget. Comments following the budget presentation meetings including possible operation surplus fund line, school resource officer line item, bottom line explanation for expenditures and revenues will be shared with town members by Ms. Sexton Read.

Dr. Palmer and Ms. Sexton Read shared with Board of Education members emails received from New Hartford Board of Finance Chair, Jim Fitzgerald, advising: (1) The New Hartford BOF met last night, and through an approved motion, the Board of Finance directed him to write this request of the Region 7 Board of Education, to reduce the R7 budge to a zero percent increase to the entire R7 district for the FY 2018-2019; and, (2) The New Hartford BOF met last night, and through an approved motion, the Board of Finance directed him to write the request of the Region 7 Board of Education, requesting R7 to remove surplus build-up from the budget and to list and track the surplus as a separate line throughout the budget. Board discussion followed.

Ms. Bell provided an EdAdvance update to Board members.

NEW BUSINESS:

ADOPTION OF BUDGET TO TAKE TO BUDGET HEARING APRIL 23, 2018

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mr. Gauthier, to **ADOPT** a budget of \$21,142,018 to take to District Budget Hearing on April 23, 2018. This represents a 0.93 percent increase over the 2017-2018 budget expenditures.

AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale.

NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADOPTION OF CALL OF BUDGET HEARING

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Fragale, for **ADOPTION OF CALL OF BUDGET HEARING** as presented by Ms. Sexton Read, “The electors and those entitled to vote in town meetings in the towns of Barkhamsted, Colebrook, New Hartford, and Norfolk, Connecticut, are hearby notified and warned that a District Hearing for the Regional School District No. 7, will be held on Monday, April 23, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., in the Roberta S. Ohotnicky Little Theater of the High School Building at which meeting the Proposed Budget for the Fiscal year commencing July 1, 2018, will be presented. Any person may recommend the inclusion or deletion of expenditures at such meeting. The annual Meeting of said District will be held on Monday, May 7, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.” AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DECISION ON REFERENDUM FOR 2018-2019 BUDGET

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Mr. Gauthier, to **ACCEPT** Decision of Referendum for the 2018-2019 Budget. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

REFERENDUM APPROVAL/ADOPTION OF REFERENDUM QUESTION

MOTION by Ms. Bell, seconded by Ms. Duran, to **ADOPT** Referendum Question as presented by Ms. Sexton Read, "Shall the Regional School District No. 7's Annual Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2018, be accepted?" "Yes" Vote is for Approval. "No" Vote is for Disapproval. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Mr. Gaskins recommended that KING, KING & ASSOCIATES be appointed as the Certified Public Accountants for the 2018-2019 Regional School District No. 7 annual audit.

MOTION by Ms. Duran, seconded by Ms. Fragale, to **APPOINT** KING, KING & ASSOCIATES, Certified Public Accountants, as auditors for the 2018-2019 school year. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

POLICY REVIEW – 3542.43 – FOOD SERVICE CHARGING POLICY

Dr. Palmer and Ms. Sexton Read reviewed new language pertaining to the first reading of Policy 3542.43.

HEALTHY FOOD CERTIFICATION

Presented and reviewed by Mr. Gaskins.

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Bell, that Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the Board of Education of Regional School District No. 7 **CERTIFIES** that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or by non-school organizations and groups. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MOTION by Ms. Bell, seconded by Ms. Fragale, that The Board of Education will **ALLOW** the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The "regular school day" is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. "Location" means where the

event is being held. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MOTION by Ms. Fragale, seconded by Ms. Vandiver, that The Board of Education will **ALLOW** the sale to students of beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting or extracurricular activity. The “school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held, and must be the same place as the food sales. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2018-2019 EUROPE TRIP

Dr. Palmer recommended and provided an itinerary for the 2018-2019 school trip to Europe.

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Ms. Duran, to **APPROVE** the 2018-2019 Europe Trip as presented and discussed. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

CORRESPONDENCE

Highlander Basketball Camp Letter presented by Dr. Palmer.

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **APPROVE** the Highlander Basketball Camp for the 2018-2019 school year. AYE: Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: Ms. Sexton Read. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Ms. Kenneson, to **MOVE** Regular Board of Education meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 25, 2018, to Monday, April 23, 2018, following the REGIONAL BUDGET HEARING. . AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED.**

PUBLIC PORTION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **ADJOURN** at 7:40 p.m. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Duran, Ms. Bell, Ms. Vandiver, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Respectfully submitted:

Lisa H. D’Aprile
Board Clerk

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2018, BUDGET HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING TO FOLLOW, 7:00 P.M.