

Regional School District 12
Board of Education
Retreat Minutes
Shepaug Valley School
August 19, 2014

The Board of Education Retreat began at 5:11 p.m. on Tuesday, August 19, 2014. Present were Board members: Valerie Andersen, Tony Bedini, Alan Brown, Gregory Cava, Michelle Gorra, James Hirschfield, Jennifer Pote, Michael Sinatra, Susan Stumpf and Peter Tagley. Emily Hibbard and Kelly Lott, were absent. Patricia E. Cosentino, Ed.D., Superintendent and Teresa DeBrito, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment were also present.

Also present were: Curtis Read, First Selectman, Town of Bridgewater; Barbara Henry, First Selectman, Town of Roxbury; Mark Lyon, First Selectman, Town of Washington; Dennis MacDonald, Finance Board Chair, Town of Bridgewater; Michael Jackson, Finance Board Chair, Town of Washington; Jay Hubelbank, Selectman, Town of Washington

Present from the public: Ed Wainwright (arrive 6:45 p.m.).

DISCUSSION OF THE ADVANTAGE. REVIEW SIX CRITICAL QUESTIONS ON PAGE 77.

The Retreat began with a discussion of The Advantage and the six essential questions of the book which lead to a discussion of Dr. Cosentino's desired goals of the evening.

1. To develop a clear message that creates clarity about supporting Shepaug.
2. To promote Region 12 in a positive way.

Outcomes of the meeting:

1. Develop a structured plan for repairs with financial bonding information for Shepaug Valley School to go to referendum. Share with Selectmen and Boards of Finance for input.
2. Begin a public relations campaign to highlight Region 12 and communities. Potential to increase proposed services in RFQ to include the towns and their financial contribution.
3. Selectmen and Board of Finance write a *Letter to Editor* or meet with reporters to, in one voice, support Shepaug (the District); and promote the Region.
4. Dr. Cosentino will reach out to selectmen for other meetings to move forward with lease work and clearer picture of referendum; timing; and plan schedule to support Shepaug.
5. Form Shepaug Alumni Association.
6. TV shows with Board of Education, Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen.
7. Board of Education vote to support all schools in the district (not just Shepaug). All agree to speak positively about our schools in public.

ADJOURNMENT

The retreat was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.