

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
NEWBURY LIBRARY-MEDIA CENTER
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2020 – 6 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Ms. Molly Sexton Read (B), Vice-Chair Mr. Robert Jerram (NH), Ms. Theresa Kenneson (C), Ms. Lisa Fragale (C), Ms. Deborah Bell (N), Ms. Kim Crone (N), Superintendent Dr. Judith Palmer, Director of Finance & Operations Mr. James Gaskins, High School Principal Mr. Gary Franklin, Middle School Principal Mr. Fran Amara, Student Representative Mr. Xavier Langendoerfer

ABSENT: Mr. Noel Gauthier (NH), Ms. Mary Duran (B), Student Representative Ms. Alexa Carroll

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Sexton Read called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

PUBLIC PORTION – None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **APPROVE** Board of Education Minutes of October 14, 2020, as presented. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: Ms. Fragale, Ms. Kenneson. **MOTION PASSED.**

REPORTS

STUDENT REPORTS

Mr. Langendoerfer provided Board of Education updates pertaining to: success of first in-person Wednesday school day, sports update, student input regarding the district's first positive COVID case, school spirit week, teacher appreciation day, and student letters written to veterans in honor of Veteran's Day celebrations. Both Dr. Palmer and Ms. Sexton Read thanked and commended Xavier for his input and contribution, expressing appreciation for his role and work as Student Representative for the Board of Education.

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

Mr. Amara provided Board of Education updates pertaining to: Professional Development day, upcoming virtual Parent Teacher Conferences, Middle School Veterans Day Celebration, Holiday Concert Plan, and the fall Middle School sports program.

Mr. Franklin provided Board of Education updates pertaining to: the drive-through Student Council sponsored Halloween event, High School Veteran's Day events, SAT results, Departmental Meetings, Holiday Concert and Drama Production.

Brief discussion followed, and Ms. Sexton Read and Dr. Palmer thanked administration and teachers for their dedication, acknowledging sincere appreciation of the work they are doing every day.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Palmer provided Board of Education updates pertaining to: RSD#7's first COVID case and contact tracing process, thanking custodial staff for their dedication and continued hard work sanitizing the facility every day. Additionally, Dr. Palmer updated Board members regarding Agricultural Education next year enrollments, Wednesday in-school student plan and eight-period day, and CSDE request for RSD#7's SEL practices. Winter sports were addressed, with further information to follow as it becomes available. Brief discussion and questions followed. Dr. Palmer, once again, thanked the Board for their continued support.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS REPORT

Mr. Gaskins provided Board of Education updates pertaining to: 2020-2021 budget with no surprises and expenditure levels same as last year, member town enrollment numbers indicating no large swings this year and thanking Mary Paganini for providing a thorough enrollment report, Food Service Seamless Summer Option has been extended through year end, offerings have been expanded, counts are up, and

program getting back to normal. Wendy Brown and all Cafeteria staff have done an outstanding job. Additionally, Mr. Gaskins provided facilities updates on duct cleaning, Agricultural Education generator, and advised that the custodial/maintenance team is doing a phenomenal job sanitizing the building on a daily basis, and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Sexton Read thanked and expressed appreciation for the work Dr. Palmer has done and continues to do providing the latest COVID updates and information to students, staff, and community members.

UPDATES

Second reading of Acceptable Use Policy 6141. Ms. Sexton Read expressed appreciation for Mary Paganini attaching the Policy to Board of Education Agenda for ease of reference. No further discussion on Policy 6141, and the following Motion was made.

MOITON by Ms. Bell, seconded by Ms. Fragale, to **APPROVE** Acceptable Use Policy 6141 as presented. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Crone, to **CANCEL** the second regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting on November 25, 2020. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

Ms. Sexton Read requested Board of Education member input, due to anticipated COVID transmission rates through the upcoming holidays and winter months and prudence of protecting administrators whenever possible, of a return to virtual Board of Education meetings beginning with the scheduled December 9, 2020, meeting followed with a meeting-by-meeting decision after that to revert to in person or continue with virtual Board of Education meetings. Brief discussion followed, and the following Motion was made.

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Fragale, to **APPROVE VIRTUAL** Board of Education meeting on December 9, 2020, with updates to follow, meeting-by-meeting, regarding presentation of future Board of Education scheduled meetings. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. NAY: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **ADJOURN** at 6:58 p.m. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa H. D'Aprile
Board Clerk

Next Board of Education Meeting: December 9, 2020, 6:00 p.m., VIRTUAL MEETING.