

LYME-OLD LYME SCHOOLS

Regional School District #18

A Private School Experience



in a Public School Setting

Special Board of Education Meeting

April 12, 2021

Board Present: Diane Linderman, Chair; Martha Shoemaker, Vice Chair; Jean Wilczynski, Treasurer; Rick Goulding; Jennifer Miller; Mary Powell St. Louis; Suzanne Thompson

Absent by Previous Arrangement: Stacey Leonardo; Steven Wilson

Administration Present: Ian Neviasher, Superintendent of Schools

The meeting was called to order by Chair Linderman at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and act on the hours for the budget referendum vote. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mrs. Linderman reported that the Town of Old Lyme has asked that the district budget referendum hours be changed to 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (normally 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.). Mr. Neviasher explained the reasoning behind this request was a concern over being able to get enough people to work the polls during the pandemic and concern over the poll workers (many of whom are retired) working for a majority of the day/evening. Both the district and the town felt it important that the voters have time and the opportunity to vote on the budget (vs. a town meeting) but that a shortened time period would address some of the concerns. Mr. Neviasher noted that this arrangement also benefitted the district in that the voting would only affect approximately two hours of the middle school day where the voting (in Old Lyme) was taking place.

MOTION: Mrs. Shoemaker made a motion, which was seconded by Dr. Powell St. Louis, that pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, the vote on the budget for fiscal year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 will be held on the day following the annual budget meeting in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 7-7 of the Statutes. The District Budget Meeting will be held on May 3, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board of Education Conference Room at Center School; the referendum will be held on May 4, 2021 from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School in Old Lyme and the Town Hall in Lyme.

49 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, Connecticut 06371

T: 860-434-7238 F: 860-434-9959 E: neviaseri@region18.org www.region18.org

VOTE: the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Mrs. Linderman noted, that going forward, the district can change the hours of the budget referendum vote as this decision/motion is made every year.

Mr. Neviasser reported that information on obtaining absentee ballots will be publicized on the legal notice of the District Budget Meeting and Vote, postcards sent to voters, and the district's website so that there is no appearance of suppression of votes. Dr. Goulding asked that in the future timelines are sensitive to this fact and that absentee balloting information is more timely so that voters have sufficient time to vote via this manner.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m. upon motion by Dr. Goulding and a second by Mrs. Wilczynski.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Shoemaker, Secretary Pro Tem