

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7  
NEWBURY LIBRARY-MEDIA CENTER  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**  
FEBRUARY 09, 2022  
**APPROVED 2/23/2022**

**PRESENT:** Chair Ms. Molly Sexton Read (B), Vice-Chair Mr. Robert Jerram (NH), Secretary/Treasurer Mr. Noel Gauthier (NH), Ms. Mary Duran (B), Ms. Theresa Kenneson (C), Ms. Lisa Fragale (C), Ms. Deborah Bell (N), Ms. Kim Crone (N), Superintendent Dr. Judith Palmer, High School Principal Mr. Gary Franklin, Middle School Principal Mr. Fran Amara, Director of Finance and Operations Mr. James Gaskins, Student Representative Ms. Alexa Carroll

**ABSENT:** Student Representative Ms. Morgan Plitt

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Sexton Read called the regular Board of Education Meeting to order at 5:59 p.m.

**PUBLIC PORTION/publicinput@nwr7.org**

None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Ms. Crone, seconded by Ms. Fragale, to **APPROVE** the Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2022, as presented. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Duran, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: Ms. Kenneson. **MOTION PASSED.**

**REPORTS**

**STUDENT REPORTS**

Alexa Carroll provided the Board of Education with student body updates pertaining to: Mid-terms, winter sports season, theater program production of Cinderella, exam week, second semester activities, FFA Week, Class of 2022 fund raising events, and students looking forward to a new semester and happily staying safe as COVID cases decrease.

**PRINCIPAL REPORTS**

Mr. Amara provided Board of Education updates pertaining to: progress trending in the right direction in the Mathematics Department with students receiving intervention instruction, SEL in homeroom groups, Chinese New Year, Black History Month events, and Kindness in Motion kick-off events in the Middle School.

Mr. Franklin provided Board of Education updates pertaining to: High School events beginning in second semester, senior student and staff volleyball traditional match, Kindness in Motion food truck festival, field day, and finalizing details for both the senior and junior proms. Additionally, Mr. Franklin reported on the NEASC Global Forum, and the virtual meeting with Senator Murphy held for principals of Blue Ribbon Schools.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Dr. Palmer began her report with thanks to Mr. Franklin for representing the school so well, and continued with Board of Education updates pertaining to: mask wearing and Governor Lamont's Executive Order, special education student services and placements and the great work done by all special education staff,

high school graduation rates, and Kindness in Motion kick-off video, thanking Mike Stapleton for his work with the video. Questions and discussion followed.

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS REPORT**

Mr. Gaskins provided Board of Education updates pertaining to: 2022-2023 proposed budget and timeline, upcoming union negotiations with Educational Assistants, and Worker’s Compensation, Property, and Liability insurances.

**UPDATES**

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Sexton Read reviewed Policy 9110: Number of Members, Plan of Representation and Terms of Office, now that the State of Connecticut census numbers have been confirmed by Mr. Gaskins. The Policy will take effect July 1, 2022, and New Hartford Board of Education members will have over 50 percent of the weighted vote. Ms. Sexton Read requested Board members review the Policy, and a Motion to Adopt will be made at the next Board of Education meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Ms. Sexton Read advised of an email received requesting that Board of Education meetings be live streamed/recorded for public viewing. Discussion followed, and a decision was made to investigate methods, staff needed, and expense.

Ms. Sexton Read advised that the next Board of Education meeting on February 23, 2022, will begin general budget discussion following Dr. Palmer’s Budget Overview Presentation. Ms. Sexton Read reviewed the budget timeline.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Public in attendance provided comments pertaining to Capstone Project parent mentoring, and input on recording Board of Education meetings.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Mr. Gauthier, seconded by Ms. Kenneson, to **ADJOURN** at 6:46 p.m. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Duran, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa H. D’Aprile  
Board Clerk