



Serving the Towns of Bethlehem and Woodbury

### Board of Education

67 Washington Avenue ~ Woodbury, CT 06798

[www.ctreg14.org](http://www.ctreg14.org)

**Mission:** The mission of Connecticut Region 14 Schools is to educate all students to their highest level of academic potential and to teach them the skills and knowledge to become capable, creative, collaborative lifelong learners and responsible members of the world community.

**Board of Education Goals:** All students will graduate with the necessary knowledge and skills to be prepared for a successful future in a global society. Regional School District 14 will attract, develop and retain the highest quality teachers, administrators, and staff. Regional School District 14 will provide safe and secure facilities equipped with technology enabling a 21<sup>st</sup> century modern learning environment that mirrors our educational values.

### A G E N D A

Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education

Monday, April 6, 2020 at 7:00p.m.

**\*\*Virtually via Zoom Meeting\*\***

<https://zoom.us/j/8378265147>

**Meeting ID: 837 826 5147**

**Dial in by Phone**

**1-646-558-8656**

**Meeting ID: 837 826 5147**

1. Call to Order.....Janet Morgan
2. Introductions.....Janet Morgan
3. Approval of Minutes (action anticipated).....Janet Morgan
  - a. Regular Meeting of March 2, 2020
4. Superintendent’s Report.....Joseph Olzacki
  - a. Distance Learning Update
  - b. Principal updates by school – BES/MES, WMS, NHS
5. Committee Reports
  - a. Building Committee – George Bauer

#### Board of Education Members

Janet Morgan, Chairperson ~ Pamela Zmek, Vice Chairperson ~ Carol Ann Brown, Secretary ~ George Bauer, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer ~ James Crocker ~ Edward Decortin ~ Michael Devine ~ Maryanne Van Aken

6. Board Chair's Comments – Janet Morgan

7. Old Business

a. NHS Graduation Requirements

Move that the Region 14 Board of Education approve the Nonnewaug High School updated graduation requirements now requiring 25 credits for graduation as presented.

b. Budget Update – Wayne McAllister

8. New Business

a. Textbook Revision – AP Biology – Wendy Nelson Kauffman -

<https://www.pearson.com/us/campaigns/dr/campbell-biology-12e.html>

b. Early Retirement Package – Wayne McAllister

9. Other Business

10. Adjournment

Board of Education Members

Janet Morgan, Chairperson ~ Pamela Zmek, Vice Chairperson ~ Carol Ann Brown, Secretary ~ George Bauer, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer ~ James Crocker ~ Edward Decortin ~ Michael Devine ~ Maryanne Van Aken

The Regular Meeting of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held March 2, 2020 in the Cafeteria at Bethlehem Elementary School, Bethlehem, Connecticut.

Present: Janet Morgan, Pam Zmek, George Bauer, Carol Ann Brown, Ed Decortin, Mike Devine, Jim Crocker, Wayne McAllister and Joseph Olzacki. Also in attendance were, Pam Sordi, Wendy Nelson Kauffman, Donna Marcinek, Wendy Yatsenick, Taryn Fernandez, Alyce Misuraca, Jason Bouchard, Jane Caruso, Matt Graves, Erik Birkenberger, Ed Belinsky, Jenn Jedd, Tyler Cremeans, a reporter from the Voices, 10 students, 15 residents and BOE clerk, Karen Daley.

Absent: Maryanne Van Aken

### **1. Call to Order**

Janet Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

### **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Ms. Morgan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **3. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Morgan motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of February 3, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Bauer. **The motion carried 6-0-0.**

- 4. Student Representatives – BES** – Natalia and Christopher Calabrese, Markus Wesaw, Madeline Meeker and Alexandra Zulpa, students from BES presented their Science Fair Projects. Ms. Misuraca thanked the teachers for their support of the science fair. The students thanked Ms. Carol Ann Brown for attending the Science Fair at BES on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **5. Superintendent's Report -**

- a. **Band Uniforms** – Dr. Bouchard had 2 students present the new band uniforms that were donated to the district. When asked about the uniforms the students commented that they loved them and were very excited to have uniforms to wear.
- b. **Budget** – The budget books will be distributed to the Board members after the meeting.
- c. **Teaching and Learning Restructure** – Wendy Nelson Kauffman presented the Board with the status of Curriculum development and implementation. She also shared how the Teaching and Learning structure has been reorganized to better satisfy the needs of the students without adding any additional positions.
- d. **BES Principal Search** – A committee will be formed to select the new BES Principal. There should be a Principal in place by the end of the school year.
- e. **CDC Update** – The district held a meeting last Thursday with local emergency management officials, health department officials, school nurses, BOE members and the facilities manager. A letter was sent home to families this week regarding the COVID 19 virus. At this time the district is monitoring the spread of the virus and has proactively doubled down on cleaning efforts at the schools. Cleaning supplies have been inventoried and the district is in good shape to maintain clean, safe schools. The district will explore the possibility of students working from home in the event that it became necessary but does not expect anything like that at this time. The group will meet as needed if the current health situation changes.
- f. **VoAg Funding Update** – Ed Belinsky has been working tirelessly to support the passing of Bill 310 which will help with the funding for Vo-Ag schools. All 19 schools that have a Vo-Ag program are working together to finally get this situation resolved. The date that Bill 310 will be brought to the house is still to be determined but once it has notification will be sent out to encourage people to go out to show support for the Bill.

## **6. Committee Reports**

- a. **Finance** – Both the YTD Operating budget and the YTD High School Renovation budgets are on track. The debt service was discussed to help further understanding of the impacts it has on the budget for next year. The financial groups that handle the districts pension funds are closely watching the stock market and will be working with the district if any moving of funds becomes necessary.
- b. **Building** – Meeting was on February 19, 2020. Change orders were approved. The Administrative area is mostly complete. The District Office area is now underway. Lights, bleachers and handicap accessibility are being priced out.

## **7. Board Chair Comments –**

- a. Budget – The budget process has begun and all members were provided with a calendar of important dates and meeting.
- b. Health – Ms. Morgan reminded everyone of the importance of handwashing as the first line of defense against the spread of viruses. Age appropriate videos will be played for students in the schools and handwashing posters to give students visual reminders.

## **8. Public Comment** – none

## **9. Old Business –**

- a. **Policy** – Mr. Bauer **moved** that the Region 14 Board of Education approve the following mandated policies supplied and revised by CAFE Policy Services in addition to Pullman and Comley, having been reviewed and recommended by the Policy Committee: **Seconded** by Ms. Zmek. **Motion carried 7-0-0.**

*5141.214 Sunscreen  
5100 Attendance  
1112 News Media Relationships  
5131 Bus Conduct*

- b. **NHS Trip to Spain 2021** – Mr. Bauer **moved** that the Region 14 Board of Education approve the Nonnewaug High School trip to Spain in the spring of 2021 for 10-12 students, 2 background checked chaperones, via air, bus and train, funded by the students. **Seconded** by Mr. Crocker. Ms. Caruso supplied the Board with a letter from the travel company regarding the spread of the COVID 19 virus and how they handle situations such as this in addition to the information she had already sent after the last BOE meeting. At this time, she has 16-19 families seriously inquiring about the trip and attending an informational meeting with the travel company next week. With the increase in student interest Ms. Caruso requests to add a third chaperone to the trip. Four students attended the meeting and spoke to the Board on why they are eager to have approval for this trip. They see it as a way to tie their classroom learning to the real world and to see a different part of the world that until now, they have only been able to explore through text books. It is also an opportunity to use the language skills they have acquired over the years of school in real life situations. Ms. Caruso invited the BOE members to attend the parent information evening on March 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in room A28 at the High School. This may be a perfect opportunity for the Board to have their questions answered by a representative of the travel company. After discussion of the types of insurance available including the option of a \$50 extra insurance policy that allows cancellations for any reasons.

Mr. Bauer **amended** the motion that the Region 14 Board of Education approve the Nonnewaug High School trip to Spain in the spring of 2021 for 16-19 students, 3 background checked chaperones, via air, bus and train, funded by the students; reserving the Board of Education's right to cancel the trip at any time and requiring that parents purchase the additional, higher level travel insurance. **Motion carried 7-0-0.**

- c. **World Language Curriculum** – Mr. Bauer **moved** that the Region 14 Board of Education approve the World Language Curriculum as presented. **Seconded** by Mr. Crocker. **Motion carried 7-0-0.**

#### 10. **New Business**

- a. **NHS Horticulture Trip to Washington, DC.** Mr. Bauer **moved** that the Region 14 Board of Education approve the Nonnewaug High School VoAg Horticulture trip to Washington, DC. from March 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> 2020 for 28 students, 4 background checked chaperones, via bus funded by the students. **Seconded** by Mr. Crocker. This trip is to visit greenhouses, conservatories and a wholesale production facility. These are not public places though they do have plans to visit the Holocaust museum while they are there. The Board is concerned about the possible health impacts and will table the motion until the March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting and then decide based on the current state of the health concerns with COVID 19. **Motion tabled 7-0-0.**
- b. **NHS VoAg Trip to Chicago, IL.** Mr. Bauer **moved** that the Region 14 Board of Education approve the Nonnewaug High School VoAg trip to Chicago, IL from July 2<sup>nd</sup> – July 6<sup>th</sup> 2020 for four students, 1 chaperone via air and funded by scholarship and the students. **Seconded** by Mr. Crocker. This trip is for 4 students, three of whom will be graduating in June so will no longer be NHS students at the time of the trip. The other student will be a Senior at the time of the trip. The Board is concerned over the potential effects because of the COVID 19 virus and were hesitant to approve the trip. **Motion carried 5-2-0.**
- c. **Timber Sports Team** – Mr. Bauer **moved** that the Region 14 Board of Education approve the Nonnewaug High School VoAg Timber Sports Team proposal. **Seconded** by Mr. Crocker. Ms. Jedd, Mr. Belinsky and Mr. Zielinski introduced their proposal for a Timber Sports Team. This a great way for Ag students to be able to participate in a sport that is more geared to their interests. It is not a CIAC sanctioned sport. Mr. Zielinski has a great deal of experience with Timber Sports both as an athlete as well as program advisor during his time at Wamogo. Safety protocols are the first part of the lessons and student will be required to wear the proper protection for their events. This would only be open to students in the VoAg program for at least the time being as the program gets started. The Timber Sports Team will be a club sport and will not require any financial support from the region. An MOU could be written for the teachers to include this as an FFA function and therefore not requiring additional compensation. **Motion carried 7-0-0.**

#### 11. **Other Business** - none

#### 12. **Adjournment**

Mr. Bauer moved to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Crocker. **Motion carried 7-0-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Daley, BOE Clerk

March 2, 2020

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Karen Daley, Board Clerk, 3/6/2020

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

### I. Introduction

To graduate from Nonnewaug High School, a student must earn a minimum number of credits, fulfill credit distribution requirements, and demonstrate academic competency in literacy and numeracy.

### II. Credits Earned and Credit Distribution Requirement

A full-year course is equal to one credit; a half-year course is equal to one-half credit. In order to graduate from Nonnewaug High School a student must complete the minimum number of credits as specified below:

#### Classes of 2016 – 2022:

Courses	Credits
English	4
Math	4
Science	3
Social Studies	3
Physical Education	1
Health	.5
Technology	.5
Fine Arts /Vocational	1
Open Electives	6 Credits (any courses beyond required credits listed above)
<b>Total</b>	<b>23 Credits</b>

#### Classes of 2023 and beyond:

CT Graduation Requirements	Required areas	Credits	Required Courses
Humanities (9 credits)	English	4 credits	
	Social Studies	2.5 credits	World History, US History, Civics
	World Language	1 credit	
	Humanities electives	1.5 credits (one credit must be in Fine or Applied Arts)	
STEM (9 credits)	Math	3 credits	
	Science	3 credits	Biology
	STEM electives	3 credits	
Physical Education		1 credit	
Health		1 credit	
Open Electives		4 credits (any courses beyond required credits listed above)	
Mastery Based Diploma Assessment		1 credit	
<b>Total</b>		<b>25 Credits</b>	

### **III. Demonstration of Academic Competency**

Region 14 recognizes that a high school diploma should be an indication of a level of skill and achievement for its students. Students need to satisfy the following criteria in order to ensure that students are college and career ready:

**Numeracy:** (students must achieve one or more of the following)

- Score of 480 or above on Math SAT.
- A score of 70% or higher on a cumulative departmental assessment that addresses key concepts in all four mathematical strands (Operations and Algebraic Thinking, Real and Complex Number Systems, Geometry, and Probability and Statistics).
- Final grades or above 70 in 3 high school math courses.
- Successful completion of the Connecticut Alternate Assessment for students for whom this assessment is designated by a Planning and Placement Team (PPT)

**Literacy:** (students must achieve one or more of the following)

- Score of 445 or above on Critical Reading SAT
- A 3 or “meets standard” rating on the four-point rubric developed for the school administered writing prompt that is based on the SAT Evidence Based Reading and Writing assessment.
- Final grades of above 70 in 3 high school English courses.
- Successful completion of the Connecticut Alternate Assessment for students for whom this assessment is designated by a Planning and Placement Team (PPT).

### **IV. Participation in Community Service**

The school believes strongly in the value of community service; thus Nonnewaug High School will require students to perform a minimum of 18 hours of community service.

### **V. Students who do not meet graduation requirements**

Any students who do not meet all graduation requirements will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony. A diploma will be held until all requirements are completed.

#### **Options for students who do not meet graduation requirements**

Seniors who are not eligible for graduation with their class due to a failure to meet the district graduation requirements, as per policy, in one or more subjects as described above, may select one of the following options:

- Attend summer school to raise a grade to meet coursework requirements.
- Return in a fifth year to a pre-arranged program to be determined by the appropriate department and the School Counseling Department.

### **EXEMPTIONS, MODIFICATIONS, AND ACCOMMODATIONS**

1. If a physician certifies in writing that the physical education requirement is medically contraindicated because of the physical condition of the student, the class will be modified to meet



the student's limitations.

2. Exemptions, modifications and accommodations of graduation requirements will be made for any student with a disability as determined by the planning and placement team or 504 team.
3. Only credits for courses taken in grades nine through twelve shall satisfy graduation requirements with the exception of credit(s) being granted for Algebra I and/or World Language courses taken and successfully completed at the middle school level. Grades will be entered as Pass (P) on the student's transcript. The Superintendent of Schools or designee may grant credit for certain courses identified in subsection (e) of Section 10-221a of the Connecticut General Statutes.
4. The Board may permit a student to earn a diploma during a period of expulsion pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 10-233d if the Board determines that the student has satisfactorily completed the necessary credits for graduation.
5. In accordance with state law, the Board of Education may award a high school diploma to veterans of World War II, the Korean hostilities or the Vietnam Era who left high school to serve in the armed forces and did not receive a diploma as a consequence of such service or any other person who withdrew from high school prior to graduation to work in a job that assisted the war effort during World War II.

\*\*\*\*\* Update \*\*\*\*\*

Legal reference: Connecticut General Statutes 10-14n State-wide mastery examination

Courses in United States history, government and duties and responsibilities of citizenship  
Teaching about alcohol, nicotine or tobacco, drugs and acquired immune deficiency syndrome  
10-221a High school graduation requirements  
10-223a Promotion and graduation policies. Basic skills necessary for graduation, assessment process

Sent to Principal for review 11/18/19

Updated 2/3/2020

BOE review 2/3/2020