



Region 14 Schools

Serving the Towns of Bethlehem and Woodbury

Minutes

Region 14 Policy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, July 20, 2021 07:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ctreg14-org.zoom.us/j/84196325892>

Meeting ID: 841 9632 5892

Phone: (646) 558-8656

Committee Members Present:

Tikva Rose, Chair

Jim Crocker

George Bauer

Absent:

David Butkus

Non-Participating Board Member

Carol Ann Brown

Also Present:

Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance and Operations

Patricia Paige, Board Clerk

Pat DiSarro, Communications Specialist (Zoom)

Call to order

Ms. Rose called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Policies for Discussion

Tuition-in Students

Several parents have approached the Superintendent inquiring if their non-resident, non-Agriscience student may be permitted to attend school in Region 14 on a tuition basis. Ms. Tanguay indicated that although rare, she did have knowledge of allowable tuition instances, specifically if a student in their senior year were to move out-of-district and the student wished to complete their last year at the high school or, if a family were to move into the district and the parent requested that the student begin at the start of the new school year rather than transfer in at a later date.

Several committee members favored offering a tuition to non-resident families and felt it was worth looking into; however, Ms. Tanguay cautioned, that based on the needs of the students, there could be expenses that far exceed the tuition and the tuition would have to be opened to all requesting families. Ms. Tanguay was asked to investigate surrounding school district tuition policies and to reach out to the board's attorney.

Marijuana

Although current legislation permits recreational use of marijuana, the district stands clear that it is not used in the school system; there may be a need to tighten up policy to address the new legislation. Due to his absence from the meeting, the committee will circle back with the Superintendent to ask for an explanation on the subject matter as it relates to current policy.

Covid 19 Related Policies

Ms. Rose asked for clarification on the state's current stance. Ms. Tanguay noted that she was a participant in a weekly Department of Education initiated meeting earlier in the day with representatives from legal departments, food service, and various health departments. What came out of the meeting were recommendations, no restrictions at this juncture; however the state is learning in the direction of having students begin the school year wearing masks.

Ms. Rose stated that she wants to create policy and make decisions based on requirements; not recommendations; wants to see the information in writing, not from other sources.

Plans are to revisit the latest Covid draft policy and ask Attorney Mark Sommaruga to join the next meeting. She asked what the implications would be for the district if the executive orders mandated wearing masks and that was not enforced in the district, but rather made mask wearing optional.

Moving forward with offering hot lunches in the new year, although vendors are noting that supplies may not always be available.

Other

Mr. Crocker asked for history on the mascot. Woodbury Historical Society is investigating. Ms. Brown indicated that they have to make a case to keep Chief Nonnewaug. The original intent was to recognize the importance of him, not to demean.

There are financial implications, which the Finance Committee will address in the future.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Tikva Rose and seconded by George Bauer to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patricia Paige". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Patricia Paige
Board Clerk

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Patricia Paige, Board Clerk