

Minutes
Public Hearing
Regional School District #14
Towns of Bethlehem and Woodbury
Tuesday, March 23, 2021, 07:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://ctreg14-org.zoom.us/j/99104835440>

Meeting ID: 991 0483 5440

Phone: (646) 558-8656

Present:

George Bauer, Chairman
Jim Crocker
Carol Ann Brown
Tikva Rose
Jonathan Kapstein
Michael Devine
David Butkus
Chris Matta

Absent:

N/A

Also Present:

Wayne McAllister, Acting Superintendent
Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance and Operations
Wendy Nelson Kauffman, Coordinator of Teaching and Learning
Donna Marcinek, Director of Student Services
Louis DeLuca, Moderator for the Meeting

Patricia Paige, Clerk for the Meeting
Patrick DiSarro, Communications Specialist

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- I. Call to Order**
Board Chairman, George Bauer, called the Public Hearing to order at 7:03 p.m.
 - II. Appointment of Moderator**
Mr. Bauer appointed Mr. Louis DeLuca as moderator
 - III. Appointment of Meeting Clerk**
Mr. DeLuca appointed Patricia Paige as meeting clerk
 - IV. Call of the Meeting**
Mr. DeLuca read the call of the meeting

V. Presentation of the 2021/2022 Budget

Acting Superintendent, Wayne McAllister, presented the Superintendent's 2021/2022 budget. His opening remarks contained key points of the budget including the agreed upon decision between him and Principal Sordi to reinstate the CCRC position, (College and Career Resource Counselor) at Nonnewaug High School utilizing the counseling staff currently assigned to the school.

Wendy Nelson Kauffman, the Coordinator of Teaching and Learning, and Donna Marcinek, the Director of Student Services, were asked to provide insight on their responsibilities, programs and budgetary highlights.

Ms. Nelson Kauffman offered an overview of her goals in developing the Teaching and Learning budget, the focus of which, is to close learning gaps and provide a quality curriculum and instruction for all students.

Ms. Marcinek, in compiling the budget for Student Services, took into consideration addressing the needs of students from Pre-K 3 to age 22, up from age 21 as mandated by the federal government. The largest portion of the Student Services budget encompasses the cost of tuition and transportation for students with special needs who require therapeutic programs, in both private and public facilities.

In an attempt to offset the high costs of outplacement students, the budget contains a proposal to bring back the Transition Program that was in place a few years ago. Ms. Marcinek stated that it was both fiscally responsible and had the best interests of the students in mind.

Tina Tanguay, the Director of Finance and Operations, closed out the presentation with an overview of the operating budget increase, summary of the budget changes and review of enrollment and class sizes. The budget represents an increase of 2.241% over the current budget or \$826,967. Salaries include a 2.6 reduction in the workforce and the Transition Program, if approved by the Board, would realize a savings for the district in the amount of \$185,000.

VI. Budget Comments and Questions by the Public

Mr. John Lewis questioned the student/teacher ratios.

VII. Adjournment

Hearing no further comments, Mr. DeLuca adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patricia Paige
Board Clerk

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