

The Regular Meeting of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held December 3, 2018 at the Central Office of the Board of Education, 67 Washington Avenue, Woodbury CT.

Present: Janet Morgan, Carol Ann Brown, Mike Devine, Maryanne Van Aken, Pam Zmek, Dave Lampart. Also in attendance were Superintendent Dr. Olzacki, Michael Rafferty, Wayne McAllister, Kim Culkin, John Dominello, Jodie Roden, Julie Luby, FFA Students, Mike Hadoulis, Conor Gereg, Unified sports students, Terry Springsteen and her husband, President of Special Olympics, MES student reps Hobie Lewis & Adrienne Coelho with their parents, reporters from both CT Voices and Republican American.

Absent: John Chapman, George Bauer

1. **Call to Order**

Ms. Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:03pm and led the pledge of allegiance.

2. **Approval of Minutes:**

Ms. Van Aken motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 5, 2018 and seconded by Ms. Brown. The **motion carried 5-0-1, with Ms. Zmek abstaining.**

Student Representatives:

MES reps Hobie Lewis and Adrienne Coelho presented an extensive list of what they are both grateful and thankful for in attending MES.

Superintendent report:

Dr. Olzacki advised he and the Central Office Administrators have spent countless hours working on budget preparation. He mentioned that he has spent quality time in most of the classrooms at every grade level in all of the schools. He went on to State that he and Principal Luby will be visiting some NHS classrooms. He stated that he has been very busy meeting with the clergy and FFA students.

Dr. Olzacki segued into discussing the FFA National Convention. He said he was very fortunate to have been invited to the Convention which took place in Indianapolis, Indiana and was very impressed and extremely proud at what he saw. He then asked Mr. Davenport to provide an update on the FFA National Convention results

Mr. Davenport mentioned that 6 teams participated in the National Convention and asked that each team come up to introduce themselves and give a brief explanation of what they did.

- Conduct of Chapter Meetings Team: Their team placed silver nationally
- Meat Judging Team: Andrea Wheeler placed 56th individually on a national level. Both Riley Kennedy and Gillian Blood placed silver individually and silver as a team.
- Chapter Officer Team: Placed 12 and 24th out of 49 competitors.
- Quiz Bowl Team: Placed 8th overall.
- Horse Judging Team – Placed silver individually and silver as a team.
- Dairy Cattle Evaluation Team: Placed silver as a team, 2 teammates placed gold individually and 2 placed silver individually.

Overall the Woodbury FFA Chapter came home with 5 National Silver Medal Team, with individuals on all of these teams earning a total of 2 National Gold Medals, 20 National Silver Medal, and 2 National Bronze Medal during this week long convention attended by over 69,000 FFA members from across the country.

Labonne's appreciation: Ms. Morgan presented the LaBonne's with a certificate of appreciation for their many years of generosity and support to the community and our students

Unified Banner Champions: Mrs. Luby was thrilled to share with the BOE that NHS has been honored by receiving a national distinction as a unified champion banner school. Mr. Dominello, Mr. Gereg and some of the students and their unified buddies said a few words as well. The president of special Olympics, Beau Doherty, went on to mention that only a handful of these awards are given out and he is extremely happy to see all that the district is doing.

WMS Culinary Pilot Program Update:

Mr. Hadoulis and Mr. Rafferty gave an update as to how the pilot program is going and how it is evolving. 4 in 14. Mr. Rafferty advised that wanted to highlight 4 key elements in the launch of the new course: Curriculum Planning, Feeding Up, Chop, and Connection to Home. He went on to advise that Mr. Hadoulis and Mr. Dominello worked tirelessly during the summer months to come up with the pilot program and the goal to finalize curriculum draft with the goal of bringing forward a final curriculum document for the next school year.

Curriculum planning: Building a course sequence that will take students from foundational skills to fancy culinary techniques. The class focus on building background knowledge and creating.

Feeding up: Mr. Hadoulis brought WMS students to NHS to engage with the high school students during the senior citizens luncheon. Mr. Hadoulis said it was a great opportunity to work with the high school counterparts in mentoring and guiding them through the event and that Mr. Dominello helped make that happen. The students participated in giving back to community and learned the pressures of a real culinary event.

Chop: The students engaged in collaborative "chop competition", very similar to the cooking competitions that they see on television. The competition consisted of judges and they had to use a secret ingredient in their recipe. This was a great team building mission whereby the groups had a list of ingredients and had to write their own recipe from scratch. The teams worked throughout the week to practice and improve their recipes which they presented a finished product to the judges. Mr. Hadoulis stated that it was very satisfying to see how hard they worked.

Connection to home: Students are seeing how the culinary experience connects with their everyday lives, which include measuring, conversions, recipe reading, nutrition, and cross contamination concerns. Mr. Hadoulis was pleased to hear that some students actually go home and cook. His sister's daughter, who is in the culinary course made a fresh fruit tart during class, and went home that weekend and prepared another one for her family using the skills that she has acquired in the course. Mr. Rafferty thanked Mr. Dominello in helping to make this program interesting and thanked the BOE for supporting this initiative.

Committee reports

Building: The building committee updated was tabled as Mr. Chapman was not able to be present.

Finance/Facilities: Ms. Morgan advised that Mr. Bauer will give an update at the next BOE meeting.

Safe schools: Ms. Van Aken advised that the committee discussed such items as reviewing cameras in each building, the working relationship with the ambulance companies between towns, radio communications, and refresher of ALICE training.

Board chair comments

Ms. Morgan read a letter received from a Mr. Altieri parent and community member regarding having school during Veteran's day.

Public comment – Mr. Crocker, Woodbury resident congratulated the BOE on a very successful meeting.

Old business

Ms. Morgan wanted to clarify to the Board that the 1st BOE budget workshop on the budget calendar should remain on March 20, 2019. Mr. McAllister advised that he needs to give info to the towns for them to prepare their questions and it would be helpful to have time to prepare for the presentation to the towns.

Ms. Van Aken *moved* that the Region 14 BOE approve phase 5 of a five year technology lease agreement in the amount of \$250,000 as presented, seconded by Mr. Lampart. **Motion carried 6-0-0.**

New business

Ms. Van Aken *moved* that the Region 14 BOE approve the NHS baseball team to attend a spring training camp in Dodgertown, Vero Beach, FL from Mar 15, 2019 to Mar 20, 2019 for approximately 22-28 students, 3 coaches and 3 background checked chaperones via coach bus and air and funded by fundraising and students, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Lampart. **Motion carried 6-0-0.**

Other business – Dr. Olzacki wanted to bring people's attention the artwork that was put in from WMS for display.

Adjournment: Ms. Van Aken *moved* to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Lampart. The **motion carried unanimously 6-0-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Natascha Schwartz, BOE Clerk

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Natascha Z. Schwartz, Board Clerk, 12/7/2018

Revised: 1/7/19