

The Regular Meeting of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held December 16, 2019 in the Board of Education Room, 67 Washington Avenue, Woodbury, Connecticut.

Present: Janet Morgan, Pam Zmek, Mike Devine, Jim Crocker, Ed Decortin, George Bauer, Carol Ann Brown, Joseph Olzacki and Wayne McAllister. Also in attendance were, Pam Sordi, Wendy Nelson Kauffman, Wendy Yatsenick, Patrick DiSarro, Ed Belinsky, Jennifer Jedd, approximately 10 residents, students from the boys' volleyball team, the boys' soccer team, student representatives from the nationally competing FFA teams 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

Mr. Bauer motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of November 4, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Crocker. **The motion carried 7-0-0.**

- 4. Student Representatives** – Ms. Jedd introduced the members of the FFA group that competed at the National Competition in Indianapolis, IN back in October. The students shared their successes with the Board and answered a few questions about their trip. They also thanked the Board for all of the support they show for the VoAg program throughout the year.

5. Superintendent's Report -

- a. Graduation Requirements – Ms. Sordi and Ms. Nelson Kauffman identified the changes that are coming for graduation requirements for the class of 2023. The framework will no longer be broken down to specific numbers of classes that need to be taken in specific subjects but will use a broader grouping. The Humanities category groups English and Social Studies. STEM includes Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The district will drill down further to provide some additional guidelines for the requirements for Region 14 students. The State is prescribing less guidelines rather than more which will give students the flexibility to take classes they are interested in without losing the challenge and rigor. The school counselors will play a large role in assisting students to pick the courses that will help them achieve their individual goals and be sure to prepare them for what colleges will require from them during the application process. The "Vision of a Learner" program is expanding. This will be a district wide effort to give students the best possible framework possible for their future. Ms. Morgan believes that it is good for students to have to complete some sort of Volunteer component for graduation. The Mastery Performance requirement is new and will be a great way for students to show mastery in a subject area of their choosing. Students in middle school can potentially earn high school credit if they take a course that is offered as high school level course such as Algebra 1. The Vision of a Learner will be what guides all of the schools in the district. The team will provide updates at future Board meetings as this process moves along.
- b. Ms. Yatsenick shared that multiple donors in both communities have come forward to assist families with their holiday and winter needs. Teachers, local businesses and organizations have taken care of all of the needs in the community. She thanked the whole Counseling team for all of their hard work to make sure our families have all they need for the winter season.

- c. Boys Soccer – The boys won their Berkshire League title this fall.
- d. Girls Volleyball – Won their Berkshire league title this fall.
- e. Three NHS Teams won the Sportsmanship Awards this year. Boys Soccer, Girls Volleyball and Girls Field Hockey.
- f. Bryce Bauer is in the process of applying to Westpoint Military Academy. He interviewed with Congresswoman Ms. Jahana Hayes and she has given him the nomination to the academy.

6. Board Committee Reports

- a. **Building Committee Report** – The last building committee was November 19, 2019. Electricians are working hard to get the work done and are looking ahead to the final stages of the project. Mr. Bauer thanked Ms. Sordi for her cooperation with all of the things that have come up. They are looking into bleachers and lights for the fields if there is money. The gym areas are almost complete. Good progress is being made with some of the final steps in the renovations process. The next meeting will be on Thursday, December 19, 2019.
- b. **Finance Committee Report** – All finances are on track, YTD budget and the Renovation budget. There are potential contracts on the horizon.

7. Board Chair Comments –

- a. Ms. Morgan thanks staff coming to the meeting and wished all the Region 14 staff a happy holiday season.

8. Public Comment – none

9. Old Business – Policy Discussion

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:

5141.21 – Administering Medications
5141.7 – Student Sports – Concussions

Seconded by Ms. Zmek.

5141.21 – Administering Medications – **Motion carried 7-0-0**

5141.7 – Student Sports – Concussions – Mr. Curtin says that we are following the procedures that are in the policy. With the addition of a full time athletic trainer the policy could be followed exactly as it was written. The state has guidelines in place for most of the items that are in the Board policy. Mr. Curtin is 100% in support of the policy as it is written. **Motion carried 7-0-0.**

10. New Business

- a. Field Trip

Ms. Zmek ***moved*** that the Region 14 Board of Education approve Nonnewaug High School VoAg students trip to Pennsylvania Farm Show, Harrisburg, PA, January 10-11, 2020 for 20 students and 2-4 background checked chaperones via bus and funded by the students. Seconded by Ms. Morgan. **Motion carried 7-0-0.**

- b. Graduation date.
Ms. Sordi has asked that the graduation date be set for Saturday, June 20, 2020 at the Warner Theatre. Mr. Bauer moved that the Region 14 Board of Education approve the Nonnewaug High School Graduation date be set for June 20, 2020 at the Warner Theatre. Seconded by Mr. Crocker. **Motion carried 7-0-0.**
- c. Mr. Bauer moved that the Region 14 Board of Education approve the contracts to Logue and Haley Properties for snow plowing service at Region 14 Schools for three school years (2019-20 through 2021-22) as presented. Seconded by Mr. Crocker. **Motion carried 7-0-0.**
- d. Mr. Bauer moved that the Region 14 Board of Education approve the Master Lease for Technology Plan as presented. Seconded by Ms. Zmek. **Motion carried 7-0-0.**

11. Other Business

- a. Mr. Bauer moved to accept two donations, one to NHS and one to WMS Alliance Group each in the amount of \$5,000.00. Seconded by Mr. Decortin. Motion carried 7-0-0.
- b. Dr. Olzacki thanked Dr. Bouchard and noted that he is doing a great job with the music department. The school concerts will be aired 24 hours from Christmas Eve through Christmas Day. This broadcast will include the tree lighting ceremonies in each town. Dr. Olzacki is also pleased with the small changes that have been happening. The website is looking great and a new logo will be rolled out on the first of the year.

12. Adjournment

Ms. Morgan moved to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Crocker. **Motion carried unanimously 7-0-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Daley, BOE Clerk

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Karen Daley, Board Clerk, 12/20/19