

The Special Meeting of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held August 27, 2018 in the Board of Education Room, 67 Washington Avenue, Woodbury, Connecticut.

Present: Janet Morgan, Mary Ann Van Aken, Carol Ann Brown, Mike Devine, Dave Lampart, George Bauer. Also in attendance were Superintendent Christine Syriac, Kim Culkin, Mike Rafferty, Wayne McAllister, Thomas Nobili, Abby Waldron, Pat diSarro, Joe Erardi, approximately 10 community members, reporters from CT Voices and Republican American, and BOE clerk, Natascha Schwartz.

Absent: Pam Zmek, John Chapman

1. Call to Order

Ms. Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:05pm and led the pledge of allegiance.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Ms. Van Aken motioned to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 27, 2018 and Seconded by Mr. Bauer. The motion carried 6-0-0.

3. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Syriac advised that she is becoming more familiar with the district and that next meeting will actually held in the Board of Education room at Central Office rather than at Nonnewaug High School.

4. Board Committee Reports

Mr. Bauer advised that the Finance/Facilities subcommittee met on July 30, 2018 to discuss the closeout of the 2017-18 budget. He mentioned that the balance of \$127,370 will be transferred to capital non-recurring expenditures and will be discussed later on through a motion to close out the budget. He also mentioned that there was some concern over the district collecting monies for Agriscience tuition, however, Interim Director of Finance/Facilities, Mr. Ed Arum confirmed that all monies due were received.

5. Board Chair Comments

Ms. Morgan announced that the Board of Education members will participate in a workshop on bullying and mean behavior with Jo Ann Freiberg from the Connecticut State Department of Education. This workshop for the BOE members will occur after the next Board of Education meeting to be held on September 4, 2018.

6. Public Comment – none

7. Old Business – none

8. New Business

- A. Mr. Bauer moved that the Region 14 BOE approve the Transfer of \$127,370 from the surplus funds of the 2017-18 fiscal year and be appropriated to the reserve fund for Capital and Non-recurring Expenditures (BOE account# 322), with any subsequent appropriation from said reserve fund in accordance with CT General Statutes 10-51(d) (d2), as

presented and was seconded by Mr. Lampart. Mr. Bauer advised that the funds will cover excess costs of NHS renovations. **The motion carried unanimously 6-0-0.**

- B. Ms. Van Aken moved that the Region 14 BOE approve authorize interim Superintendent Christine Syriac (in lieu of former Superintendent Cutaia) to sign on its behalf CSDE ED-099 (Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs), along with other forms, Statements, and certifications required under said programs including but not limited to claims for reimbursement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lampart. **The motion carried unanimously 6-0-0.**
- C. Mr. Rafferty and Ms. Waldron presented the 1st read of the Library/Media Curriculum. Mr. Rafferty wanted to show the power and strength of the library. As with the other curricula that have been written, the top 5 highlights were discussed: Focus on Inquiry and Collaboration, Digital Citizenship, Cross Curricular Implementation, Community and Global connections, Developed with the latest State and National standards (ISTE and AASL)

This curriculum is written a little differently whereby it was written in bands (Pre K - 2, 3 - 5, 6 - 8, and 9 - 12). The same units will appear year after year as was done with the music curriculum. Ms. Waldron went on to mention that students will learn among other things: online ethical behavior, leaving a positive digital footprint, creating new projects and referencing their work appropriately. The students will be able to innovate through design and will be able to collaborate with the Library Media Specialists. Mr. Rafferty explained that the students will not be bound by content, but will be freed by curiosity. The region will be collaborating with local libraries, experts, as well as reaching out across the globe. This will allow students to have access to experts around the world. As the region has seen at the high school level, when kids are studying a certain topic, they will be able to responsibly connect with people in the field on whatever to gain more insight and understanding. Ms. Waldron was pleased to announce that Region 14 is one of the first to follow the new State standards by incorporating ISTE & AASL. An implementation guide is being currently worked on and the standards will be incorporated into the guide.

- D. Mr. Erardi of JE Consulting gave the BOE an update regarding the Superintendent search. He handed out an executive summary of what community members in the Region have prioritized as essential skills needed for the new Superintendent. He went on to mentioned that over 200 people completed the on line survey which is remarkable. There were 15 focus groups held over the course of approximately one month. He went over the summary and advised that we have received a very healthy and strong pool of applicants spanning over 7 states and 2 countries.

Ms. Morgan mentioned that at the conclusion of the BOE meeting, the Board (functioning as the Superintendent search committee) will adjourn to a non-meeting to discuss search committee matters.

9. Adjournment

Ms. Van Aken *moved to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Bauer.* **The motion carried unanimously 6-0-0.**
The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Natascha Schwartz, BOE Clerk

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Natascha Z. Schwartz, Board Clerk, 8/29/2018