

The special meeting of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held April 1, 2019 in the Board of Education room, 67 Washington Avenue in Woodbury.

Present: Janet Morgan, Pam Zmek, Carol Ann Brown, Mike Devine, Maryanne Van Aken, Dave Lampart, George Bauer, John Chapman. Also in attendance were Superintendent Dr. Olzacki, Wayne McAllister, two community members and Steve Pendergast, CT Voices reporter.

Ms. Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Mr. McAllister and Dr. Olzacki answered questions previously presented by BOE members for review and discussion. Ms. Brown, Mr. Bauer and Ms. Van Aken all submitted question ahead of time for discussion.

The committee discussed the library books line item at NHS to which there was no definitive answer re: NEASC book requirements. It was the feeling of the board that there may be funds to cut from this line item.

They went on to discuss the Math/Science instructional leader position. Mr. Chapman asked Dr. Olzacki to have the Director of Teacher and Learning at the third Board of Education workshop on April 3 to discuss the position's impact on teaching and learning.

The committee also discussed the 3-year musical instrument replacement and enhancement program. Mr. Chapman asked if there were options with the Woodbury/Bethlehem Music Foundation to help with funding. Dr. Olzacki indicated that they had already generously funded the WMS drum program. Mr. McAllister suggested perhaps approaching the foundation to support the full replacement/enhancement program on a matching grant basis.

Discussion regarding WMS Library Media Specialist position. Ms. Van Aken advocated for maintaining a full 1.0 FTE at WMS. Ms. Brown discussed reinstating the 0.5 FTE at BES with concern about district equity in the LMS position. The consensus was to add back the 1.0 FTE at WMS and to restore the 0.5 FTE at BES to 0.6 based on the Principal's initial budget request to establish as a 0.6 allowing for a full 3-day program. Dr. Olzacki suggested eliminating the 0.2 music position at WMS as partial funding for 0.6 LMS position at BES had been discussed by his staff and this was an option for the board to consider.

Dr. Olzacki informed the board that he met with Principal Nemec and that they came to a consensus that the additional 0.2 music position can be eliminated.

The board discussed the viability of NEATV to which Mr. Chapman asked what the annual cost for NEATV currently is. Dr. Olzacki advised that he would get the exact amount for him. Mr. Chapman then asked Dr. Olzacki how the Director of Teaching and Learning felt about NEATV and cable as it relates to curriculum and instruction. Dr. Olzacki said he would invite Mr. Rafferty to the next workshop.

Discussion on HR services. Ms. Van Aken asked Dr. Olzacki for a list of job duties and responsibilities of the current HR Director position. She asked Dr. Olzacki's input on how the duties and responsibilities will be distributed going forward. Dr. Olzacki indicated that he's reviewing the options of either using a 3rd party vendor or adding a clerical position within the \$80K budget allocation.

Mr. Devine expressed his concern for a full time HR person on staff to address concerns in a timely fashion and not through a shared source. He also is very concerned about the building project and the debt service impact over the next three years. If community chooses not to pass the budget the project may end up costing us more.

Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "N. Schwartz".

Natascha Schwartz, BOE Clerk

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Natascha Z. Schwartz, Board Clerk, 04/02/2019