

The Regular Meeting of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held August 21, 2017 at Bethlehem Elementary School, Bethlehem, Connecticut.

Present: Janet Morgan, Mary Ann Van Aken, George Bauer, Carol Ann Brown, Mike Devine, and John Chapman arrived at 7:03pm. Also in attendance were Dr. Anna Cutaia-Leonard, Mike Rafferty, Chrissy Fensore, Kim Culkin, Principal Susan Ruddock, 1 member of the community and BOE clerk, Natascha Schwartz. Missing: Dave Lampart, Pam Zmek

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Ms. Morgan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Van Aken motioned to approve the minutes of Regular Meeting on July 10, 2017 and Seconded by Mr. Bauer, The **motion carried 5-0-0.**

-Preschool update: Ms. Fensore gave update on preschool schedules for both schools. She advised that the region held a family info night for parents and had a great turnout and was very successful event. Dr. Anna advised that neither the funding nor the numbers have changed regarding tuition and the number of students in the classroom. There is a rumor circulating that the region made these changes to the preschool to increase revenue. Dr. Anna went on to say with the numbers that were shared last year, it is clear that the revenue is decreasing as we will not be taking as many typical peers which would be paying tuition.

Summer Curriculum update: Mr. Rafferty gave an update regarding the summer curriculum which included: Assessment update, Music, Social Studies, Science, revised ELA implementation guides, Math implementation guides, AP Capstone Training and Curriculum, Teacher Leadership Academy, Farm to Table.

Mr. McAllister gave an update on summer facilities work that took place. 5 projects were approved in the 2017-18 year and to be finalized by end of this week. \$69,500 budgeted, \$60,480 actual spent, \$9,020 under budget.

**Committee Reports:**

- A. Building Committee – Mr. Chapman advised that the Building Committee is holding a reconciliation meeting August 22 and will have a report from the co-compliance group to make decisions on various issues. Phase 1 work is on schedule and the building will be ready for students to be in the building on August 22. Mr. Chapman also mentioned that the building committee asked the selectmen from both towns to waive the \$320,000 for permit application fees for all Region14 construction projects. There is currently no ordinance in place for fees to operate under the same framework. The Boards of Finance that no action to be taken on proposed ordinance. He advised that the region will likely need a petition circulated and put before the towns to be heard in November. The Building Committee Chair encourages those interested in seeing tax dollars leveraged to students to sign the petition. The committee will reach out to various stakeholders to get support.
- B. Finance/Facilities – Mr. Bauer gave an update on the NHS YTD, Central Office move YTD, capital projects, 4<sup>th</sup> quarter transfers. State reporting to be discussed at the next meeting.

- C. Wellness – Ms. Van Aken – Classroom celebration guidelines. Dr. Anna advised that the classroom celebrations guidelines do not dictate personal snacks that are being brought to school. The guidelines from the state regulate what is distributed to students in classrooms and prohibits use of personal foods. Rather than going to no food celebrations, the Wellness committee wanted to keep them. The committee decided to stick with the state list and has heard from some parents that the cost is prohibitive and this will need to be discussed. The policy is in place for this school year and the region will make changes as necessary. Ms. Van Aken advised that we may end up moving forward with no food celebrations, but will revisit cost etc. with the food service dept. Dr. Anna mentioned that she would like to have potential forum with parents and staff to figure out how many celebrations do we need in a school year. Lastly, she addressed the rumor that this a way to get parents out of schools. Region 14 still encourages and wants parent volunteers.
6. **Public Comment** – Mrs. Paolino resubmitted several questions and asked new questions. Ms. Morgan advised that the answers will be sent to her via email and will also be read at the next BOE meeting.

7. **New Business**

- A. Ms. Van Aken *moved* that the Region 14 BOE approve and adopt the following Pearson publishing textbooks for NHS: Calculus, Precalculus, Stats, and seconded by Mr. Bauer. The **motion carried unanimously 6-0-0.**
- B. Ms. Van Aken *moved* that the Region 14 BOE accept the Agriscience equipment & technology grant #214-0088VE as completed, and seconded by Mr. Bauer. The **motion carried unanimously 6-0-0.**
- C. Ms. Van Aken *moved* that the Region 14 BOE accept the Agriscience equipment grant #214-0089VE as completed, and seconded by Mr. Bauer. The **motion carried unanimously 6-0-0.**

Ms. Morgan requested a motion to add an agenda item that being for the Region 14 BOE to approve the Nonnewaug High School Agriscience Students' trip to National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN. Ms. Van Aken moved that the Region 14 BOE add the field trip to the agenda, and seconded by Mr. Bauer. The **motion carried unanimously 6-0-0.**

- D. Ms. Van Aken *moved that* the Region 14 BOE approve Nonnewaug High School Agriscience student to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN from October 23, 2017 through October 28, 2017 for 35 students, and 6 chaperones via coach bus and funded by the FFA account, Alumni account, travel account and students. Seconded by Mr. Bauer. The **motion carried unanimously 6-0-0.**
- E. Ms. Van Aken *moved* that the Region 14 BOE accept the Agriscience facility building grant #214-0090VA/A as completed, and seconded by Mr. Bauer. The **motion carried unanimously 6-0-0.**

8. **Adjournment**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Natascha Schwartz, BOE Clerk

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Natascha Z. Schwartz, Board Clerk, 8/28/2017