

The Regular Meeting of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held January 16, 2018 at the Board of Education Central Office, 67 Washington Avenue, Woodbury, CT, 06798.

Present: Maryanne Van Aken, Mike Devine, John Chapman, Carol Ann Brown. Also in attendance were: Dr. Anna Cutaia-Leonard, Chrissy Fensore, Mike Rafferty, John Dominello, Beth Mauro, Sarah Mazzei, MES student reps, Stella Green and Matteo Bria, their parents, Representatives from SLAM/O&G, Scott Pellman, Amy Samuelson, DAC Chair Jim Agostine, Jim Crocker, Pat diSarro, and BOE Clerk, Natascha Schwartz.

Missing: Dave Lampart, Pam Zmek

1. Call to Order

Ms. Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:06pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Morgan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Student Rep Report – Stella Green and Matteo Bria gave an update as to what they love about MES.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Ms. Morgan requested a motion to approve the minutes of Regular Meeting of December 18, 2017, and Ms. Van Aken *moved* and seconded by Mr. Bauer. The **motion carried 6-0-0**.

Ms. Morgan requested a motion to approve the Special Meetings of January 3, 2018 & January 11, 2018. Ms. Van Aken *moved* and seconded by Mr. Bauer, the **motion carried 4-0-2, with Mr. Chapman and Mr. Bauer abstaining**.

Ms. Morgan requested a motion to approve the Special Meeting January 11, 2018. Ms. Van Aken *moved* and seconded by Mr. Bauer, the **motion carried 5-0-1, with Mr. Bauer abstaining**.

5. Superintendent's report

Region 14's Finest– Principal Roden presented Sarah Mazzei & Beth Mauro as Region 14's finest for MES for their outstanding contribution.

Farm-to-Table Update- Mr. Dominello & Tyler Cremeans, Larissa Gugliemetti, & Faith Creighton gave a presentation regarding the farm-to-table course which deals with methods of food production and preparation of vegetables, fruits, honey, meat products, dairy, maple syrup, local foraging. The students obtain real world skills that they will use throughout their lives. Larissa and Faith explained the photos in the presentation.

Superintendent's Corner- Dr. Anna was pleased to give some highlights as to what has been going on in the district, including the exciting news that the region anticipates likely adding American Sign Language and Latin as part of world languages at NHS. She also mentioned there will be some changes at WMS as to when world languages will be offered, moving toward 8th grade full year for full credit. These changes will happen over the next two years. Dr. Anna also advised that there will be a schedule change at WMS schedule change, making class time 50 mins instead of the current 40 minutes to give the academic core areas more time for both students and teachers. This will be presented to the Board of Education in the near future.

MES has been very fortunate to have received snowshoes which were graciously donated to the school for students' use. Students have been eagerly awaiting their change to try them. Lastly, the Region held a building based professional learning day, whereby each school was able to select a priority to focus on. Some of the priorities consisted of working on feedback, curriculum writing, instructional model, and NHS focused on google classroom.

6. **Board Committee Reports**

Building Committee – Mr. Chapman informed the public that the building committee will be meeting tomorrow night and that SLAM/O&G will be giving a thorough presentation of FF&E. He mentioned that all of the bids have been received for the project.

Community Relations - Ms. Morgan thanked everyone who attend conversation. The committee will hold a joint meeting with DAC and the BOE to go over all of the information that was presented by the attendees during the forum. It was a great opportunity and great outcome. Ms. Zmek to give a full report during the next BOE meeting.

Finance – Mr. Bauer YTD financials as of December 31, 2017 the district revenue is at approximately 52%, which represents \$17.3M. Expenditures to date are estimated at roughly 42%, representing \$14M. He also gave a summary regarding NHS damage from freezing weather and thanked Mr. Molzon and his team for limiting the damage and saving a lot of the equipment. He mentioned that the committee also did some follow up work regarding preschool tuition.

District Advisory – Dr. Anna mentioned that the BOE will have another look at the RFQ/P for approval. She thanked John Chapman for his help in revising the document to have it ready for the BOE tonight. She also thanked Jim Agostine for his presence. She gave an update on what the DAC is doing, going to schools for a walk through. She advised the public that the committee normally meets on the first Tuesday of the month and there is plenty of opportunity to be heard. Once the bids are received, the committee work closely with the BOE to review the proposals for the facilities and demographics assessment. Lastly she mentioned that she, Ms. Morgan, and Mr. Agostine will be meeting with PTOs in February to give a better idea to parents what the committee is about. There will also be a letter sent out to parents and something to be put into the newspaper in the very near future.

Policy – Mr. Chapman advised that the committee met earlier tonight and will meet again in the next month. There will be three policies to come before the BOE for a first read.

7. **Board Chair Comments** – Ms. Morgan once again thanked the BOE members and attendees which attended the community forum.

8. **Public Comment** - none

9. **Old Business**

- A. The BOE discussed the changes/additions that Mr. Chapman made to the RFQ/P to clarify, then took a vote. Ms. Van Aken *moved* that the Region 14 Board of Education authorize and solicit qualifications and proposals from qualified firms for conducting a facilities condition and demographic assessment of the District and its school (RFQ#2018-205), as presented. Seconded by Mr. Chapman. **The motion carried 6-0-0.**

10. New Business

- A. The BOE went over two versions of the 2018-19 School Calendar to account for the NHS renovation project. Dr. Anna explained both versions of the calendars. To bring back to the BOE for vote during the next meeting.
- B. Mr. Bauer *moved* that the Region 14 Board of Education approve phase 4 of a 5 year technology lease agreement, at \$250,000.00 per year, as presented, and seconded by Ms. Van Aken. **The motion carried unanimously 6-0-0.**
- C. Ms. Van Aken *moved* that the Region 14 Board of Education approve NHS Baseball team to Cooperstown Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY from April 19 through April 20, 2018, as presented, and seconded by Mr. Bauer. **The motion carried unanimously 6-0-0.**
- D. FF&E Presentation - Amy Samuelson of SLAM & Scott Pellman of O&G gave a very brief presentation of the FF&E to the BOE. Amy went through story boards regarding choice of furniture that was selected by the administrators with the input of faculty/staff. Technology worked with Phil Pagano for pieces of technology needed throughout the school. On budget design for technology.

Mr. Chapman requested to add a motion to approve the SCG-042 FF&E and Technology as presented by SLAM & O&G as presented, contingent upon approval by the Building Committee and within the project budget.

- E. Mr. Bauer *moved* that Region 14 Board of Education approve the FF&E and Technology (SCG-042) as presented by SLAM/O&G as presented, contingent upon approval by the Building Committee and within the project budget. Seconded by Ms. Van Aken. **The motion carried 5-1-0, with Mr. Devine opposed.**

11. Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Natascha Schwartz, BOE Clerk

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Natascha Z. Schwartz, Board Clerk, 1/25/2018