

The Regular Meeting of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held May 16, 2017 at Nonnewaug High School, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, Connecticut.

Present: Janet Morgan, Mary Ann Van Aken, Carol Ann Brown, Mike Devine, Dave Lampart, Pam Zmek, and John Chapman. Also in attendance were: Dr. Anna Cutaia-Leonard, Wayne McAllister, Kim Culkin, Mike Rafferty, Chrissy Fensore, Eric Bergeron, Jodie Roden, Maureen Marshall, Sandy Guay, Vinita Chapman, Kathleen Grillo, incoming NHS principal Julie Luby, students Edward Longo, Mia Salisbury, Parus Nasir, James Bona, their families, 1 member of the community, Moderator Lou Deluca, and BOE clerk, Natascha Schwartz.

Missing: George Bauer

1. Call to Order

Ms. Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

2. Student Reports

MES students Edward Longo and Mia Salisbury gave a top 20 list of MES.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Ms. Van Aken motioned to accept minutes of Regular Meeting on May 1 2017. Seconded by Mr. Lampart. The motion carried 7-0-0.

Ms. Van Aken moved to accept minutes of Special Meeting on May 1, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Lampart. The motion carried 7-0-0.

Ms. Van Aken motioned to accept minutes of Special Meeting on May 9 2017. Seconded by Mr. Lampart. The motion carried 7-0-0.

Ms. Van Aken moved to accept minutes of District Meeting on May 11, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Lampart. The motion carried 6-0-1, with Ms. Brown abstaining.

4. Superintendent's Report

- A. Dr. Anna presented the new NHS Principal Julie Luby. Mrs. Luby introduced herself and said a few words. She stated that she is extremely excited to be appointed as principal of NHS. R14 believes in their kids, team focus on instruction in making sure students getting what they need.
- B. Ms. Morgan along with Principal Roden presented Region 14's finest to 6 MES teachers, 4 of which were able to be in attendance; Maureen Marshall, Sandy Guay, Vinita Chapman, Kathleen Grillo. Maren Sussman, and Diane Baker will be recognized at their school.
- C. Dr. Anna presented two WMS students with CAFE Leadership awards: Parus Nasir and James Bona. The two Nonnewaug High School students, Eric Mockovak and Sarah Woodward will be recognized at the upcoming High School awards banquet.

5. Committee Reports

- A. Building Committee: Mr. Chapman advised that a presentation will be given to the community on May 24 in the NHS auditorium. The time will be determined in the next few days. This is a key date where the committee will bring the community up to speed on the timetable going forward, budget limitations, etc.
- B. Policy Committee: Mr. Chapman advised that the committee would give an update further on in the meeting during the new business portion of the meeting
- C. Community Relations: Ms. Zmek updated the BOE on the presentation made by Maria Duncan regarding a draft communication plan. The next meeting will be held June 19 at 6:00pm.

6. Board Chair Comments

Ms. Morgan addressed some misleading articles that were recently mentioned in the newspapers.

- A. Dr. Anna advised there is false information which is being stated on social and in print media, alleging that the H.R. Director's position is a new one and that it is costing the region more in this year's budget. She went on to say that two years ago there were opportunities to fill two vacancies of which one was an administrator position that already existed and the second was a vacancy due to restructuring in the Technology department. The team looked at the positions and agreed that there was a definite need for a Human Resources focused position. This position was also in alignment with the BOE's second goal; in developing and retaining the best staff possible. The region turned an existing administrator position into the Human Resources position and eliminated the Director of Information Technology position. The second vacancy was a management position in I.T. By revisiting positions and some savings, the region was able to obtain more on the ground I.T. support, as well as a Director of H.R. Dr. Anna continued by describing the positive aspects of gaining a Director of H.R. Region 14 now has processes and procedures in place thanks to the hard work of the Director of H.R. Prior to the position being put into place, the region didn't have a clear hiring process, records retention, nor evaluations process. Now, every staff member is evaluated yearly. Furthermore, the region has managed to reduce/save over 20 FTE's by scrutinizing each FTE request. Lastly, there is now a concentrated effort to facilitate contract negotiations. This is false that it is a new position and that it's costing more. More efficient and less liability.
- B. Mr. Chapman advised that there is more false information stating that the region is spending \$1.5M for the Central Office suite. There are very minor renovations going on at Central Office. The Central Office portion was separated out financially. The office will have the same space, with the benefit of having 5 classrooms swing space during the renovation project. The Central Office will be moving to Woodbury Middle School at minimal cost for relocation/moving.

7. Public Comment - none

8. Old Business - none

9. New Business

A. Dr. Anna asked to vote on renumbering of policy 9325.43 and add policy numbers 9750 & 9760. Mr. Chapman moved that the BOE remove policy number 9523.43 and add policy numbers 9750 and 9760. Seconded by Mr. Lampart. **Motion carried unanimously 7-0-0.**

B. Dr. Anna & Mr. Chapman gave a brief overview/highlight of the recommended changes of the following policy numbers:

- 5114 - Student discipline (Dr. Anna)
- 9750 – Bylaws of the board-conduct of meetings (Mr. Chapman)
- 9760 - Attendance at meetings via electronic communications (Mr. Chapman)
- 6142.101 – Wellness Policy (Dr. Anna)

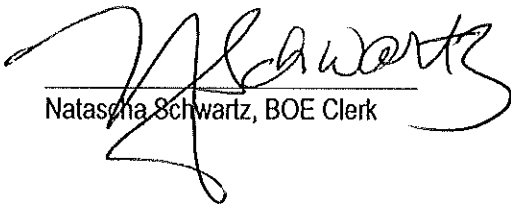
There will be a handful of remaining policies that will be ready to bring to the BOE in July.

10. Adjournment

Ms. Van Aken *moved to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Lampart.* The motion carried unanimously 7-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Natascha Z. Schwartz, BOE Clerk

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Natascha Z. Schwartz, Board Clerk, 5/18/2017