

The Regular Meeting of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at Nonnewaug High School, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, Connecticut.

Present: Board members George Bauer, Carol Ann Brown, John Chapman, Charles Cosgriff, Michael Devine, Maryanne Van Aken, and Pamela Zmek; Superintendent Anna Cutaia-Leonard, Ed.D., Director of Finance and Operations Wayne McAllister, Director of Special Services Christina Fensore, Director of Teaching and Learning Michael Rafferty, Director of Human Resources Kimberly Culkin, Student Representative Ricky Robinson, Board Clerk Deb Carlton, and 2 members of the press.

Absent: Janet Morgan

1. Call to Order

Mr. Bauer called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Bauer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Report from Student Representative

Ricky updated the Board and audience on activities in the schools since the start of school. He spoke about Spirit Day, ZuZu acrobatics, Open House (9/16-17) and hot dog roast (9/24) at BES; summer reading logs and chromebook boot camp at MES; a welcome back meeting to discuss WMS Pillars of behavior, chromebook boot camp, and Google Classroom at WMS; and block scheduling and the start of sports seasons at NHS.

4. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bauer requested a *motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 24, 2015.*

Entered by Ms. Van Aken and seconded by Mr. Cosgriff, the **motion carried 5-0-2** with Ms. Van Aken and Mr. Cosgriff abstaining.

5. Presentation

None.

6. Information and Proposals

A. Committee reports

None.

B. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Cutaia-Leonard invited Mr. Rafferty to update the Board on his work in the area of Teaching and Learning. He gave an overview of how he organizes curriculum work and showed examples of guiding questions, critical content and key skills, and assessments and resources. He stressed the importance of curriculum built by teachers, and of building in feedback to raise engagement and move students forward. His implementation guides will be available to parents and he hopes it will encourage them to ask their children what they are working on in school.

Dr. Cutaia-Leonard explained that the public document is what will come to the Board for approval, not the implementation guides. She also explained how curriculum will be brought to the board in a cycle and resources will be in the following year's budget to support the work.

Ms. Brown commented she would like to see a lesson start to finish.

Mr. Cosgriff commented he would like to see Mr. Rafferty film his professional development work for teachers to review as needed.

Dr. Cutaia-Leonard also offered an enrollment update indicating numbers above projections but below last year's actuals. The 10/1 numbers will be used for budget projections.

Lastly, she provided a chart of meeting agenda topics for 2015-2016. Each meeting will feature a different department update, and there will also be focus on budget priorities. She developed this to be transparent, and also to allow for input by the Board. Should the Board have suggestions for additional topics, they should send them to Mr. Bauer, she said.

C. Board Chair's Comments

Mr. Bauer reminded the Board and audience of a remembrance walk to remember those lost to substance abuse that will take place at Hollow Park on 9/11 at 6:30 pm; and a drug take-back event is scheduled for 9/26 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Woodbury Resident Trooper's office. The Go the Distance event is the same day.

7. Privilege of the Floor

None.

8. Business Requiring Board Action

None.

9. Announcement of Future Meetings

Mr. Bauer reviewed upcoming meetings:
Monday, September 21, 2015, BoE Regular Meeting, 7:30 pm, NHS LMC
Monday, October 5, 2015, BoE Regular Meeting, 7:30 pm NHS LMC
Monday, October 19, 2015, BoE Regular Meeting, 7:30 pm, BES

10. Adjournment

Ms. Zmek entered a *motion to adjourn*, second by Ms. Van Aken. **Motion carried 7-0.** The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Ann Brown, Secretary
Regional School District #14 Board of Education

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Debra W. Carlton, Board Clerk, 9/11/2015