

The Regular Meeting of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held Monday, June 2, 2014 at Nonnewaug High School, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, Connecticut.

Present: Superintendent Jody Goeler; Board members Carol Ann Brown, Charles Cosgriff, Janet Morgan, John Swendsen, and Maryanne Van Aken; Director of Finance and Operations Wayne McAllister; Director of Instruction Sue Domanico; Technology Director Paul Ciotti; Board Clerk Deb Carlton; and 3 community members
Absent: George Bauer, John Chapman, and Sophieazane Bartlett

I. Call to Order

Ms. Van Aken called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm. and led the Pledge of Allegiance

II. Review of the Minutes

Ms. Van Aken requested a *motion to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 20, 2014*. Entered by Mr. Cosgriff, and seconded by Mr. Swendsen, the **motion carried 4-0-1** with Ms. Morgan abstaining.

III. Presentation(s)/Reports to the Board

Mr. Goeler reported on teacher evaluations, telling the Board that evaluators have met or exceeded the minimum number required. Ratings will be done after summative evaluations and completed by June 30th. He also reported on the progress of the Wellness Committee, which had its last meeting today. He offered a pamphlet created by Ms. Torre that describes the recommendations of the committee; also, a letter was drafted and will be sent to BES and MES parents. The recommendations will also be shared with WMS and NHS.

IV. Strategic Plan Status and Update

Ms. Domanico reviewed a district strategic plan monitoring document that illustrated all goals have either been met, are in progress toward being met, or are ongoing. All have been addressed in some way, she said, and it has been a banner year for this work. The document will be added to the website. She gave credit to administrators, teachers and staff who have worked hard to advance these goals.

V. Privilege of the Floor

None.

VI. Facilities, Finance and Operations Update

Ms. Brown reported for the Public Relations committee. She thanked the FFA for a wonderful dinner this week; spoke of the DARE graduation at BES which drew a packed house of responsive and supportive parents and community members; and praised the drama department for earning 3 Halo awards. She gave sports updates, highlighting the undefeated tennis team at NHS and praising coach Nick Sheikh for his talent in bringing athletes along. She noted the logo contest winner, the student created artwork hanging in the State Capitol, and talked about plans to redo the sign at the corner of Rt. 6 to help advertise upcoming events at NHS.

VII. Safety Update

Ms. Van Aken reported the committee is putting final touches on the plan to be sent to the State. Mr. McAllister noted the deadline has been delayed until the start of school in the fall. Ms. Van Aken thanked him for the follow up email urging everyone to button up security for the balance of this school year.

VIII. Other Business

Ms. Domanico reviewed proposed changes to the professional learning calendar for 2014-15 which she had previously presented to the board. A side-by-side comparison had been requested and she provided that to the board prior to the meeting. Ms. Van Aken requested a *motion to approve the Professional Learning Calendar for 2014-15 with changes as noted*. Ms. Van Aken stressed the importance of making professional learning topics known to parents, both as good public relations and to show rationale for the time away from teaching. Ms. Morgan felt this would be especially important in justifying the extra 15 minutes on Mondays. Entered by Mr. Cosgriff and seconded by Mr. Swendsen, the **motion carried 5-0**.

Ms. Domanico also outlined changes to the teacher evaluation plan. In addition, she summarized responses to the 3/30/14 CSDE Flexibilities, response to PEAC/State BoE changes of 5/7/14, and changes made to the plan in 10/13 to illustrate how much work the committee and administrators have done to keep their eyes on a moving target.

The Board opted not to approve the AP Biology text. They will hear rationale for that purchase at the next meeting.

Mr. McAllister reviewed legal fees for the court cases challenging the building referendum. With the Arras, Miller, Miller, Murphy, and Suslavich case still ongoing in Waterbury, and with additional bills received this month, the total for the two cases has reached \$91,972.21. (The declaratory judgment in Litchfield, now completed, cost the district \$19,864.26. The Arras et al suit has so far cost the district \$72,107.95)

IX. Adjournment

Ms. Van Aken requested a *motion to adjourn*. Entered by Ms. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Cosgriff, the **motion carried 5-0**. The meeting adjourned at 8:32pm.

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, 6/5/14