

The Regular Meeting of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at Nonnewaug High School, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, Connecticut.

Present: Board members George Bauer, Carol Ann Brown, Charles Cosgriff, John Swendsen, and Maryanne Van Aken; Director of Finance and Operations Wayne McAllister; Director of Instruction Sue Domanico; WMS Principal Alice Jones; student representatives Vincent Pistrutto and Stephanie Lewis; Technology Director Paul Ciotti; NHS Physics teacher Mike Murphy; Board Clerk Deb Carlton  
Absent: Jody Goeler, John Chapman, Janet Morgan, and Sophiezzane Bartlett

I. Call to Order

Ms. Van Aken called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm. and led the Pledge of Allegiance

II. Review of the Minutes

Ms. Van Aken requested a *motion to approve minutes of the District Meeting of May 5, 2014.*

Entered by Mr. Cosgriff, and seconded by Mr. Bauer, the **motion carried 5-0.**

Ms. Van Aken requested a *motion to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 5, 2014.*

Entered by Mr. Cosgriff, and seconded by Mr. Bauer, the **motion carried 5-0.**

Ms. Van Aken requested a *motion to approve minutes of the District Meeting of May 8, 2014.*

Entered by Mr. Cosgriff and seconded by Mr. Swendsen, the **motion carried 4-0-1**, with Mr. Bauer abstaining.

Ms. Van Aken requested a *motion to approve minutes of the Special Meeting of May 8, 2014.*

Entered by Mr. Cosgriff and seconded by Mr. Bauer, the **motion carried 4-0-1**, with Mr. Bauer abstaining.

III. Presentation(s)/Reports to the Board

Ms. Jones spoke to the Board about the WMS Warrior Council, a combination of the Youth Action Council and Student Council. Students have initiated some of the finest experiences for kids, on their own, through this group, including a breakfast on Super Bowl Sunday, monthly celebrations highlighting students of the month and including music, and the March Madness Friday evening event attended by a full 80% of the student body – over 200 kids attended. Their spirit is evident everywhere at WMS, she said, in terms of climate, and they are leaving a legacy for the younger students moving forward. With the assistance of Mr. Bauer, the students and their advisors were presented with certificates.

Mr. Murphy's students updated the Board on their activities, having completed a 2700 hour build season and having competed successfully in a number of events. They demonstrated this year's robot and its capabilities, showed the car used in Electrathon racing, and spoke of many values that guide their efforts, including "gracious professionalism."

Stephanie and Vincent updated the Board on happenings in the schools; of particular interest was the recent presentation by Chris Herran at NHS.

IV. Strategic Plan Status and Update

Ms. Domanico updated the Board on curriculum/instruction work in the schools. Smarter Balanced Field Testing is wrapping up, and end-of-year Measures of Academic Progress assessments in math and reading are starting. Work in being done on elementary progress report revisions, to align them with curriculum/instruction reporting, and revisions to the 2014-15 Educator Evaluation plan need to be finalized. She is also getting ready for summer curriculum review and revision groups, pending budget approval. She is also roughing out professional learning needs for next year, especially in literacy, reading, writing and formative assessments. She is firming up the development of district and building level data and improvement teams; has had productive meeting of the Career Partnership Workgroup; and reported that BES and MES will share a CAS grant of \$5000 to implement Responsive Classroom next year.

V. Privilege of the Floor

None.

VI. Facilities, Finance and Operations Update

Mr. Bauer anticipates both Finance and Facilities will meet on June 9<sup>th</sup>. He encouraged everyone to vote on Thursday.

VII. Safety Update

The safety committee meets this Friday.

Ms. Van Aken requested the addition of a 3<sup>rd</sup> item under Other Business: *Appointment of the Board of Education as the Superintendent Search Committee*. Entered by Mr. Bauer and seconded by Mr. Cosgriff, the **motion carried 5-0**.

VIII. Other Business

Ms. Domanico provided a thorough explanation, through powerpoint, of her recommendations for changes to the Professional Learning schedule for next year. She explained rationale for the changes requested and took questions from the Board. She anticipated the Board would want time to consider the changes, but asked for action prior to the end of the year.

Mr. Bauer requested calendars that show current schedule and the one proposed, for side-by-side comparison.

Ms. Van Aken requested a motion regarding the Superintendent Search Committee. Mr. Bauer entered a *motion to include the entire Board of Education to serve as the Superintendent Search Committee*. Seconded by Mr. Cosgriff, the **motion carried 5-0**.

Ms. Van Aken requested *a motion to go to Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue – the Interim Superintendent appointment*. Entered by Mr. Bauer and seconded by Mr. Swendsen, the **motion carried 5-0**.

The Board went to executive session at 8:45 pm. and returned at 9:11 pm

Mr. Cosgriff entered a *motion to appoint Dr. Frank Sippy to serve as interim superintendent beginning July 1, 2014*. Seconded by Mr. Bauer, the **motion carried 5-0**.

Mr. Cosgriff entered a *motion to approve the terms of Dr. Sippy's contract as presented by Mr. McAllister and beginning July 1, 2014*. Seconded by Mr. Bauer, the **motion carried 5-0**.

IX. Adjournment

Ms. Van Aken entered a *motion to adjourn*. Seconded by Mr. Bauer, the **motion carried 5-0**.  
The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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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, 5/27/14