

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC/COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Region 14 Public/Community Relations Committee was held on Tuesday, November 20, 2012 in the Region 14 Central Office Conference Room, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, CT.

The following members were present: George Bauer, Maryanne VanAken, and Committee Chair Pamela Zmek.

Also present was Superintendent Jody Ian Goeler.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The Committee finalized plans to begin a Superintendent's Forum, the purpose of which is to discuss current topics relating to education and their impact upon the students in Region 14. The first Forum will be held in December, with a new panel convening each quarter to discuss a new topic. Discussion at the first Forum will be centered on our on-going Strategic Planning and its implication for the District. Topics for future Forums were also discussed. The December panel will consist of five members of the Strategic Planning team, along with Superintendent Goeler. The Forum will be filmed for NEAT TV by a Nonnewaug High School student working toward his Eagle Scout project and once the date and panel members have been confirmed, Mr. Bauer will draft a press release for publications in area newspapers.

The Committee also continued its discussion from October 15th regarding establishing a Region 14 Superintendent's Advisory Council, which will consist of 7 - 9 residents from various segments of the Region 14 community. The Committee will invite business professionals, residents, senior residents and clergy for discussions with the Superintendent regarding issues facing Region 14. The Committee will finalize these plans at its January meeting. The Advisory Council will meet quarterly with the Superintendent and will be available for viewing on NEAT TV.

Superintendent Goeler has had on-going discussions with Mr. O'Brien regarding recruiting student representatives to the Board. It is hoped that representatives from both the Junior and Senior class will be named at the December Board of Education meeting.

The Committee looked at many sample newsletters from various Districts in Connecticut, which were obtained at the CAFE Convention by George Bauer and Pam Zmek. Along with various brochures and other mailings, the Committee looked at quarterly newsletters and calendars other Districts have used to keep residents, parents and students connected to their local school districts. Discussion regarding the best way to accomplish this in Region 14 will continue at our next meeting, date to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela Zmek

Pamela Zmek, Chair
Public/Community Relations Committee
Region 14 Board of Education