

The Regular Meeting of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 in the Nonnewaug High School Library, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, Connecticut.

Present: Superintendent Jody Ian Goeler; Board members Sophieazane Bartlett, George Bauer, John Chapman, Charles Cosgriff, Gary Suslavich, John Swendsen, and Maryanne Van Aken; Director of Finance/Operations James Reese; and Board Clerk Debra Carlton

Absent: Board member Pamela Zmek

Audience members included: 1 member of the community and three members of the press

I. Call to Order

Mr. Cosgriff called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Presentation – Region 14’s Finest

Woodbury Middle School administrators Alice Jones and Eric Bergeron were on hand to assist in honoring the Beetle Bots with Region 14’s Finest Awards. Ms. Jones spoke of the program, and the long term commitment of faculty advisors Elaine Peck and Millie Hauser, and then asked student Anthony Delia to explain the team’s recent competition and Core Value award. Mr. Bauer assisted Ms. Jones in presenting certificates to: Celine Abassi, Jack Ballou, Alexis Delia, Anthony Delia, Patrick Gaffney, Ben Haggard, Jakob Kelsey, Braedon Mathieson, Jacob Murphy, Jared Niedermeyer, Jonathan Stamp and Ms. Peck and Ms. Hauser.

III. Presentation – Agriscience Students – Europe Trip Report

Members of the Gold Medal Dairy Judging Team for 2010-11, Stephanie Watko, Riva Martin and Sam Marcus, along with their teacher, Bill Davenport, reported on last spring’s whirlwind trip to Europe. They showed a slide show account of their travels and spoke of what the opportunity meant to them and what they learned from the experience.

IV. Review of the Minutes

Mr. Suslavich entered a *motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of December 19, 2011 as written*. Seconded by Mr. Bauer, the **motion carried 7-0**.

V. Correspondence

None.

VI. Report from the Chairman

Mr. Cosgriff wished everyone a Happy New Year.

VII. Report from the Superintendent

Mr. Goeler noted that information is being gathered from administrators and others in advance of budget preparation to be shared with the Board in the near future.

VIII. Privilege of the Floor

None.

IX. Report from the Director of Finance/Operations

Mr. Reese noted having met with Mike Molzon and Maryanne Kaminski regarding the energy program. There was a successful shutdown over the holiday break and our numbers from September through November were also favorable. He thanked the staff, teachers and custodial staff for their effort and cooperation in making significant savings possible for the district.

X. Committee Reports

None.

Mr. Suslavich noted that the Finance Committee will meet next Monday evening at 6:00 pm.

Mr. Goeler noted that he had received a request for information in advance of negotiations with the paraprofessional bargaining unit.

XI. Old Business

None.

XII. New Business

None.

XIII. Board Announcements

None.

Ms. Van Aken noted an article in the 12/31 edition of the Waterbury paper in which percentages of the class of 2004 who completed any post high school program were reported. She asked if the topic could be discussed during the second February board meeting at which the guidance departments would be reporting on Student Success Plans.

XIV. Privilege of the Floor

None.

XV. Future Business

Mr. Suslavich entered a *motion to add 'modification of future agendas' to the agenda*. Seconded by Mr. Bauer, the **motion carried 7-0**. The board reviewed that the second meeting of the month would be dedicated to non-business, educational matters.

Mr. Suslavich entered a *motion to modify the agendas for the meetings of January 17, 2012 and February 21, 2012 in order to make these presentation meetings and to have the agendas reflect that, as well as to include any matters requiring the immediate attention of the Board*. Seconded by Mr. Bauer, the **motion carried 7-0**.

Ms. Van Aken renewed her interest in the discussion of a resource officer.

Regarding the upcoming, non-business meetings, Mr. Chapman suggested NEASC as relates to the humanities aspect of high school education, and as relates to the self-study in which that school is currently engaged.

Mr. Suslavich would be interested in future discussion of the value of homogeneous/heterogeneous grouping.

XVI. Adjournment

Mr. Suslavich entered a *motion to adjourn*, seconded by Mr. Swendsen. The **motion carried 7-0**.
The meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

John Chapman, Secretary
Regional School District #14 Board of Education

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Debra W. Carlton, Board Clerk, 1/4/12