

Regional School District 14 Facilities/Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2011

A Meeting of the Regional School District 14 Facilities/Transportation Committee was held on Monday, October 24, 2011 called to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Central Office Conference Room, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, Connecticut.

Present: Committee Chair George Bauer, Committee and Board members Gary Suslavich, John Chapman, John Swendsen, Superintendent Jody Goeler, Director of Finance and Operations Jim Reese

Members of the community present: Mr. and Mrs. Haggard, Mr. and Mrs. Snabaitis, Mrs Ponte, Mrs. DeSorbo, Mrs. Hawley

The following agenda items were discussed.

1. Transportation/Bus Stop Issues

- a. A summary regarding the bus stop of Quanopaug Trail residents was reviewed. The previous business administrator had reviewed sending a bus northbound on Quanopaug Trail to pick up school children however deemed it as dangerous to the bus occupants and other cars in an unpaved section of road. The bus stop currently exists at the intersection of Quanopaug trail and Rt 6 and was deemed acceptable by a reviewing State Trooper and Bus Company safety officer.
- b. The residents of this road contest this ruling for a number of reasons: The safety of the intersection at Route 6, length of walk for a kindergartener to the bus stop (~.9 mile), dirt road width under normal and snow conditions. (Ref: Region 14 transportation policy 3541)
- c. Mr. Goeler's discussion with the Woodbury First Selectman, Mr. Stomski, on this issue offered some part of a solution. Mr. Stomski indicated the town of Woodbury would improve parts of the road infrastructure and send a letter to attest of the hazardous condition of the intersection.
- d. Sending busses on private roads was discussed.
- e. Change in bus route, acceptable size of bus on current paved section, and location for turnaround was discussed.
- f. The committee decided to review the bus route, review applicable bus sizes, and review turnaround locations with the business director and bus company to identify potential solutions.

2. Girl Scout bussing request.

- a. Discussion was held regarding a Woodbury Girl Scout troop bussing request. This request involved bussing students in Bethlehem after school across the boundary line to a troop meeting location in Woodbury. This request was initially denied.
- b. While the committee agreed that group activities is beneficial to the well being and growth of a child, fairness to other groups' requests was discussed and possible snow-ball effect of costly bus requests.
- c. With the new school configuration, the troops may naturally sort to town-based troop participation. This need may be an artifact of the new configuration adjustment.
- d. Currently the board approved transportation across boundary lines only for the students attending state approved day care facilities. Capacity of the education bus performing this duty will be investigated.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

George Bauer

Facilities/Transportation Committee Chair
Region 14 Board of Education