

## Summary of September 2022 RSD17 Board of Education Meeting

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#### **Cougar Pride**

HKHS student Alex Lara presented his drawing titled "Parabola" which won the Congressional District Art Competition. The message of the piece was based around the rise and fall of civilizations over time, and each segment represents New York City through time from the colonial period until today and into the future. The piece is currently hanging in the US Capitol Building in Washington DC until June 2023.

Athletic Director Lynne Flint presented on the numerous athletic accolades from the 2021-22 school year. She also reported that all athletic teams are fully staffed including a full-time athletic trainer. Also, the Football team has begun wearing Guardian Caps on their helmets which reduce the severity of concussions.

#### **Food Services**

Food Services is facing a shortage in staffing. The efforts of Director Shettleworth to ensure department operation have been greatly appreciated, and talent management is looking at options to fill vacant positions.

#### **Fiscal Department**

David Solin and his team completed and submitted the annual state financial reports including the EKMS Grant and the EFS Grant. Finance is continuing to support the work of the Annual Financial Audit.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Class Rank**

HKHS Principal Donna Hayward shared the upcoming move to a GPA Distribution Model instead of our current Class Rank Model. This will better align with the Board's Vision of the Graduate in areas such as maintaining a growth mindset and reflecting upon feedback as opportunities to adapt and improve upon learning. Powerschool will continue to rank students and will be readily available upon request to parents. The positions of Valedictorian and Salutatorian will remain in place. The new GPA distribution model will be implemented with this year's incoming Freshmen (Class of 2026).

#### **High School Air Conditioning Project**

Peter Sonski presented on the air conditioning units at HKHS which are original to the building and have begun to fail. There are currently 5 units not working, which cannot be fixed or replaced due to outdated materials and technology, and a long-term solution will not be feasible within this academic year due to sourcing delays. Mr. Sonski made the request for the district to perform an analysis on how to best address this issue.

#### **KES/BES Lighting Project**

The Board approved a proposal from Secure Energy Solutions to upgrade the lighting at Burr and Killingworth Elementary Schools to LED. The cost will be at a 0% interest rate over 48 months and will cost approximately \$30,000 per year each of the four years. The result will be long-term energy savings in both buildings.

#### **Member Update**

Haddam BoE member Brenda Buzzi will be withdrawing from the Board as she is moving out of the district. Brenda will be dearly missed by all, and we wish her the very best in her new home.

#### **ON OUR WEBSITE:**

The 2022-2027 Strategic Plan, District Core Values and District Vision can be found on the RSD17.org District Website under "District"