

**Region 14 Schools**

Serving the Towns of Bethlehem and Woodbury

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Minutes**

**Tuesday, March 28, 2023; 7:00 p.m.**  
**Auditorium, Nonnewaug High School**  
**5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, CT**

**Present:**

Jim Crocker, Chairman  
Chris Matta, Vice Chairman  
Jonathan Kapstein  
Chris Griffin  
David Butkus  
Carol Ann Brown

**Absent:**

Michael Devine  
Tikva Rose

**Also Present:**

Brian Murphy, Superintendent  
Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance and Operations  
Dina Ericson, Interim Director of Student Services  
Taryn Fernandez, Director of Teaching and Learning  
Attorney John McDonald, Moderator

Patricia Paige, Board Recording Clerk

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Crocker called the Public Hearing to order at 7:01 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**III. Appointment of Moderator**

Mr. Crocker appointed Attorney John McDonald as moderator of the meeting.

**IV. Appointment of Meeting Clerk by the Moderator**

Attorney McDonald appointed Patricia Paige as meeting clerk.

**V. Call of the Meeting**

Attorney McDonald read the Call of the Meeting:

To present and receive questions about the Regional School District 14 Superintendent's proposed budget for 2023-2024. Attorney McDonald deferred to Superintendent Brian Murphy to present the proposed budget.

**VI. Presentation of the Superintendent's proposed Region 14 Budget for the 2023/2024 School Year**

Superintendent Murphy presented his proposed 23/24 budget. The budget summary noted an increase of \$1,508,995 over last year or 3.91%, with Contractual Salaries, Student Services, and Utility/Fuel driving the increase at 46%, 36% and 16% respectively.

Noteworthy were the academic achievements at each of the schools, Bethlehem Elementary is in the top 19% of schools in Connecticut; Mitchell, the top 9% and also a School of Distinction; Woodbury Middle School's academic achievement has improved in all areas and Nonnewaug High School is in the top third of all schools in Connecticut.

Curriculum resources and materials as well as writing and training disclosed a proposed budget of \$276,932 for the 23/24 school year. Salaries, both grant-funded and conventional, were summarized; a .2 increase in certified staff and 6 in non-certified staff are proposed.

**VII. Budget Comments and Questions by the Public**

**Ian McLeran**

Bethlehem, CT

Made an inquiry regarding the cost of diesel fuel and transportation

**Steve Sordi**

Bethlehem, CT

Made several inquiries and comments regarding the district's Capital Reserve Fund

**VIII. Adjournment**

Hearing no further comments, Attorney John McDonald adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:36 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,*



*Patricia Paige*

*Board Clerk*

*Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Patricia Paige, Board Clerk*