

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education
Monday, June 19, 2023; 7:00 p.m.
Mitchell Elementary
Gymnasium

Present:

James Crocker, Chairman
Christopher Matta
Jonathan Kapstein
Carol Ann Brown
David Butkus
Chris Griffin
Tikva Rose (*arrived 7:18 p.m.)

Absent:

Michael Devine

Also Present:

Brian Murphy, Superintendent
Patricia Paige, Recording Clerk

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Introductions

Mr. Crocker called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.; the Pledge of Allegiance was recited/members of the Board and Central Office introduced themselves.

Chairman Crocker congratulated Tikva Rose for her re-election to the Board and welcomed newcomers Caren Lipinski, Alice Jones, and Michael Carbonneau. He also recognized departing members Jonathan Kapstein, David Butkus, and Michael Devine.

Approval of Minutes

- A. **District Meeting dated Thursday, May 11, 2023**
Chris Matta made a motion, seconded by Chris Griffin, to accept/approve the minutes dated Thursday, May 11, 2023 as presented, David Butkus abstained, motion carried.
- B. **Regular Meeting dated Tuesday, May 16, 2023**
Chris Matta made a motion, seconded by Jonathan Kapstein, to accept/approve the minutes dated Tuesday, May 16, 2023 as presented, David Butkus and Chris Griffin abstained, motion carried.
- C. **Special Meeting dated Tuesday, May 23, 2023**
Chris Matta made a motion, seconded by David Butkus, to accept/approve the minutes dated Tuesday, May 23, 2023 as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

- A. Student Representative
Superintendent Murphy publicly thanked Nonnewaug High School Senior Max Wolff for his contributions to the Board of Education through his monthly school updates. Max could not be in attendance, but will be recognized at another time.
- B. School Resource Officer Recognition
Mr. Murphy recognized SRO officers and Officer Rich Marsh for the fantastic job they do in keeping the district's students and staff safe. They enrich school climate, have developed a positive rapport with students and are an integral part of the school faculty. Recognized were Mark Cattery, SRO, Bethlehem Elementary School; Bobby Dickens, SRO, Mitchell Elementary School; Chris O'Toole, SRO, Nonnewaug High School; Tom Federowicz, SRO, Woodbury Middle School; and Officer Rich Marsh for his work with parents and students on the dangers of social media.
- C. CAPSS/LCSA Student Award Recognition
Two Nonnewaug High School Seniors, Max Wolff and Jamie Paige, and two Woodbury Middle School Grade 8 Students, Ethan Butkus and Jadyn Heron were this year's recipients of CAPSS/LCSA Superintendent's award. The students received the award for their academic excellent, participation in extra-curricular activities, and leadership.
- D. Bethlehem Elementary/Mitchell Elementary School Musical Production
Elementary orchestra students from Bethlehem Elementary and Mitchell Elementary performed a piece written by Music Teacher, Joel Pietrorazio.
- E. Principal Pam Sordi Recognition
A plaque to honor retiring high school Principal Pam Sordi was presented to her by Mr. Murphy. It will be hung in the Guidance Counseling Center, which will be forever named, "The Pam Sordi Conference Room". Mrs. Sordi is being recognized in admiration of the honesty, fairness, kindness and compassion she demonstrated to every student and stakeholder in the Region 14 Community.
- (*Tikva Rose joined the meeting)
- F. Congratulations Nonnewaug High School Baseball Team/Boys Tennis Team
Athletic Director Declan Curtin thanked the Board for their continued support. The Baseball team won their first ever State Baseball Championship for Nonnewaug High School. Additionally, the Boys Tennis Team were runners up at the state finals as well as the Berkshire League.

Several coaches were recognized for their contributions to their teams.
Of note, the baseball team will be receiving championship rings.

- G. The Nonnewaug Athletic Club Annual Condon/ McEneaney Ironman Award
This year is the fifteenth year the award is being presented. The award is granted to senior athletes who demonstrate toughness and commitment throughout their respective sport season. Faculty member, John Dominello, along with Founder and President of the Nonnewaug Athletic Club, Tim Drakeley presented the award to seniors Ben Feraci and Matt Palumbo.
- H. Director of Student Services and Coordinator of Student Services Positions
Mr. Murphy announced to the Board of Education that Ms. Dina Ericson will be the new Director of Student Services and Juliann Morin, the Special Education Coordinator effective July 1, 2023.

Committee Reports

Curriculum Committee

Jonathan Kapstein moved that the Board of Education adopt a resolution for expansion of the World Languages program subject to an objective determination by the Superintendent and the Director of Teaching and Learning, which was seconded by Jim Crocker; there was no vote.

Chairman Jim Crocker made a determination that the Board can approve the resolution or record it as part of the minutes and allow the new board members to take it under consideration. With Mr. Kapstein in agreement, the item was tabled for consideration under new board membership.

Board Chair Comments

Thanked all for an outstanding school year

Reiterated the four focus areas of safety, academic performance, budget, and communication

Identified the two major projects as the high school finalization and review of policies

Thanked retiring board members

Privilege of the Floor

There was none

Old Business

Policies (Second Read)

1. 3542.22 Food Services Personnel Code of Conduct

David Butkus made a motion, seconded by Chris Matta, to accept Policy 3542.22 as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

2. 3542.41 Food Services Personnel Professional Standards (regulation and appendix also included)

David Butkus made a motion, seconded by Tikva Rose, to accept Policy 3542.41 as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

New Business

A. Field Trips:

1. National FFA Convention, Indianapolis, IN; October 30, 2023 to November 4, 2023

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by David Butkus to accept/approve the field trip as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

2. Envirothon Team International Competition; New Brunswick, Canada; July 21-July 30, 2023

A motion was made by David Butkus and seconded by Tikva Rose to accept/approve the field trip as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

B. Discussion on Superintendent's Evaluation (Executive Session)

A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by David Butkus to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's Evaluation; all in favor; none opposed; the board invited Superintendent Murphy and entered into Executive Session at 7:42 p.m.

Public Session

Returned to Public Session at 8:26 p.m.

Motions

Jim Crocker moved that the Board of Education elect Brian Murphy to a new three year term as Superintendent of Schools for Region 14, commencing on July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2026, seconded by Jonathan Kapstein, all in favor; none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Jim Crocker moved that the Board of Education authorize the Board Chair to execute a new contract with said Superintendent of Schools on behalf of the Board, based upon the terms discussed in executive session and pending further legal review, seconded by Chris Matta, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

There was no Other Business

Adjournment

Chris Griffin made a motion, seconded by David Butkus, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m., all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patricia Paige". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "P".

*Patricia Paige
Board Clerk*

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