



Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education
Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Flanders Room
Mitchell Elementary School

Present:

Jim Crocker, Board Chairman
Chris Matta, Vice Chairman
Carol Ann Brown
Chris Griffin
Tikva Rose
Michael Carbonneau
Caren Lipinski

Absent:

Alice Jones

Also Present:

Brian Murphy, Superintendent
Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance and Operations

Presenters:

Taryn Fernandez, Director of Teaching and Learning
Maria Duncan, Web Specialist

I. Call to Order

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance/Introductions

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and members of the Board of Education and Central Office staff introduced themselves.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Special Meeting, Wednesday, August 16, 2023

Motion by Chris Matta; was seconded by Chris Griffin to accept/approve the minutes as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

B. Regular Meeting, Monday, August 21, 2023

Motion by Tikva Rose; was seconded by Chris Griffin to accept/approve the minutes as presented; Caren Lipinski abstained; all others were aye; motion carried.

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. Start of School Year 2023/2024

Superintendent Murphy reported that students returned to school on Wednesday, August 30th, preceded by the Convocation on August 28th; professional learning for staff was held on the 28th and 29th. All certified and non-certified positions have been filled.

- B. Website Reveal/Logo
Superintendent Murphy introduced Maria Duncan, Website Specialist, for Region 14. Ms. Duncan, in conjunction with Dr. Fernandez and Ms. Tanguay, updated the district's website over the summer to a more user-friendly platform. An overview of the site was presented by Ms. Duncan. The site also offers a brief tutorial illustrating the major changes one might encounter when accessing the website.
- C. Vision of a Learner Summer Update
Dr. Fernandez gave an update on Vision of a Learner, what has been accomplished to date and plans for moving forward. She spoke to the district's new logo design process, which included input from the VOL Guiding Coalition. The design incorporates a PK through 12 learning vision and colors representative of each of the schools.

V. Committee Reports

A. Curriculum Committee

A Curriculum Committee meeting was held on Thursday, August 31, 2023. The following courses were brought before the board on a recommendation by the committee for board approval. Committee Chair Carol Ann Brown provided a brief narrative of each.

- i. Sophomore Veterinary Science
MOTION by Tikva Rose; was seconded by Chris Griffin to accept/approve the Sophomore Veterinary Science curriculum as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.
- ii. Journalism
MOTION by Chris Matta; was seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept/approve the Journalism curriculum as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.
- iii. Leadership in Journalism
MOTION by Michael Carbonneau; was seconded by Chris Matta to accept/approve the Leadership in Journalism curriculum as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.
- iv. Sophomore Equine Science
MOTION by Chris Griffin; was seconded by Tikva Rose to accept/approve the Sophomore Equine Science curriculum as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

B. Finance Committee

Ms. Tanguay recapped the Finance Committee Meeting.

Revenue through August 31, 2023 is 16.96% of anticipated budgeted income or \$6,810,683; expenses totaled 16.06% of anticipated budgeted disbursements or \$6,446,923. Her report also included a Food Service Update and a list of completed summer maintenance projects.

C. Horse Barn Committee

Trusses are up; Tina met with SLAM and Burlington earlier in the day to address some of the concerns discussed at the last ad hoc Horse Barn committee meeting.

VI. Board Chair Comments

Mr. Crocker thanked the Board for their time and expertise.

The four focuses of academic performance, communication, safety, and budget will continue for the 23/24 school year. The high school renovation project, comprehensive policy review and horse barn are three continuing major projects.

VII. Privilege of the Floor

Michael Rickenbach

Parent of a Nonnewaug High School student; expressed concerns about the student drop-off protocols; asked the Board to consider a combination of the new/old system. He also questioned the early dismissal for excessive heat.

VIII. Old Business

There was none

IX. New Business

Carol Ann Brown shared the dates of several upcoming school events, open houses as well as the FFA Car show and Bethlehem Fair.

X. Other Business

XI. Adjournment

MOTION by Chris Matta; seconded by Chris Griffin, to adjourn the meeting; all in favor; none opposed. *Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,



*Patricia Paige
Board Clerk*

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