

# **AGENDA-Wednesday, October 11, 2023**

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NO. 7 BOARD OF EDUCATION

6:00 p.m.

Newbury Library Media Center

## **Regional School District No. 7 Board of Education Mission Statement:**

We believe the public education is an essential component of a free and democratic society. In a partnership of family, school, community, and local and state government, our mission is to enable all students to meet high standards, make productive choices in their personal lives, contribute to a diverse global society and act as responsible citizens.

### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

### **2.0 PUBLIC PORTION**

### **3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 3.1 September 13, 2023 Regular Board of Education Meeting

### **4.0 REPORTS**

- 4.1 Student Representatives- Owen Langer, Fiona Leon
- 4.2 Principals' Report- F. Amara, G. Franklin
- 4.3 Superintendent's Report- S. LePage
- 4.4 Director of Finance and Operations- J. Gaskins

### **5.0 OLD BUSINESS**

- 5.1 Updates
  - a. Review of NWR7 Band Disney World Trip - Dec. 9-12, 2023
- 5.2 BOE Goals

### **6.0 NEW BUSINESS**

- 6.1 Approval of BOE MEETING DATES 2023-24 Revision due to Budget Workshops/Meetings for the month of February and March

### **7.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

### **8.0 OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS**

### **9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Enclosures: Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes 9.13.2023  
Itinerary and review of NWR7 Band Trip to Disney World - Dec, 9-12, 2023  
Revised BOE Meeting Calendar reflecting changes in Feb & March 2024

*Next Meetings: October 25, 2023@ 6:00 p.m .- Newbury Library Media Center  
November 8, 2023@ 6:00 p.m .- Newbury Library Media Center  
November 22, 2023@ 6:00 p.m .- Newbury Library Media Center*

We welcome the public to share their comments via [publicinput@nwr7.org](mailto:publicinput@nwr7.org).

Your emails will be considered during the Public Comment session of the meeting. Thank you for your participation.

## REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7

### NEWBURY LIBRARY-MEDIA CENTER

#### Board of Education Meeting

September 13, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.

**DRAFT**

**PRESENT:** Chair Ms. Molly Sexton Read (B), Vice-Chair Mr. Robert Jerram (NH), Secretary/Treasurer Mr. Noel Gauthier (NH), Ms. Deborah Bell (N), Ms. Kim Crone (N), Lisa Fragale(C), Superintendent Mr. Steven K. LePage, Director of Finance & Operations Mr. James Gaskins, Middle School Principal Fran Amara, High School Principal Gary Franklin, Student Representatives Fiona Leon and Owen Langer.

**ABSENT:** Ms. Terri Kenneson (C), Ms. Mary Duran (B).

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Sexton Read called the Regular Board of Education meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

**PUBLIC PORTION:** None.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION BY** Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mr. Gauthier, to **APPROVE** August 23, 2023, Regular Board of Education Meeting, as presented:  
**AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

#### REPORTS

##### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT FIONA LEON

Ms. Leon expressed how happy the students were to be back at school. Over this summer, the LINK crew welcomed the Freshmen for the Freshmen Orientation. There was the Senior Sunrise Breakfast at 4:45 a.m. on 8/24/2023. It was amazing, the turnout was good, the sunrise was picture perfect and the coffee and donuts were delicious. Over the last two weeks of school, the students welcomed the new Superintendent, read a ton of syllabi, and the days are becoming busy. The Fall Sports already had their first games. In a few weeks, there are theatre auditions for the school play. In the coming weeks, there is Spirit Week which ends with a Homecoming Dance. Ms. Leon met with Ms. Waring, the new Library Media Center Teacher, and they are ironing out the details on the project to revamp the Media Center. More meetings to come as the plans are coming to fruition.

##### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT OWEN LANGER

Mr. Langer was shadowing Ms. Leon for his first BOE meeting, due to Mr. Langer just receiving the appointment of the Junior Student Representative the same day as the BOE meeting.

##### MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL FRAN AMARA

**Opening of Middle School Highlight Report:** Principal Amara expressed that it was a big success in the opening of the Middle School. A quick reminder, every year, half the Middle School are new students. All but 2 seventh grade students were able to attend the Middle School Orientation. Principal Amara thanked the fabulous job of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade web leaders. Teachers were here to meet and welcome all new students during orientation. There was a scavenger hunt, which is head by Lindsey Blanchard and Amanda Cormier. This scavenger hunt has become the staple of the Middle School Orientation, and he thanked Ms. Blanchard and Ms. Cormier for their dedication, hard work and perseverance to make this a success. Last evening, there was the Middle School Open House which was a great success. It was so nice to see the new 7<sup>th</sup> graders who did know their way around the first few days of school, show their parents the classrooms, their locker, etc. The Middle School Fall Athletics began with a total of 116 MS students participating. Mr. Amara thanked the BOE for allowing Middle School Athletics at NWR7.

##### HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL GARY FRANKLIN

**Opening of High School Highlight Report:** The High School Open House is tomorrow evening, 9/14/2023. The LINK Crew representatives will be there along with volunteers assisting the parents. Principal Franklin commented that there have been many class meetings, focusing on what it means to be a "Highlander", how the students represent themselves and others and the shift for juniors and seniors now being role models for the entire student class. Principal Franklin met with the Class Advisors, getting the student activity calendar all documented for the year. Principal Franklin expressed they had a "student driver meeting" for all students driving to and from

school, to review the responsibilities of driving, and obeying the driving laws. Freshmen Class Elections happened and Freshmen Class Officers are now in place. The High School is preparing for PSAT and Senior Seminars for Wednesday, October 25, 2023.

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT STEVEN K. LEPAGE**

**Opening of School Reflection:** Superintendent LePage thanked the Principals and the Student Representatives for their reports. The Superintendent enjoys standing with Principal Franklin at the student drop-off each morning, greeting the students upon arrival. The first Administrators Meeting was last week and the feedback and communication was collaborative, instructive and positive. The Superintendent explains he is trying to attend many extracurricular activities as his schedule will permit. Superintendent LePage expressed how impressed he has been by the climate of the school and by the students' respect and kindness. Superintendent LePage thanked all - administrators, staff, business office, paraprofessionals, all that make every day run smoothly- for the total team effort.

**Ag-Ed Program Updates:** Superintendent LePage is making an appearance in Ag-Ed daily to understand the program in depth. He attended a Parent Meeting and offered support with topics. The Superintendent also attended the Advisory Board Meeting. Information was regarding a plan to conduct vision and long-term strategic goals for Ag-Ed, program marketing, and information about current and upcoming events.

**Gym Floor Updates:** Superintendent LePage explained what a process this has been since the water leakage. Superintendent LePage is grateful for the team effort and the flooring company – BCI who met the timeline to repair all the issues at hand. The Auxiliary Gym floor repair was completed and ready for use by BCI.

## **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS JAMES GASKINS**

**Opening of School Reflection:** Mr. Gaskins reflected how smooth the first few days of schools went. He thanked Principal Franklin, Principal Amara and the business office for setting up a table outside to assist the students onto the correct buses for the first few days of school.

**Food Service:** Mr. Gaskins thanked Principal Amara for having the 7<sup>th</sup> graders run through the cafeteria on orientation so they were prepared for their first day of lunch. Mr. Gaskins says he is excited to work with Ms. La Mesa-Hamzy, the new Kitchen Manager. The kitchen staff were very polished, during the first few days of school, everything worked out in a timely manner during the first few lunch waves.

**Facilities:** Mr. Gaskins thanked the custodial staff for all their hard work. As he mentioned to get the buildings ready for a new school year, the custodians have to break it down, tear it apart, clean it up and restore to "ready for school condition." While trying to accomplish these tasks, the custodians are competing with many interruptions along the way. Whether it is Middle School Summer School, tile replacement, and scheduling vacations among themselves, the custodians still accomplish all by the opening of the school year.

**Business Office Operations:** The audit is underway. In the past, the audit was a cumulative of 4-5 day on-site visit. Over the years, the on-site audit visit has been reduced to about 2-3 days. Currently, the auditors were in today, and did not expect to have to come back again tomorrow specifying that all questions were answered, all documentation was prepared, all preparation was thoroughly prepared by the business office. He thanked Hope Carfiro and the girls in the business office for all their hard work in prepping for this audit. Administrative Assistants Union Negotiations are underway. All the State Reports were completed by the due date of September 1. The large comprehensive financial report (EFS) was also due on September 1, thanking the hard work of Hope Carfiro and the business office staff.

**Grant Applications:** Mr. Gaskins reviewed that the grant applications he submitted last summer (2023) have not received any updates as of this time.

**MOTION BY** Ms. Bell, seconded by Ms. Fragale, to **APPROVE /AUTHORIZE** Superintendent Steven K. LePage and the Finance Director and Operations Mr. James Gaskins as authorized signatures for the ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Program, as presented: **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Updates: None

BOE Goals: None

## NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent LePage reviewed the new legislation of the MOU requirement for the School Resource Officer. Superintendent LePage and School Resource Officer Dave Wood met and discussed the MOU. With research and revisions, the MOU for the School Resource Officer was revised for the BOE to review before all signatures.

**MOTION BY** Ms. Bell, seconded by Crone, to **APPROVE** Molly Sexton-Read, RSD#7 Board Chair, to sign the revised MOU for the RSD#7 School Resource Officer, as presented: **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

## CORRESPONDENCE

None.

## OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

**MOTION** by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mr. Gauthier, to **CANCEL** the Regular Scheduled Meeting on September 27, 2023, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

## ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION** by Ms. Crone, seconded by Mr. Gauthier, to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 6:44 p.m. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Next Regular Board of Education Meeting: October 11, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Barrett  
Board Clerk



## NWR7 BAND DISNEY WORLD TRIP 2023

Members of the HS Band and Choir will be traveling to Disney World in Florida from December 9th-12th (Sat-Tue).

We have 63 students attending the trip, with all three music teachers going, one school nurse, and six parents.

Both the Band and Choir will be participating in separate 2 hour workshops in Epcot where they will be learning about how Disney music is produced and recorded, as well as learning some music to sync to a section of a Disney movie.

As Disney World has an amazing variety of live music at every park, students will be required to attend 6 performances and write about the performances they attended - what they liked, what they heard musically, etc.

Thank you,

Jim Lesieur  
Middle School Band Director  
Music Department Chair  
Northwestern Middle/High School  
100 Battistoni Drive  
Winsted, CT 06098

# Academic and Performance Travel

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Specializing in Student Travel

## Sun., Dec. 10

## Workshops/EPCOT

### Chorus Schedule

Explore EPCOT  
*Lunch on Own*  
1:45 p.m. Chorus Meets at Germany Pavilion  
Disney Team Member Escorts Group to Studio "A" backstage at EPCOT.  
2:00 p.m. Disney Imagination Campus Soundtrack Sessions: Vocal  
4:00 p.m. Chorus Re-Enters Epcot

### All Groups

Explore World Showcase and Celebrate Holidays Around the World.  
*Dinner Included (\$15 Dining Card)*  
9:00 p.m. Harmonious Celebration  
9:30 p.m. Transfer to Hotel

## Mon. Dec 11

## DISNEY'S MAGIC KINGDOM

7:30 a.m. *Breakfast at Hotel (Included)*  
Transfer to the MAGIC KINGDOM  
Explore DISNEY'S MAGIC KINGDOM  
*Lunch on Own*  
*Dinner Included (\$15 Dining Card)*  
9:00 p.m. Disney's Enchantment Firework Spectacular  
10:00 p.m. Transfer to Hotel

## Tues., Dec. 12

## Departure Day/DISNEY'S ANIMAL KINGDOM

7:00 a.m. *Breakfast at Hotel (Included)*  
*Load Luggage on Bus*  
7:45 a.m. Transfer to DISNEY'S ANIMAL KINGDOM  
Explore DISNEY'S ANIMAL KINGDOM  
*Lunch on Own*  
3:45 p.m. Transfer to Orlando International Airport  
6:26 p.m. Flight Departs Orlando  
9:10 p.m. Flight Arrives into New York, NY (JFK)  
Collect Luggage  
Board Buses for School

**Please Note:** Some changes may occur in the itinerary due to crowd flow, group size, weather, traffic, parks hours, availability and scheduling.

# NWR7 BOE MEETING SCHEDULE

## 2023 - 2024

ALL MEETINGS ON WEDNESDAYS- 6 p.m. Library Media Center

<u>Meeting Date</u>	
July 12, 2023	
August 23, 2023	
September 13, 2023	
September 27, 2023	
October 11, 2023	
October 25, 2023	
November 8, 2023	
November 22, 2023	
December 13, 2023 Organizational Meeting	
January 10, 2024 Approval of Calendar	
January 24, 2024	
February 14, 2024*	
February 28, 2024*	
March 13, 2024*	
March 27, 2024*	
April 10, 2024	
April 24, 2024	
May 8, 2024	
May 22, 2024 Top 10 Students	
June 12, 2024	
June 26, 2024	
July 10, 2024	

Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday each month

Except in JULY, AUGUST & DECEMBER. Those months are as follows:

July – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

August – 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

December – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

Highlighted dates are changes as of 9/30/2023\*

When a meeting is cancelled notify: Town Halls

Post on Website

Email Agenda Receivers