

# **AGENDA-Wednesday, December 13, 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.

**\* AG-ED Presentation by Mr. Andrew O'Brien and students Elizabeth Schubert, Nikki Benson and Riley Smith\***

### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

### **2.0 PUBLIC PORTION**

### **3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

3.1 November 8, 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

5.2 BOE Goals

5.3 Review of Advertising in Schools/Revenue Enhancement Policy #1325 (second reading)

5.4 Addition of a permission form to Policy #6150 Computer System Acceptable Use (second reading)

### **6.0 NEW BUSINESS**

6.1 Review and Discussion of the NWR7 2024-2025 School Calendar

6.2 Approval of New NWCB Account per Mr. Gaskins

### **7.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

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

### **9.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

9.1 Discussion and possible action on Administrative Assistants' Bargaining Contract

### **10.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Enclosures: Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes 11.8.2023  
Policy # 1325 Advertising in Schools/Revenue Enhancement  
Policy # 6150 Computer Acceptable Use with new permission form  
2024-2025 NWR7 School Calendar

*Next Meetings: January 10, 2024, Regular BOE Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. – Newbury Library Media Center  
January 24, 2024, Regular BOE Meeting @ 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

November 8, 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), Ms. Mary Duran (B), Superintendent Mr. Steven K. LePage, Director of Finance & Operations Mr. James Gaskins, Middle School Principal Mr. Fran Amara, High School Principal Mr. Gary Franklin, Student Representatives Fiona Leon and Owen Langer.

**ABSENT:** Ms. Terri Kenneson (C)

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Sexton Read called the Regular Board of Education meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**PUBLIC PORTION:** None.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION BY** Mr. Jerram, seconded by Ms. Fragale, to **APPROVE** October 11, 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:** Ms. Duran. **MOTION PASSED.**

### REPORTS

#### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT OWEN LANGER

Mr. Langer expressed that Fall sports are coming to a close. Both girls and boys' soccer team advanced to the second round. Unfortunately, the girls lost today. Volleyball is playing in the first round of the States tonight. The quarter ended last week, so students have the option to turn in late work, make-up work and/or extra credit work before the grades close. With the new quarter, students are beginning their Capstone projects. PSAT testing was held on October 25, 2023. Students expressed that the testing was challenging. The advantage is that the PSAT was completed 100% online, benefiting the students' time management. Students expressed that the test-taking process was more comfortable than the paper booklets.

#### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT FIONA LEON

Ms. Leon communicated that the Seniors participated in the Senior workshops. This included the alumni panel, financial aid, common app, college essays, and interviews. On Friday, November 10, 2023, NWR7 will hold the Veteran's Day Breakfast and Assembly. There are lots of fundraisers happening- the Student Council Turkey Baskets and Operation Christmas Child to name a few. Fall sports are ending, and Winter sports are beginning- swimming, basketball, indoor track, hockey and wrestling. Band and Chorus auditions are this weekend. The Winter Concert is at the end of November. "CLUE" will be performed by NWR7 theatre students on November 17, 18 and 19. A few new chairs have arrived in the Media Center. Ms. Waring, the Library Media Specialist, donated a few tables and chairs to the Media Center.

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL FRAN AMARA

Teacher Goal-Setting Meetings: Principal Amara has worked closely with Principal Franklin, Assistant Principal Bakulski, Assistant Principal Carroll, and Dr. Carvalho. Discussions include student data, student assessment data, and the movement of students.

Professional Development Day November 7, 2023: CPI training occurred in the AM. Others participated in an AI (Artificial Intelligence) workshop. Teachers participated in a Chili Cookoff.

MS and School Climate Community Building: A week-long Spirit Week began the Friday before the MS Halloween Dance. Over 80% of the Middle School was in attendance for the dance.



Veteran's Day: Middle School participates in the Annual Veteran's Day Assembly. Middle School teacher -Leslie Sullivan's husband (active duty) will present to the Middle School as well as the Veterans and their guests. There is also red, white and blue day to honor the Veterans.

Parent/Teacher Conferences: Conferences for the Middle School will be held Monday 11/13 and Tuesday 11/14 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

## **HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL GARY FRANKLIN**

Agricultural School Trip: Principal Franklin attended the FFA National Convention in Indiana. He expressed there were over 70,000 students/persons in attendance. There was a music concert to kick off the convention, and the Secretary of Agriculture and the Mayor of Indianapolis spoke in the Indianapolis football stadium. The National FFA Band and Chorus were also present. He explained there was an app that outlined all events and happenings throughout the convention. There were teacher workshops, student workshops, college visits, employers, and a convention center full of exhibits. Robert Eselby, a graduate of the Ag-Ed program at NWR7, led a workshop.

PSAT Testing Day: A huge "thank you" to Chris Fray, Andy Bakulski, and the entire tech team for allowing the testing to be completed as smoothly as possible. Principal Franklin has not yet received the PSAT scores.

Voice for Change Update: The furniture order for the Library Media Center has been placed. The furniture should arrive in the next 6 weeks.

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

Region 5 Table Top Emergency Exercise: Superintendent LePage attended this exercise with SRO Dave Wood at Winsted Town Hall. In attendance were several officials, Chief Ciuci from Winsted, Fire Marshals, local school superintendents and leaders to name a few. It is a simulation of a school threat and how all would proceed. All shared from past experiences, dealing with the situation in that moment, the coming moments, and follow-up after the threat. It was a 4-hour exercise.

October Highlander Highlight Newsletter: Superintendent LePage expressed he had received positive feedback from staff, students, and families. Officer Wood expressed that students approached him after the article in the newsletter highlighting and thanking Mr. Wood for his years of service at NWR7, wishing him the best of luck in his new position. Officer Wood's position has been posted.

Senator Seminara and Representative Case's Visit to NWR7: Superintendent LePage invited them to visit the Ag-Ed program and discuss Agriculture Education funding options.

Veteran's Day: The team has done a tremendous job in planning all activities for the Veteran's Day Celebration. Superintendent LePage expressed he has added the reading of "In Flander's Field" Poem at 2:00 pm. and have all the NWR7 student trumpet players play "Taps" spread throughout the school. The staff and students were supplied red, white, and blue ribbons to wear throughout the day. There will also be a "Fallen Soldier Table" symbolizing the soldier who never returned home. This entails a small table in the cafeteria with a white tablecloth, one red rose, a place setting, and a candle all representing the soldiers are "here with all in spirit."

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

Non-Certified Personnel Changes: The Food Service Department has a few transitions. There is a posting for a Food Service position due to a current employee who was out on medical leave. This employee is not returning to this position. Another position is posted due to a current employee who was hired for a position, yet decided only to become a substitute Food Service employee.

### Business and Operations:

2022-2023 Budget: The State release for the EFS report desk audit- great news, there were no desk audit findings. Mr. Gaskins thanked Hope Carfiro for the preparation and completion of the EFS reporting.

2023-2024 Budget: Special Education has three new outplacements. There are mitigating actions put in place to manage this unanticipated cost: freeze on facilities projects, freeze on overtime except for the necessary items like the weekend building checks, and retain 20% of Department Head supply accounts.

2024-2025 Budget: This budget will be impacted by the Special Education increases.

Benefits: There is a preliminary renewal estimate of a 12% increase from Anthem BCBS. Again, this is the first offer with anticipation that this will be adjusted during negotiations. This will have an impact on 2024-25 Budget.

Administrative Assistants Bargaining Unit Negotiations: The committee and the Union reached a tentative agreement. The next step is that the Administrative Assistants' Union will need to ratify this tentative agreement. This meeting is not until November 9, 2023. Once the Administrative Assistants' Union ratifies it, it will then be brought to the BOE for ratification.

Grant Applications: Mr. Gaskins reviewed that the Multi-Media School Security Grant Application now has official approval. The School Security Program Grant was not approved. This was a larger-scope grant. NWR7 will apply for this grant again in 2024. The Federal Grant called the School Violence Prevention Program (\$670,000.00) which encompasses an increase in security yet also updates the outdated infrastructure in the school, has not been awarded to NWR7. Mr. Gaskins explained that they will continue to pursue this grant and apply again next year.

## OLD BUSINESS

Updates: No updates

BOE Goals: Molly Sexton-Read had a BOE Meeting with the four BOE chairs from the four-member towns of NWR7 on October 30, 2023. Ms. Sexton-Read's goal was to check in with all and discuss the challenges of each BOE and the K-12 Curriculum Community. Ms. Sexton-Read plans to have another BOE chair meeting in January 2024.

## NEW BUSINESS

Review of Advertising in Schools/ Revenue Enhancement Policy #1325 (first reading):

Superintendent LePage updated the BOE by reviewing the proposed policy to replace the existing #1325 policy. This updated policy would allow for some specific use of advertising funding to enrich and improve school resources. NWR7 would retain close control and limitations to the uses of such advertising. This came about because Principal Franklin met with a company (POWER AD) that generates revenue through advertising of local businesses that would be all approved by the administration to advertise on digital scorer's tables for basketball and scoreboards for 2024-2025. Mr. Williams, Athletic Director, and Principal Franklin have been collaborating with this company to review possible contracts for a new digital scorer's table that would be funded through advertising revenue.

Review of adding a permission form to Policy #6150 Computer System Acceptable Use (first reading):

This current policy only includes a "Notice of Non-participation" which refers to network and internet access and use of student images on school websites or in other media. The new form (add-on) will expand coverage to include: media release permission for Honor Roll (name), media release for events and activities of student images in a school or public media (name and/or image), and media release of information permission for Military recruiters and Higher Educational institutions (name, address, phone number.)

## CORRESPONDENCE

None.

## OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

**MOTION** by Mr. Gauthier, seconded by Ms. Crone, to **CANCEL** the Regular Scheduled Meeting on November 22, 2023, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

## ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION** by Ms. Duran, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 6:53 p.m. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Next Regular Board of Education Meeting: **December 13, 2023.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Barrett  
Board Clerk

ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION

Students must be protected from possible exploitation in advertising and promotion interests of any non-school agency or organization. Within that context:

1. Schools may cooperate in furthering the work of any non-profit community-wide social service agency; provided that such cooperation does not restrict or impair the educational program of the schools.
2. The schools may use films or other media materials which include commercial messages providing such materials can be justified on the basis of their educational values.
3. The Superintendent may, at his/her discretion, announce or authorize to be announced, any lecture, play, film, or other community activity with educational value.
4. The schools may, upon approval of the Board of Education, cooperate with any agency in promoting activities in the general public interest, and which promote the education and best interests of the students.
5. No advertising material may be posted or distributed to students which, in the opinion of school authorities, would contribute to the personal gain of an individual, business or company except as follows:
  - a. Educational material used by staff for educational purposes.
  - b. Samples, calendars, supply catalogs, etc., distributed to staff for examination, testing or review or routine classroom use.

## Community Relations

### Advertising, Promotion and Commercial Activities/Revenue Enhancement

Revenue enhancement through a variety of District-wide and District-sponsored marketing activities, including but not limited to advertising, corporate sponsorship, signage in or on District facilities, etc., is approved by the Board of Education (Board). The Board may approve such opportunities subject to certain restrictions in keeping with the contemporary standards of good taste and community values. Advertising will model and promote positive values for District students through proactive educational messages and not be simply traditional advertising of a product. Preferred advertising includes messages encouraging student achievement and high standards of personal conduct.

All sponsorship contracts will allow the District to terminate the contract on at least an annual basis, if it is determined that it will have an adverse impact on implementation of curriculum or the educational experience of students.

The revenue derived from such advertising should (1) enhance student achievement; (2) assist in maintenance of existing District athletic and activity programs; and (3) provide scholarships for students participating in athletic, academic, and activity programs, who demonstrate financial need and merit.

Appropriate opportunities for marketing activities include but are not limited to:

1. Fixed signage.
2. Banners.
3. District-level publications.
4. Television and radio broadcasts.
5. Athletic facilities, including gymnasiums and fields.
6. District-level projects.
7. Individual school publications.

Advertising shall not be permitted in classrooms, other than corporate-sponsored curriculum materials approved by the school Principal.

In seeking revenue enhancement, the following restrictions will be in place. Revenue enhancement activities will not:

1. Promote hostility, disorder, or violence;
2. Attack ethnic, racial, or religious groups;
3. Discriminate, demean, harass, or ridicule any person or group of persons on the basis of gender or sexual orientation;
4. Be libelous;
5. Inhibit the functioning of the school and/or District;

11/8/2023

Regional School District No.7

## Community Relations

### Advertising, Promotion and Commercial Activities/Revenue Enhancement (continued)

6. Promote, favor, or oppose the candidacy of any candidate for election, adoption of any bond/budget/referendum issues, or any public question submitted at any municipal, state or federal election;
7. Be obscene or pornographic, as defined by prevailing community standards;
8. Promote the use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, firearms, or certain products that create community concerns;
9. Promote any religious or political organization;
10. Use any District or school logo without prior approval.

(cf. 1260 - Educational Foundations)

(cf. 1314 - Soliciting Funds from and by School Personnel)

(cf. 1324 - Soliciting Funds from and by Students)

(cf. 1660 - School-Business Partnerships)

(cf. 3280 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests)

(cf. 3281.1 - Business/Industry/Corporate Involvement in Education)

(cf. 7551 - Naming of Facilities)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

7-194 Powers.

10-9 Bequests for educational purposes.

1021a Accredited courses offered by employers.

1021b Programs offered jointly by boards of education and business firms; neighborhood assistance.

Federal Statutes

Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act — 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g.

Protection of Pupil Rights Act — 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232h.

Policy adopted:

COMPUTER SYSTEM ACCEPTABLE USE

It is the policy of Regional School District No. 7 to promote technology that supports 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning. Regional School District No. 7 recognizes that inherent in the use of the network and its associated infrastructure, electronic communications, and Internet, hereafter referred to as computer systems, with new technology is the risk of access to inappropriate content and/or behavior. The procedures and guidelines related to the computer systems may be changed from time to time to meet future needs and circumstances. For the purposes of this policy, "misuse of the Internet or network" means any violation of this policy or the Computer System Acceptable Use Regulations, 6150, or any other use not included in the agreement but has the effect of harming another or his or her property.

It is the policy of Regional School District No. 7 to: filter Internet content in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act, 47 USC § 254; ensure that staff have made a good faith effort to supervise and monitor usage of the computer systems for adherence to the Computer System Acceptable Use Policy; promote the safety and security of users when using electronic communications such as email, blogs, wikis, and other forms of direct communications.

The superintendent or his designee is responsible for the development of administrative regulations that govern the use of the computer systems. Such regulations shall be signed by each student and are based on the belief that:

- All electronic communication, data, and network equipment are the property of Regional School District No. 7 and are intended for school purposes only.
- All communications conducted on the computer systems are considered public documents and should in no way be considered private. Regional School District No. 7 reserves the right to inspect any storage on any computer, network, or to inspect any email or other form of electronic communication at any time.
- Users will be expected to adhere to all copyright and licensing laws with respect to downloading, installing, or copying software, text, images, video, or recordings at all times.
- Users will refrain from sending any message that breaches the district's confidentiality requirements, or the confidentiality of students.
- Users will be informed of policies concerning the computer systems.
- Users will follow the employee and student Code of Conduct when using the computer systems.



COMPUTER SYSTEM ACCEPTABLE USE

- Disciplinary action, should it be necessary relative to this policy, will be applied in accordance with applicable laws, other applicable board policies and existing collective bargaining agreements.

(c.f. Policy 4118.23 Employee Conduct)

(c.f. Policy 5131 Student Conduct)

Legal References:     Public Law No. 106-554  
                              47 USC 254h  
                              Public Law No. 108-446, 118 Stat. 2647  
                              20 U.S.C. §1232g; 34 CFR Part 99  
                              Freedom of Information Act  
                              Connecticut General Statutes Section 31-48-d

## Regional School District No. 7

Administrative Regulations to Policy 6150  
Computer System Acceptable Use**Personnel**

- A. The following sets forth the procedures to implement Board Policy 6150 concerning the acceptable use of the computer systems in Regional School District No. 7. Misuse of the network, Internet, or any software or hardware connected to our network, hereafter referred to as computer systems, is strictly prohibited. Members of the Regional School District No. 7 staff who misuse the network or its technology are subject to disciplinary action. Disciplinary action, should it be necessary relative to this policy, will be applied in accord with applicable laws, other applicable board policies and existing collective bargaining agreements.
- B. Regional School District No. 7 designs its instructional program to ensure that each student becomes proficient in the skills needed to be successful in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Regional School District No. 7 offers its students and staff access to the World Wide Web and other electronic networks. Access to these resources represents a privilege not a right and carries with it responsibilities for each user. Each user must comply with the Employee Code of Conduct by using technology in an ethical manner and respect the work of other network users. Misuse of the networks means any violation of this agreement or any action on the network that harms another or his or her property.
- C. The computer network and Internet are intended primarily for educational use. Personal use of district technology resources that interferes with a user's professional responsibilities is prohibited. If a user has any doubt about whether a proposed activity is educational, contact a building administrator or the Director of Technology.

The network, while connected to the Internet, represents school property. Users should have no expectation of privacy in the use of the district's computer systems, including while on the network. This provision applies to any and all uses of the district's computer systems. Regional School District No. 7 reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review, and store any content and any usage of the network, Internet, or computer equipment at any time without notice. All collected information and all files shall remain the property of Regional School District No. 7 and no users shall have any expectations of privacy regarding such materials. Email, like all written communication, can be subpoenaed under the Freedom of Information Act and can be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. The Board has reserved the right to conduct monitoring of these computer systems and can do so despite the assignment of individual employees of passwords for system security. Any password systems implemented by the district are designed solely to provide system security from unauthorized users, not to provide privacy to the individual system user. The system's security aspects, message delete functions and personal passwords can be bypassed for monitoring purposes.

Administrative Regulations to Policy 6150  
Computer System Acceptable Use (continued)

**Personnel (continued)**

- D. Regional School District No. 7 makes network and Internet access available for the purposes of educational communication, research, organization, and administrative users. Regional School District No. 7 will take reasonable measures to: assure the safety of users of the network and Internet prohibiting unauthorized access to the network; filter Internet content for obscenity and inappropriate grade-level materials; and assure the safety of students communicating with electronic resources such as wikis, email, and blogs.

Regional School District No. 7 staff and guest users agree to use the district's computers for appropriate purposes, which includes, but is not limited to, complying with the following guidelines:

1. Refrain from using the computer systems in a manner that interferes with your job responsibilities.
2. Refrain from sending any form of communication that harasses, threatens, solicit others to behave in an inappropriate manner, contains solicitation, includes vulgar language, slanders, intimidates, any person at any time (such communications may also be a crime).
3. Refrain from sending any message that breaches the district's confidentiality requirements, or the confidentiality of students.
4. Handle all network equipment and folders with care; avoid destroying, modifying, moving, or deleting resources without permission;
5. Take reasonable measures to monitor appropriate student use of the computer system.
6. Do not attempt to "hack," breach, or disable any network system, security, and firewall, or use proxy gateways or other technologies designed to bypass the monitoring and filtering software.
7. Refrain from attaching any device or downloading any software that has not been approved by the technology department.
8. Refrain from sharing network, proxy, or any other passwords.
9. Refrain from transmitting or receiving inappropriate email communications or accessing inappropriate information on the Internet, including vulgar, lewd, or obscene words or pictures.
10. Respect the safety and confidentiality of yourself and others when posting information on websites by only using first names as identifiers.
11. Follow and respect all laws regarding plagiarism when gathering information or posting electronically.
12. Adhere to copyright and licensing agreements for all software and refrain from sending any copyrighted materials over the system.

Administrative Regulations to Policy 6150  
Computer System Acceptable Use (continued)

**Personnel (continued)**

13. Refrain from gaining or seeking to gain unauthorized access to computer systems.
14. Refrain from sending messages for any purpose prohibited by law.
15. Refrain from using computer systems for any purposes, in any manner other than those permitted under these regulations.

In addition, if a particular behavior or activity is generally prohibited by law and/or Board of Education policy, use of these computer systems for the purpose of carrying out such activity and/or behavior is also prohibited.

- E. Anyone who is aware of problems with, or misuse of the Regional School District No. 7 computer systems, or has a question regarding the appropriate use of the computer systems, should report this to his or her building administrator or to the Director of Technology.
- F. Most importantly the board urges any employee who receives or views any harassing, threatening, intimidating, or other improper message through the Regional School District No. 7 computer systems to report this immediately. It is the board's policy that no employee should have to tolerate such treatment regardless of the identity of the sender of the message.

**Students**

- A. The following sets forth the procedures to implement Board Policy 6150 concerning the acceptable use of the computer systems in Regional School District No. 7. Misuse of the network, Internet, or any software or hardware connected to our network, hereafter referred to as computer systems, is strictly prohibited. Students who misuse technology on the Regional School District No. 7 network are subject to disciplinary action which may include the loss of network and Internet privileges, suspension, expulsion, or criminal proceedings.
- B. Regional School District No. 7 designs its instructional program to ensure that each student becomes proficient in the skills needed to be successful in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Regional School District No. 7 offers its students and staff access to the World Wide Web and other electronic networks. Access to these resources represents a privilege not a right and carries with it responsibilities for each user. Each user must comply with the Employee Code of Conduct by using technology in an ethical manner and respect the work of other network users. Misuse of the networks means any violation of this agreement or any action on the network that harms another or his or her property. Use of the District's computer systems will be allowed only for students who act in a considerate and responsible manner in using such systems.

Administrative Regulations to Policy 6150  
Computer System Acceptable Use (continued)

Students (continued)

- C. We believe that the use of the Internet and local electronic networks represent critical learning tools for students in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. *Therefore, it is assumed that parents grant their child access to the network and the Internet unless a written parental denial form is signed and returned to the child's school. Parents who do not wish to grant their child access to the network and the Internet have the option of signing the Non-Participation Form.* This form will be sent to all parents prior to their student entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 9<sup>th</sup> grade parents of all other students will receive it at registration of their student.
- D. Access to the computer systems is intended for educational uses only. Personal use of district technology resources is prohibited. If a user has any doubt about whether a proposed activity is educational, contact a building administrator or the Director of Technology.
- E. The network, while connected to the Internet, represents school property. Users should have no expectation of privacy in the use of the district's computer systems, including while on the network. Regional School District No. 7 reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review, and store any content and any usage of the network, Internet, or computer equipment at any time without notice. As part of the monitoring and reviewing process, the district will retain the capacity to bypass any individual password of a student or other user. The system's security aspects, such as personal passwords and the message delete function for email can be bypassed for these purposes. The district's ability to monitor and review is not restricted or neutralized by these devices. The monitoring and reviewing process also includes, but is not limited to, oversight of the Internet site access; the right to review emails sent and received; the right to track student's access to blogs, electronic bulletin boards and chat rooms, and the right to review a student's document downloading and printing. All collected information and all files shall remain the property of Regional School District No. 7 and no users shall have any expectations of privacy regarding such materials.
- F. Regional School District No. 7 makes its computer systems available for the purposes of educational communication, research, organization, and administrative uses. Regional School District No. 7 will take reasonable measures to: assure access to the network; filter Internet content for obscenity and inappropriate grade-level materials; and assure the safety of students communicating with electronic resources such as wikis, email, and blogs.
- G. Students will be required to adhere to a set of policies and procedures, as set forth below. Each student will sign a written agreement of this regulation. Violations may lead to withdrawal of the access privilege and/or disciplinary measures in accordance with the Boards' student discipline policy.



Administrative Regulations to Policy 6150  
Computer System Acceptable Use (continued)

**Students (continued)**

Regional School District No. 7 students agree to use the district's computers for appropriate purposes, which includes, but is not limited to, the following guidelines:

1. Use the network for legitimate educational purposes only.
2. Refrain from sending any form of communication that harasses, threatens, solicit others to behave in an inappropriate manner, contains solicitation, includes vulgar language, slanders, intimidates, any person at any time (such communications violate Board Policy 5131.2, and may also be a crime).
3. Refrain from sending any message that breaches the district's confidentiality requirements, or the confidentiality of students.
4. Handle all network equipment and folders with care; avoid destroying, modifying, moving, or deleting resources without permission;
5. Do not attempt to "hack," breach, or disable any network system, security, and firewall, or use proxy gateways or other technologies designed to bypass the monitoring and filtering software.
6. Refrain from attaching any device or downloading any software that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts network flow.
7. Refrain from sharing network, proxy, or any other passwords.
8. Refrain from transmitting or receiving inappropriate email communications or accessing inappropriate information on the Internet, including vulgar, lewd, or obscene words or pictures.
9. Respect the safety and confidentiality of yourself and others when posting information on websites by only using first names as identifiers.
10. Follow and respect all laws regarding plagiarism when gathering information or posting electronically.
11. Adhere to copyright and licensing agreements for all software and refrain from sending any copyrighted materials over the system.
12. Refrain from gaining or seeking to gain unauthorized access to computer systems.
13. Refrain from damaging computers, computer files, computer systems, or computer networks.
14. Refrain from using another person's password under any circumstances.
15. Refrain from trespassing in or tampering with any other person's folders, work, or files.

Additionally, if a particular behavior or activity is generally prohibited by law, the Board policy, or by school rules or regulations, use of these computer systems for the purpose of carrying out such behavior or activity is also prohibited.

Administrative Regulations to Policy 6150  
Computer System Acceptable Use (continued)

**Students (continued)**

- H. Misuse of network or Internet resources or violation of any of these regulations may result in the loss of network access or other disciplinary action including, suspension, expulsion, or criminal proceedings. The superintendent or his designee reserves the right to determine the appropriate discipline for any particular set of circumstances. In the event of suspension, or expulsion the superintendent and/or school board will follow established disciplinary procedures.
- I. Anyone who is aware of problems with, or misuse of the Regional School District No. 7 computer systems, or has a question regarding the appropriate use of the computer systems, should report this to his or her principal or to the Director of Technology.
- J. Most importantly the Board urges any student who receives or views any harassing, threatening, intimidating, or other improper message through the Regional School District No. 7 computer systems to report this immediately. It is the board's policy that no student should have to tolerate such treatment regardless of the identity of the sender of the message.

A copy of this policy and regulation will be distributed to staff, students, and parents. The administration of each building shall maintain a record of such distribution. In addition, a copy of the policy and regulation will be posted in each building, and contained in the student handbook. Parents and students shall sign a written acknowledgment of this policy.

(c.f. Policy 4118.23 Employee Conduct)  
(c.f. Policy 5131 Student Conduct)  
(c.f. Policy 5131.2 Bullying Behavior in the Schools)

Legal Reference:      Public Law 106-554  
                                 47 USC 254h  
                                 Public Law No. 108-446, 118 Stat. 2647  
                                 20 U.S.C. §1232g; 34 CFR Part 99  
                                 Freedom of Information Act  
                                 Connecticut General Statutes Section 31-48-d

Regional School District No. 7

NOTICE OF NON-PARTICIPATION

If you DO NOT want your son or daughter to have network access, including access to the Internet, or if you wish to prevent his or her image from being posted on the school or district website, please return this form to:

Media Director  
Northwestern Regional High/Middle School  
100 Battistoni Drive  
Winsted, Connecticut 06098

School\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Student\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

☐ As the parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_,  
I do not grant permission to use the Regional School District No. 7  
Network or its network resources, including the Internet.

☐ As the parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_,  
I do not grant permission for my child's image to appear on the school or  
District website, wiki, blog, or any other form of open electronic  
communication.

# REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7 2024-2025 CALENDAR

AUGUST (3)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER (20)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

OCTOBER (21)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NOVEMBER (17)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER (15)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JANUARY (21)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY (18)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH (21)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

APRIL (17)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

MAY (21)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JUNE (7)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Date	Event/Holiday
August 26 - 27	Teacher In-Service
August 28	First Day of School
September 2	Labor Day
October 11	Teacher In-Service
October 14	Columbus Day
November 5	Teacher In-Service
November 11 - 12	Early Release - MS Conferences
November 27 - 29	Thanksgiving Break
December 23 - Jan. 1	Winter Recess
January 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
February 14	Early Release
February 17 - 18	February Break
April 14 - 18	April Recess
April 18	Good Friday
May 23	Early Release
May 26	Memorial Day
June 10	181st Day of School

**Scheduled Early Release Dismissal Time: 12:05pm**

## Weather-Related Make Up Days:

The last day of school is scheduled for June 10, 2025. Make up days due to school cancellations which cause Regional School District No. 7 schools to be closed will be scheduled as needed beginning with June 11, 2025.



Approved: