



Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education

Tuesday, November 21, 2023; 7:00 p.m.

Mitchell Elementary School

Flanders Room

Official Minutes - Board Approved - December 4, 2023

Present:

Chris Matta, Presiding Board Member

Carol Ann Brown

Chris Griffin

Michael Carbonneau

Alice Jones

Caren Lipinski

Absent:

Jim Crocker, Chairman

Tikva Rose

Also Present:

Brian Murphy, Superintendent

Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance and Operations

Maia Colavito, Student Representative

I. Call to Order

Chris Matta called the meeting to order at 7:00 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. Regular Meeting, Monday, November 6, 2023

A motion was made by Carol Ann Brown and seconded by Alice Jones to accept/approve the minutes as presented; Caren Lipinski and Chris Griffin abstained; motion carried.

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. Board of Education Student Representative

Superintendent Murphy introduced Maia Colavito, the second of two student representatives selected to sit on the Board of Education for the 2023/2024 school year. Maia, a current sophomore at Nonnewaug High School, will be reporting on events occurring at Bethlehem Elementary School and Mitchell

Elementary School for this school year.

Maia is currently a starting player on the soccer team. Off the field, she is an editor for the NHS Chief Advocate and a member of the Leo Club, volunteering at a number of community events. A Woodbury resident, Maia aspires to study history or political science in college.

She reported on recent happenings and upcoming events at each of the elementary schools including Mitchell Elementary School's Kindness Initiatives, canned food drive/stuff a cruiser, the annual Pajama Day fundraiser, and most notably, that Mitchell Elementary School was once again named a School of Distinction for the second year in a row. Bethlehem happenings included the PBIS Program, Student-of-the-Month Breakfast, and Veterans Day Celebration to name of few. Also mentioned were several holiday events including the tree lighting ceremonies in both towns.

B. Nonnewaug High School Art Update

Superintendent Murphy acknowledged and congratulated several individuals from the Nonnewaug High School's Art program for their placement in recent contests.

C. Five-year Strategic Plan

Superintendent Murphy made note that the Five Year Strategic Plan was a team effort. The resounding message is Region 14 is exceling and one of the best school districts in the State of Connecticut based on The Connecticut State Department of Education accountability index. The plan included the District's Mission and Goals, Accomplishments, Curriculum Plan, Vision-of-a-Learner Implementation Progress, Accountability Index Data, and Action Plans.

V. Committee Reports

A. Policy Committee

On a recommendation by the Policy Committee to approve the following policies: (second read)

i. Policy 5118.1, Homeless Students

Alice Jones made a motion; seconded by Chris Griffin; to accept/approve Policy 5118.1 as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

- ii. Policy 5125, Student Records
A motion was made by Michael Carbonneau; seconded by Caren Lipinski; to accept/approve Policy 5125 as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

VI. Board Chair Comments

Mr. Matta thanked Chairman Jim Crocker for his leadership, keeping the board focused and moving forward in a positive direction.

VII. Privilege of the Floor

Paul Zulpa, Woodbury

Mr. Zulpa spoke as a representative of the Woodbury Board of Finance. He provided copies of the annual report and thanked Superintendent Murphy and the administrative staff for their timely submissions. He made mention of the remarkable artwork submissions and the ECE, of benefit, programs at the high school.

VIII. Old Business

There was none

IX. New Business

A. Field Trip

Staff member, Eric Birkenberger provided details of the trip. Currently, 44 students are scheduled to participate.

A motion was made by Michael Carbonneau; seconded by Chris Griffin to accept/approve the field trip as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

B. Board of Education Meeting Calendar for 2024 (First Read; No Action Anticipated)

Board members were asked to review the meetings for 2024.
Most notable change is the meeting start time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

X. Other Business

Carol Ann Brown reminded all of the upcoming weekend of events including the Grinch Breakfast, Plant Sale, Potluck Wreath Making, and Comedy Night at the Brewery. She also commented on the Veterans Day ceremonies at the schools.

XI. Adjournment

Having no further business, a MOTION was made by Alice Jones; seconded by Chris Griffin to adjourn the meeting; all in favor; none opposed; *meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,

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

*Patricia Paige
Board Clerk*

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