



**Minutes**  
**Special Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education**  
**Monday, January 22, 2024; 6:00 p.m.**  
**Mitchell Elementary School**  
**Flanders Room**

**Present:**

Jim Crocker, Chairman  
Chris Matta  
Chris Griffin  
Carol Ann Brown (via phone)  
Michael Carbonneau  
Caren Lipinski  
Alice Jones

**Absent:**

Tikva Rose

**Also Present:**

Brian Murphy, Superintendent  
Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance and Operations  
Maia Colavito, Student Representative

**I. Call to Order**

Jim Crocker called the meeting to order at 6:00 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, Tuesday, January 2, 2024**

A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept/approve the minutes as presented, Chris Matta abstained, none opposed, motion carried.

**IV. Superintendent's Report**

**A. Board of Education Student Representative**

Student Representative Maia Colavito reported on several recent events at Bethlehem and Mitchell Elementary Schools. At Bethlehem Elementary School, twelve-Grade 4 and 5 Student Council Members participated in the CAS Leadership Conference with their advisors. A breakfast for

Student-of-the-Month awardees and their families will be held as well as the PTO Grandparents' Valentines Dinner. All students will participate in "The Great Kindness Challenge".

At Mitchell Elementary School, students with perfect attendance for the first term were honored, family members were also invited to attend. A family hockey night was had on Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup> and students are currently working on their Black History Gallery walk projects.

**B. Nonnewaug High School Fundraiser Update**

Andrew Grivner and Gavin Sandor were nominated as the student visionaries for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society representing Nonnewaug High School for the 2023/2024 school year. In this capacity, they will be the energy behind fundraising efforts, organizing events, spreading awareness and engaging the community.

One fundraising initiative, Stall, was highlighted and intended to be their most profitable endeavor, details were shared with the board.

**V. Committee Reports**

**A. Policy Committee Update**

The following policies were brought before the board on a recommendation by the Policy Committee, second read, action anticipated.

1. Policy 3542.3 Food Services/Charging Policy

A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the policy as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. (Carol Ann Brown not audible)

2. Policy 4000.1 Title IX

A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Chris Griffin to accept/approve the policy as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. (Carol Ann Brown not audible)

3. Policy 5112 Attendance (Kindergarten)

A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Caren Lipinski to accept/approve the policy as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. (Carol Ann Brown not audible)

4. Policy 5141.72 Student Sports – Emergency Action Plans  
A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the policy as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. (Carol Ann Brown not audible)

B. Curriculum Committee

On a recommendation by the Curriculum Committee to approve the following course proposals (Action Anticipated)

1. Video Game Design 2

Video Game Design 2 is a half-year course proposed for students in grades 10-12 that will be offered through the Tech Ed Media Arts Department. Gdevelop Game Design Software will be used to code and design games.

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept/approve the course as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

2. Jazz Band

Jazz Band is a course proposed for students in grades 9-12. The course is a curricular-performing orchestra available to all students who presently play or have an interest in learning a jazz instrument.

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Alice Jones to accept/approve the course as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

3. Dramatic Musical Theater

The Dramatic Musical Theater course will add another performance option for students to study music at Nonnewaug High School. The course will also be the first course that will allow students to study drama and theater craft.

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Chris Matta to accept/approve the course as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

4. Work Study

This course will provide opportunities for students who may not be college bound to earn an elective credit for work experience in their field of interest.

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Alice Jones to accept/approve the course as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

On a recommendation by the Curriculum Committee to approve the following curriculum, (Action Anticipated)

1. Large Animal Science (10<sup>th</sup> Grade)

The course is designed to prepare students for the junior/senior Ag Production Course where they will learn about the care and handling of livestock.

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Chris Griffin to accept/approve the curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

C. Sports Committee

Chairman Crocker recapped the recently held Sports Committee meeting. Agenda items included a proposal for a Middle School Girls' Volleyball Team, review of fall and winter sports, a high school Student Athletes' Council and Lacrosse update, new CIAC Rules-Out of Season Coaching and an update on the future of the Berkshire League.

**VI. Board Chair Comments**

Chairman Crocker provided an overview of the Nonnewaug High School renovation project, horse barn and sap buildings, and completion of the financial audit.

He recognized and thanked EdAdvance for providing four \$1500 scholarships to be available to Nonnewaug High School students this year.

**VII. Privilege of the Floor**

There was none

## **VIII. Old Business**

- A. Proposed Region 14 2024/2025 School District Calendar (Second Read, Action Anticipated)

Having no further discussion, a motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the Region 14 2024/2025 School District Calendar as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

## **IX. New Business**

- A. Field Trip:  
Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks; April 15-20, 2024 (Item Tabled from January 2, 2024)

Jenn Jedd presented the field trip itinerary to the board. The field trip is a recruitment measure for the program and will help to create a more worldly student.

Jim Crocker made a motion, seconded by Chris Griffin to accept/approve the field trip as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

## **X. Other Business**

- A. Superintendent's Evaluation (Executive Session Anticipated)  
A motion was made by Jim Crocker to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of the superintendent's mid-year evaluation and to invite Superintendent Murphy into Executive session, seconded by Chris Griffin, all in favor, none opposed, the board entered Executive Session at 6:39 p.m.

### **Public Session**

Returned to Public Session at 7:15 p.m.

## **XI. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Carol Ann Brown to adjourn the meeting, all in favor, none opposed, the meeting adjourned at 7:17 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'.

*Patricia Paige*  
*Board Clerk*

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

DRAFT