Board of Education

5 Minortown Road ~ Woodbury, CT 06798
www.ctreg14.org

Mission: The mission of Connecticut Region 14 Schools is to educate all students to their highest level of academic potential and to teach them the skills and knowledge to become capable, creative, collaborative lifelong learners and responsible members of the world community.

Board of Education Goals:
Academic Performance - The district will strive to improve academic performance for all students on multiple assessment indicators and the staff will be committed to continuous improvement.
Communication - Region 14 will develop partnerships with all stakeholders in the school community to highlight the exemplary programs the district offers
Safety - Region 14 will provide safe and secure facilities equipped with technology, enabling a 21st century learning environment that supports the values of the district
Budget - Region 14 will prepare a budget that meets the needs of every student and communicates the needs and priorities of Region 14 in a clear and concise manner.

A G E N D A

Board of Education - Regular Meeting
Monday, April 1, 2024; 6:00 p.m.
Mitchell Elementary School; Flanders Room
14 School Street, Woodbury, CT

I. Call to Order……..…..Mr. James Crocker

II. Pledge of Allegiance…….....Mr. James Crocker

III. Introductions…….……....Mr. James Crocker

IV. Approval of Minutes (Action Anticipated)……..……..…..Mr. James Crocker
  A. Regular Meeting/Budget Workshop, Monday, March 11, 2024
  B. Regular Meeting, Monday, March 18, 2024

V. Superintendent's Report……...…….……..Mr. Brian Murphy
  A. Student Representative Report
  B. Staff and Student Award Recognitions

VI. Committee Reports

A. Policy Committee

On a recommendation by the Policy Committee to approve the following policies (First Read, No Action Anticipated)

1. Policy 6161.3 Comparability of Services
2. Policy 9700 Time, Place, and Notice of Meetings

VII. Board Chair's Comments……Mr. James Crocker

VIII. Privilege of the floor

A. The Board of Education will recognize citizens of Bethlehem and Woodbury, who are asked to state their name and town of residence and to please limit comments to three (3) minutes. Up to 21 minutes of statements per topic are allowed. All comments should be addressed to the Board of Education Chair. Decorum will be enforced.

IX. Old Business

X. New Business

A. Discussion/possible action on Budget for 2024/2025

Move that the Region 14 Board of Education approve and adopt the Superintendent's proposed budget for the fiscal year 2024/2025 in the amount of $41,590,505 as presented to the Board.

B. Calling of Referendum (action anticipated)

Move that the Board of Education schedule and warn the Annual District Meeting for Monday, May 6, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Flanders Room at Mitchell Elementary School, 14 School Street, Woodbury, CT concerning the 2024/2025 budget, with said meeting to be adjourned to a referendum on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Towns of Bethlehem and Woodbury, CT.

C. Approval of Explanatory Text (action anticipated)

Move that the Secretary of the Board of Education is authorized, in such official's discretion, to prepare and cause to be printed and distributed explanatory text regarding the 2024/2025 budget referendum scheduled for May 7, 2024, with such explanatory text subject to the review and approval of the District's legal counsel and to be prepared and distributed in accordance with Section 9-369b of the Connecticut General Statutes.

XI. Other Business

XII. Adjournment

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education
Budget Workshop #1
Monday, March 11, 2024; 6:00 p.m.
Mitchell Elementary School
Flanders Room

Present:
Chris Matta, Presiding Board Member
Carol Ann Brown
Chris Griffin
Alice Jones
Michael Carbonneau
Caren Lipinski
Tikva Rose

Absent:
Jim Crocker

Also Present:
Brian Murphy, Superintendent
Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance and Operations

I. Call to Order
Chris Matta called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance/Introductions
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

III. Board of Education Workshop #1

A. Discussion of the Superintendent's Proposed 2024/2025 Budget
Superintendent Murphy highlighted two

Board members were once again asked to review the proposed budget and to reach out to Tina Tanguay with any questions.

Superintendent Murphy provided an update on two items:
Agriscience Funding Proposal:

1. New legislation/Agriscience Funding.
The state budget, which passed in June, included a cap on ASTE

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The Regional School District 14 Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, marital status, national/ethnic origin, age, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, or disability in its programs, activities, and employment practices as set forth in compliance with the Office of Civil Rights, Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504. Any person having inquiries concerning Regional School District 14 Public Schools' compliance with Section 504, Title VI or Title IX should contact Dina Ericson, Director of Student Services, Regional School District 14, 5 Minortown Road, PO Box 469, Woodbury, CT 06798 (203) 263-6356

tuition beginning in the fiscal year 2025 of 58% of the previous year's per pupil tuition for in-district and sending district students. The state budget also included an increase to the ASTE per-pupil grant of 7.2 million so that if districts were to experience a tuition shortfall, monies from the grant would be used to offset any losses and thus make them whole.

2. Bethlehem Elementary School/Street Signage
   It is believed that signage would ease some of the congestion in front of the school during drop off/pick up times. The cost is approximately $20,000. Discussions were had on the practicality of the signage, impact on the town's aesthetics, and funding resources.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patricia Paige
Board Clerk

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

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Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education
Monday, March 18, 2024; 6:00 p.m.
Mitchell Elementary School
Flanders Room

Present:
Jim Crocker, Chairman
Chris Matta
Carol Ann Brown
Alice Jones
Michael Carbonneau
Caren Lipinski

Absent:
Tikva Rose
Chris Griffin

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

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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, Monday, February 26, 2024

A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Carol Ann Brown to accept/approve the minutes as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

B. Regular Meeting, Monday, March 4, 2024

A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Caren Lipinski to a accept/approve the minutes as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

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IV. Superintendent's Report

A. Student Representative Update

Student Representative Maia Colavito reported on happenings at Bethlehem and Mitchell Elementary Schools. The events included a Dr. Seuss birthday celebration with many planned activities, Pie Day on March 14th, which included a pie in the face for several staff members with proceeds to the Leukemia Society and a kick off to the Read-a-thon. There was also a Family Literacy Night, Invention Convention on March 12 at BES, the much anticipated baked potato bar on March 15th and a PTO sponsored 5th Grade Bowling Night at Thomaston Lanes.

B. Unified Champion School/Nonnewaug High School

Superintendent Murphy announced that the Nonnewaug High School's Unified Sport's team has been named a national unified champion school. The UCS annually contacts schools each spring with a survey to gauge the level of activity with respect to Unified Sports, inclusive youth leadership, and whole school engagement. Nonnewaug High School will be added to the National Unified Champion Schools list and appear on their list of schools across the nation. The recognition will be commemorated with banner in the gym.

C. Nonnewaug High School Athletic Club Hall of Fame

On Sunday, April 7th, the Nonnewaug Athletic Club will be inducting the Class of 2024 into the Hall of Fame. The Board was cordially invited to the induction ceremony at the Woodbury Old Town Hall from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. This year's Hall of Fame class includes Matthew Martland, Amy Roberts, Caitlin Drakeley, Tyler Sheikh, Jackie Nicholas, James McKirdy and Doc Rosen.

D. Woodbury Middle School Development Plan/Nonnewaug High School Development Plan

Each district school was tasked with completing a Development Plan with specific, smart, and measurable goals.

Principal Nemec (Suzi Greene) and Principal Kuslis (Nicole Lewis, Declan Curtin) each presented their respective plans, which included specific goals, strategies to obtain the goals, and indicators to measure their success. Historical testing data was also included.

E. Agriscience Program Presentation

Jenn Jedd, SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience) Coordinator/Teacher along with Lee McMillan,Vo-ag Director/Teacher created a promotional

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Powerpoint Presentation on the Agriscience Program at Nonnewaug High School with the purpose of presenting at local sending districts' Boards of Education to highlight the success of their students enrolled in the program. The presentation, which outlines the curriculum and its many accolades and accomplishments, would also include in-person and written testimonies from students, parents, advisory committee members, and graduates of the program. Speaking on behalf of the program were Mark Dietrich, Advisory Committee member and owner of The Garden; Justine Ramsay, Class of 2010, Owner of Floral Designs by Justine; Sage Samuelson, Student Representative Grade 12 and written testimony by a parent on behalf of her daughter.

F. District Bus App

Region 14 is now collaborating with All-Star Transportation and Zonar MyView. Zonar MyView is a smartphone application that will allow parents to track their student's bus routes. A communication outlining the App set up was sent to parents.

V. Committee Reports

A. Policy Committee Update

On a recommendation by the Policy Committee to approve the following Policies (Second Read, Action Anticipated)

1. Policy 4117.6 Exit Survey/Interview
   Having no further discussion, a motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept/approve Policy 4117.6 as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

2. Policy 6145.2 Interscholastic/Intramural Athletics
   Having no further discussion, a motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Alice Jones to accept/approve Policy 6145.2 as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

VI. Board Chair Comments

Chairman Crocker thanked all who presented this evening.

VII. Privilege of the Floor

There were no speakers

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VIII. Old Business

There was none

IX. New Business

A. Nonnewaug High School Graduation Date for the Class of 2024 (Action Anticipated)

Principal Mykal Kuslis made a formal request to the Board to consider and approve the Nonnewaug High School graduation date for the Class of 2024 to which is to be held on Saturday, June 15, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. with a rain date of Sunday, June 16, 2024 at 10:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept the Nonnewaug High School graduation date/time as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

X. Other Business

There was none

XI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Caren Lipinski to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m., all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patricia Paige
Board Clerk

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

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A mandated policy.

Instruction

Comparability of Services

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall pursue funding under Title I of the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to supplement instructional services and activities in order to improve the educational opportunities of educationally disadvantaged or deprived children.

All District schools, regardless of whether they receive Title I funds, shall provide services that, taken as a whole, are substantially comparable. Teachers, administrators and other staff shall be assigned to schools in a manner that ensures equivalency among the District's schools. Curriculum materials and instructional supplies shall be provided in a manner that ensures equivalency among the District's schools.

Comparability, is defined, for purposes of this policy, that the District uses state and local funds to provide services to Title I schools that are comparable to those offered in non-Title I schools in order to get federal funding under ESSA.

The Board of Education believes that at all times its schools should be equally as well equipped and maintained as may be possible within existing financial limitations.

It shall be the policy of the Board of Education to insure comparability of services funded by state and local sources in both Title I project schools and non-project schools. The Board of Education will therefore:

1. Establish and maintain a district-wide salary schedule that is applicable to all staff whether assigned to Title I or non-Title I schools.
2. Provide services with federal, state and local funds in schools serving Title I project areas that are at least comparable to services in non-project areas.
3. Use federal, state and local funds to provide for an equivalence among all schools in all schools with the same grade levels in teachers, administrators, auxiliary personnel.
4. Use federal, state and local funds to provide for an equivalence among all schools with the same grade levels in the provision of curriculum and instructional materials, books and supplies.

The District shall maintain records that are updated biannually documenting its compliance with this ESSA requirement.

Instruction

Comparability of Services (continued)

For the purposes of determining comparability in compliance with 20 U.S.C. 6321(c), the District, may exclude

1. State and local funds expended for English Learners language instruction education programs.
2. Excess costs associated with providing services to students with disabilities.
3. Unexpected changes in enrollment or personnel assignments occurring after the beginning of the school year.
4. Staff salary differentials for years of employment.
5. Other expenditures from supplemental state or local funds consistent with the intent of Title I (serving only children who are failing, or most at risk of failing, to meet the State's standards)

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall provide in a timely manner all assurances, documentation, or other information required by the State Department of Education to demonstrate the District's compliance with Title I fiscal requirements.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall maintain reports and other documentation demonstrating compliance with the requirements of this policy.

Nothing in this policy will prohibit the administration from addressing identified problems at individual schools.

Legal Reference: Title I Improving Basic Programs Operated by State and Local Educational Agencies, Improving Every Student Succeeds Act, P.L. 114-95, Section 1118c of Title I, ESEA/ESSA
20 U.S.C. Section 6321(c)
Agostini v. Felton 521 U.S. 103 (1997)

Policy adopted:
rev 5/17
rev 4/18

Sample policies are distributed for demonstration purposes only. Unless so noted, contents do not necessarily reflect official policies of the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, Inc.

Bylaws of the Board

Time, Place and Notice of Meetings

Time, Place and Notice of Regular Meetings

Commencing January 1, 2025, the Regional School District No. 14 Board of Education shall have regular meetings on the first ~~and third~~ Monday of each month unless otherwise noted. If any regular meeting falls on a holiday, such meeting shall be held on the next business day. The location of the meeting shall be included in the notice of the meeting.

The Board of Education shall file with the Town Clerk, not later than January 31st of each year, the schedule of the regular meetings of the Board of Education, and shall post notice of such schedule on the Board's website to the extent required by law. No regular meeting shall be held sooner than thirty days after such filing.

The annual organizational meeting of the Board shall be held at the first regular meeting in July, at which time the Board shall elect its officers from its membership.

Time, Place and Notice of Special Meetings

The Board may schedule special meetings that are supplementary to the schedule of regular meetings. The term "special meeting" includes make-up dates for regular meetings that may have been postponed.

The Superintendent shall notify each member of the Board in writing not less than 24 hours prior to the start of the special meeting of the time, place and business to be transacted. Any Board member may waive the 24 hour notification by a written waiver of delivery or such notice or telegram (including by electronic means), to the purpose. The 24 hour notification requirement may be dispensed with as to any member who is actually present at the meeting at the time it convenes.

Three members of the Board may request a special meeting of the Board to discuss a specific agenda item by making such request in writing to the Chairperson of the Board. The Chairperson shall schedule a special meeting in response to the request or add the specific agenda item to a regularly scheduled meeting. If no meeting is called with 14 days after such a request has been made, a special meeting may be called by any three members by giving the usual written notice to the other members with the agenda for the meeting included and properly posted in accordance with the law.

Notice of each special meeting of the Board of Education shall be posted not less than 24 hours before the meeting on the Board's website to the extent required by law and filed not less than 24 hours before the meeting with the Town Clerk of member towns. Such notice shall give the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted. No other business shall be considered by the Board at the special meeting.

Bylaws of the Board

Time, Place and Notification of Meetings (continued)

Requests to Receive Notice of Meetings by Mail

Notice of all meetings will be mailed to persons filing a written request renewable in January o the meeting, except that the Board may give such notice as it deems practical for special meetings called less than seven days prior to the date set for the meeting. The Board of Education will charge a fee for these notices based upon cost of the service, as provided by law.

Construction of the Agenda

The Superintendent, in cooperation with the Chairperson of the Board of Education, shall prepare an agenda for each meeting. Any member of the Board of Education may contact the Chairperson of the Board to request that an item be placed on the agenda. Such requests should be made no later than 48 hours prior to the legally required public posting of the agenda. The Chairperson will take such requests into consideration when preparing the agenda but is not obligated to include them.

Posting of the Agenda

At least 24 hours prior to the time of the meeting, the agenda shall be posted on the Board's central offices and in the Town Hall of member towns as well as the Board's website to the extent required by law. Any subsequent business not included in such filed agendas may e considered and acted upon at **regular** Board meetings upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board of Education present and voting; however, no such additional items may be considered by the Board at special or emergency meetings.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
1-200 (2) Definitions. "Meeting"
1-206 Denial of access to public records or meetings.
1-225 Meetings of government agencies to be public, as amended by June 11 Special Session, PA 08-3
1-227 Mailing of notice of meetings to persons filing written request.
1-228 Adjournment of meetings. Notice.
1-229 Continued hearings. Notice.
1-230 Regular meetings to be held pursuant to regulation, ordinance or resolution.
10-218 Officers. Meetings

Policy adopted: December 4, 2017

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14
Bethlehem and Woodbury, Connecticut