

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
DISTRICT BUDGET HEARING- MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024
Followed by a BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Robert H. Ohotnicky Little Theater 7:00 p.m.
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
MOTIONS

PRESENT: Chair Ms. Molly Sexton Read (B), Vice-Chair Mr. Robert Jerram (NH), Ms. Deborah Bell (N), Ms. Kim Crone (N), Ms. Mary Duran (B), Ms. Lisa Fragale(C), Ms. Theresa Kenneson (C), Superintendent Steven K. LePage, Director of Finance & Operations Mr. James Gaskins, Middle School Principal Mr. Fran Amara, High School Principal Mr. Gary Franklin, Student Representatives Owen Langer.

Absent: Secretary/Treasurer Mr. Noel Gauthier (NH), Student Representatives Fiona Leon.

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Sexton Read called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Ms. Duran, to **APPROVE** the April 3, 2024, Board of Education Third Informal Budget Presentation- New Hartford Meeting Minutes, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Kenneson. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Ms. Crone, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **APPROVE** the April 4, 2024 Board of Education Fourth Informal Budget Presentation- Barkhamsted Meeting Minutes, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Kenneson. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** Ms. Fragale. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Duran, to **APPROVE** the April 4, 2024 Board of Education Meeting Minutes following the Barkhamsted Presentation Meeting, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Kenneson. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** Ms. Fragale. **MOTION PASSED.**

NEW BUSINESS

Adoption of the RSD#7 2024-2025 Budget to take to Annual District Budget Meeting- May 6, 2024

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Ms. Crone, to **ADOPT** that the RSD#7 Board of Education agrees to proceed with the proposed budget of \$24,270,092, an increase of 3.47%, for the 2024-2025 school year to take to the Annual District Budget Meeting on May 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the RSD#7 Little Theater. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran. Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Adoption of Call of Annual District Budget Meeting with Referendum

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Duran, to **ADOPT** the Call of the District Meeting of Regional School District No. 7 will be held on Monday, May 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., at the school building in Winsted, Connecticut, for the following business:

- 1) To authorize the Regional Board of Education to apply for, accept, and expend, in addition to the regular school budget, any state, federal, or private grant money which may be available for special purposes during the fiscal year 2024-2025.

- 2) To accept the annual budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024. Copies of the budget are on hand in the offices of the Town Clerks of each of the member towns.

The Board of Education for Regional School District No. 7 has designated that the vote on the motion to adopt the budget shall be by a “yes” or “no” vote on the optical scan machines in each of the member towns on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, with hours to be set by individual towns as established by state statutes.

Dated this 22nd day of April, 2024, at Winsted, Connecticut, and signed by Molly Sexton Read, Chair, Board of Education, Regional School District No. 7.

AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran. Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Authorization of Explanatory Text for the 2024-2025 Budget

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Ms. Fragale, to **AUTHORIZE** the Secretary of the Board of Education to prepare and cause to be printed and disseminated a concise explanatory text with respect to the 2024-2025 budget referendum question that will be submitted to the District’s voters, subject to any necessary further legal review and approval by District legal counsel, and which shall otherwise be prepared, printed, and disseminated in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 9-369b and the Secretary’s discretion, and to be amended as necessary. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran. Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Appointment of Auditors

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Duran, to **APPOINT** King, King and Associates, Certified Public Accountants, as auditors for the 2023-2024 school year. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran. Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Approval of Early Release on June 14, 2024- Last Day of School

MOTION by Ms. Crone, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **APPROVE** June 14, 2024, the last day of school, as an early release, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran. Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

CORRESPONDENCE

Kelsey Leach – Letter of Resignation

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Ms. Crone, to **ACCEPT** Ms. Leach’s letter of resignation with regret and appreciation, as presented. The RSD#7 BOE greatly appreciates Ms. Leach’s 12 years of service to the RSD#7 students, staff and the community with sincere gratitude and wishes her all the best. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Ms. Leach stopped in at the Board Meeting to thank the BOE for allowing her to take a leave of absence to stay home with her daughter.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION to amend the **BOE AGENDA** to **ADD** an **EXECUTIVE SESSION** to the **AGENDA**.

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Mr. Jerram. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Bell, to **ENTER** into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** including Superintendent LePage to discuss an Expulsion Stipulated Agreement at 8:29 p.m., as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Executive Session ended at 9:05 p.m.

MOTION by Ms. Crone, seconded by Ms. Kenneson, to **ACCEPT** the Expulsion Stipulated Agreement, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** Ms. Fragale. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Crone, to **ADJOURN** at 9:07 p.m. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Ms. Duran, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

The next meeting will be on May 6, 2024~ the District Budget Meeting in the RSD#7 Little Theater at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Barrett
Board Clerk