Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education
Tuesday, May 21, 2024; 6:00 p.m.
Bethlehem Elementary School
Library Media Center
Official Minutes – Board Approved – Monday, June 17, 2024

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

Absent:
Tikva Rose

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

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, May 6, 2024
A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Chris Griffin to accept/approve the minutes as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

IV. Superintendent's Report
A. Student Representative Update
There was no report

B. EdAdvance Before and After School Program Update
The district currently has an afterschool program provided by EdAdvance, which

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offers service to Mitchell and Bethlehem Elementary school students. Superintendent Murphy is looking to expand the program to include a before school program, but unfortunately, only one family has expressed an interest. Superintendent Murphy will continue to promote the program and provide the Board with future updates.

C. Student Capstone Project Presentation

Adrienne Coehlo, an 8th grade student at Woodbury Middle School, showcased her Capstone Project, New Horizons Teen Center. Her presentation outlined the benefits of a Teen Center, which include Entertainment, Education, Mental Health, and Relationships.

D. Portfolio – The Best of Varsity Yearbook

Art Teacher Genna Riggi, was recognized for her work with the Chief's Yearbook, which was included in *Portfolio*, Volume 29. As part of this best-of-the-best publication by Varsity Yearbook, Nonnewaug High School is among an elite group of schools as only the top 10 percent they publicize are chosen for this honor. Ms. Riggi acknowledged her students' contributions and was presented with a Certificate of Excellence.

E. National *Celebrating Art* Student Publications

Several of Art Educator Ms. Salkos' students had their drawings selected to be published in the national *Celebrating Art* book this spring. Each student was congratulated and presented with a Certificate of Excellence. The students are Taylor Carella, Brooks Lavertue, Piper Robinson, and Cadence Velky.

V. Committee Reports

A. Curriculum Committee

1. On a recommendation by the Curriculum Committee to approve the following Curriculum:

   a. World History

   This course has been updated to reflect the new State Social Studies Standards that particularly impact the historical periods of focus at the high school level to ensure that the course includes more recent history. The course encompasses the time periods from the Age of Exploration to the contemporary world. The course is taught in a chrono-thematic approach that focuses on change, continuity and context when studying historical events.

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

b. US History
This course has also been updated to reflect the new State Social Studies Standards beginning with Reconstruction and its roots and continuing through present day events. Continuing the chrono-thematic approach, students analyze primary and secondary sources as they engage continually in the inquiry process.

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

c. Aquaculture
This course is designed to bring students to an understanding of what the Aquaculture industry consists of, particularly aquatic ecosystems, both freshwater and marine water, and how to identify different aquaculture systems that are commonly used within the aquaculture industry, both freshwater and marine water systems. Students work regularly with all of the tanks at Nonnewaug, both in the Aquahouse and in the classroom. The course also includes local studies in Milford to understand oyster aquaculture production and the shell fishing industry.

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Caren Lipinski to accept/approve Aquaculture as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

2. On a recommendation by the Curriculum Committee to approve the following Course:
   a. Agriculture and Society (UConn ECE Course)
   This course focuses on the development of agricultural systems and technologies and their influence on societies. Topics include plant and animal domestication, food and industrial crops and centers of production, environmental issues, and agricultural ethics. This course is an Early College Experience course with UConn. Students will earn 3 credits upon successful completion of the course with a C or higher.

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

3. On a recommendation by the Curriculum Committee to approve the following textbook
   a. AP Psychology Textbook and on-line Access

This textbook has been approved by the College Board and has been revised to reflect the changes in the structure of the course moving to specific modules of instruction. Students will have both print and digital access to the text.

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

B. Policy Committee

1. On a recommendation by the Policy Committee to approve the following policies:
   a. Policy 6172 Alternative Education Program
   The purpose of the policy is to recognize the need for alternative education programs for some District students. Region 14 has two alternative programs, Transition and Scope.

   b. Policy 9750 Conduct of Meetings
   Language in Policy 9750 was edited to address those permitted to speak during public comment at Board meetings. The Order of Business was also edited, specifically the sequence of Committee Reports and Superintendent Report.

The policies were presented as a first read, no action taken.

VI. Board Chair Comments

Chairman Crocker highlighted the progress Region 14 has achieved over the past 2 years. He thanked the Board of Education, Region 14 Superintendent Brian Murphy, faculty and staff and the communities of Bethlehem and Woodbury. He reiterated the four focuses, safety, academic performance, communication and budget as well as the three major projects, a comprehensive policy review, NHS building project and Agriscience Horse Barn.

VII. Privilege of the Floor

There was none

VIII. Old Business

There was none

IX. New Business

***Carol Ann Brown adjourned at 6:48 p.m.**

Both plans were collaboratively developed by the members of Region 14's Professional Development and Evaluation Committee and approved by the Region 14 Board of

Education during the 2023-2024 school year. The plan fully aligns with the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) Educator Growth and Evaluation Guidelines. Portions of the following plans have been adapted from the "Connecticut Leader and Educator Evaluation and Supports Plans 2024" document developed by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) which provides model evaluation and support plans for leaders and educators. The CSDE has granted PDECs permission to adapt the model plan in accordance with a self-assessment of district needs and goals.

A. Educator Evaluation and Support Plan

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

B. Leader Evaluation and Support Plan

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

X. Other Business

A. Superintendent's Evaluation (Executive Session)

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Chris Griffin to move into Executive session for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's evaluation, all in favor, none opposed, the Board moved into Executive Session at 7:07 p.m. and invited Superintendent Murphy.

**Carol Ann Brown returned at 7:25 p.m.

Public Session

The Board returned to Public Session at 7:53 p.m.

Motion

Michael Carbonneau made a motion, seconded by Alice Jones, to approve extending Superintendent Murphy's employment contract an additional year, (3 years inclusive), five additional vacation days, and a 4% increase for 24/25, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

XI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Michael Carbonneau and seconded by Chris Griffin to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 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