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.

Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education
Monday, July 15, 2024; 6:00 p.m.
Mitchell Elementary School
Flanders Room

I. Call to Order……..…..Brian Murphy

II. Pledge of Allegiance……....Brian Murphy

III. Introductions…….……..……Brian Murphy

IV. Election of Chairperson (Action Anticipated)

V. Election of Board Officers (Action Anticipated)
   A. Vice Chairperson
   B. Secretary
   C. Treasurer
   D. Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

VI. Board Appointments (Action Anticipated)
   A. Board Clerk: Patricia Paige
   B. School District Physician: Andrea Needleman, MD, Health
   C. School Dentist: James Bauer, DMD

VII. Approval of Minutes (Action Anticipated)…….Chairperson
   A. Regular Meeting, Monday, June 3, 2024

B. District Meeting (Budget), Monday, June 17, 2024
C. Regular Meeting, Monday, June 17, 2024

VIII. Superintendent's Report……..……..……..……Brian Murphy
A. Nonnewaug High School Football Program Update: Principal Mykal Kuslis
B. Nonnewaug High School Staff Update

IX. Committee Reports

X. Board Chair's Comments

XI. Privilege of the floor
The Board of Education will recognize citizens of Bethlehem and Woodbury, any parent/guardian of a child enrolled in the Region 14 School District, or any current employee of the Region 14 School District 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.

XII. Old Business

XIII. New Business

XIV. Other Business

XV. Adjournment

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education
Monday, June 3, 2024; 6:07 p.m. (Immediately Following District Meeting)
Mitchell Elementary School
Flanders Room

Present:
Jim Crocker, Chairman
Chris Matta, Vice Chairman
Chris Griffin
Carol Ann Brown
Alice Jones
Michael Carbonneau
Caren Lipinski
*Tikva Rose (adjourned the meeting)

Absent:

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

I. Call to Order
Jim Crocker called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes
A. Regular Meeting, Monday, May 6, 2024
A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Chris Griffin to accept/approve the minutes as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

B. Special Meeting, Thursday, May 16, 2024
A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Tikva Rose to accept/approve the minutes as presented, Tikva Rose and Chris Griffin abstained, none opposed, motion carried.

III. Superintendent's Report
A. Student Representative Update
Maia Colavito reported this evening for the elementary schools and on behalf of Gianna Lodice, for the high school and middle school. Events included a pet contest; Cereal Box Dominos, a fundraiser for the food bank; spring concerts; art shows; CAS Scholar of the Year award; Berkshire banquet; and Scholarship Night to name a few.

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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

B. Student Recognitions

Superintendent Murphy thank Maia for her service to the Board for the past year and presented her with a certificate. He also acknowledged Gianna Lodice, the senior student representative, who was not able to attend the meeting.

1. Litchfield County Superintendent Awardees

   Thea Oleynikov (8), Kirill Oleynikov (8), Madison Stewart (12) and Sean Classey (12) were this year's recipients of the Litchfield County Superintendent's Awards. The awardees attended a banquet at the Grand Oak Villa in May, where they were recognized for the academic prowess and leadership.

2. Invention Convention Semi-Finalists

   Ten Invention Convention semi-finalists have advanced to the CIC State Finals scheduled for June 8th at the University of Connecticut. Superintendent Murphy acknowledged each of the students and presented them with a Certificate of Excellence.

The Plant Protector	Bethlehem Elementary School	Charlie Fusco
The Desk Dividers	Bethlehem Elementary School	Daniela Garzon Arcile
The Desk Dividers	Bethlehem Elementary School	Kennedy Amodio
The Karate Belt Buddy	Bethlehem Elementary School	Lyla Johnson
The Karate Belt Buddy	Bethlehem Elementary School	Mae Ambruso
Butter Be Soft	Mitchell Elementary School	Luca Maini
Butter Be Soft	Mitchell Elementary School	Thomas Stevens
Winter Deluxe	Mitchell Elementary School	Marabella Macomber
Winter Deluxe	Mitchell Elementary School	Peyton Fisher
The Spider Grip	Mitchell Elementary School	Orien Rose

3. Chief Advocate Award-Winning Stories

   Superintendent Murphy and the Board of Education recognized the Chief Advocate staff for their award-winning stories. The stories, which were selected for re-publication on the national Best of SNO (School Newspapers Online) website. Each student was presented with a Certificate of Excellence.

   "Referees: Panic and Patience" by Aubrie Salisbury '27 and Ava Hirleman '27
   "Udvardi Makes 'Life-Changing' Trip as a Foreign Exchange Student" by Emma Cummings '24
   "Maki Makes History" by Kaylee Jackson '24
   "Post-Grads and Reclassing — Is An Extra Year Worth It?" by Anna Crocker '26
   "For Class of 2024, Modern Roommate Shopping Proves Problematic" by Brianna Johnson '25
   "NHS Hosts Inaugural EKG Scanning for Students" by Alexa Sweeney '25

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***Tikva Rose adjourned the meeting**

IV. Committee Reports

A. Curriculum Committee

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

a. MOS Certification

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

b. Personal Finance

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

c. AP European History

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

d. AP Government

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

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

a. SAT/NGSS Prep

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

3. On a recommendation by the Curriculum Committee to approve the Graduation Requirements

a. Revised Graduation Requirements

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

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B. Policy Committee

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

a. Policy 6172 Alternative Education Program

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Chris Griffin to accept/approve Policy 6172 as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

b. Policy 9750 Conduct of Meetings

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept/approve Policy 9750 as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

C. Finance Committee (AGENDA AMENDED)

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Chris Matta to amend the agenda to include under IV. Committee Reports, subsection C, Finance Committee Report, for the purpose of discussion a Technology Lease Request, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

1. Technology Lease Request for $350,000 for school year 2024-2025

Phil Pagano, the Director of I.T., devised a five-year technology plan, to replace end-of-life equipment, which includes desktops and laptops for staff and servers. The lease will be paid annually over a five-year period commencing with the 2025/2026 school year.

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

VI. Board Chair Comments

Chairman Crocker reiterated his words of gratitude to the Board of Education for their contribution of time and expertise. He also thanked the communities for their continued support of the district's work and progress. He spoke to the major project priorities including Policy Review, NHS Renovation Project, Union Contract Negotiations, and Superintendent's Evaluation.

VII. Privilege of the Floor

There was none

VIII. Old Business

There was none

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IX. New Business

A. Spanish Club Field Trip; Barcelona, Madrid, Seville; April 10 to April 19, 2025
Karen Sandor provided a brief overview of the field trip to the Board, which is planned for April of 2025.

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

X. Other Business

A. Discussion and possible action on ratification of proposed collective bargaining agreement between the Region 14 Board of Education and the Nonnewaug Paraeducator Union covering the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028 (executive session anticipated).

B. Discussion and possible action on ratification of proposed collective bargaining agreement between the Region 14 Board of Education and the Nonnewaug Secretarial Association covering the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027(executive session anticipated).

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Chris Griffin to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the proposed/draft collective bargaining agreements between the Region 14 Board of Education and the Nonnewaug Paraeducator Union and the Region 14 Board of Education and the Nonnewaug Secretarial Association, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:16 p.m. and invited Superintendent Murphy and Director Finance and Operations Tina Tanguay into Executive Session.

Public Session

The Board returned to Public Session at 7:39 p.m.

Motions

Jim Crocker moved that the Board of Education ratify the proposed collective bargaining between the Region 14 Board of Education and the Nonnewaug Paraeducator Union covering the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028; seconded by Chris Griffin, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Jim Crocker moved that the Board of Education authorize the Chairman to sign said agreement, subject to any further legal review, seconded by Chris Griffin, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Jim Crocker moved that the Board of Education ratify the proposed collective bargaining between the Region 14 Board of Education and the Nonnewaug Secretarial Association covering the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027, seconded by Chris Griffin, all in favor, none, opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Jim Crocker moved that the Board of Education authorize the Chairman to sign said agreement, subject to any further legal review, seconded by Chris Griffin, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

XI. Adjournment

Chris Matta made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m., seconded by Chris Griffin, 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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Minutes
Board of Education – District Meeting (Budget)
Monday, June 17, 2024; 6:00 p.m.
Mitchell Elementary School
Flanders Room

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

Absent:
Chris Griffin
Tikva Rose

Also Present:
Brian Murphy, Superintendent
Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance and Operations
Jamie McLaughlin, Moderator of the Meeting

I. Call to Order
Chairman 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. Appointment of Moderator
Chairman Crocker appointed Jamie McLaughlin to serve as Moderator of the Meeting.

IV. Call of the Meeting
Jamie McLaughlin read the "Call of the Meeting"

All electors and citizens who are qualified to vote in town meetings of the Towns of Bethlehem and Woodbury, Connecticut, are hereby notified and warned that a District Meeting of Regional School District No. 14 will be held Monday, June 17, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Mitchell Elementary School; Flanders Room; 14 School Street; Woodbury, CT.

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PURPOSE:
TO CONSIDER THE AMENDED BUDGET SUBMITTED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2024 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2025 IN THE AMOUNT OF $41,285,463.
The vote on said budget will be by the voting machines in the towns of Bethlehem, (Town Hall, 36 Main Street South) and Woodbury, (Senior Center, 265 Main Street South) Connecticut on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., the day following the District Meeting.

V. Note of Referendum Hours

Mr. McLaughlin noted the referendum hours

Referendum, Tuesday, June 18, 2024 from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

VI. Statement by Chairperson

Chairman Crocker read the following statement:

I present the 2024-2025 amended School District Budget, approved by the Region 14 Board of Education in the amount of $41,285,463 in accordance with Section 10-51 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

In accordance with Section 10-51 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, the Region 14 Board of Education has separately established a "Reserve Fund for Educational Expenditures" in which the aggregate amount of annual appropriations and any supplemental appropriations from surplus funds shall not exceed 2% of the annual district operating budget.

In accordance with Section 10-51 (a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Region 14 Board of Education has a statement of Estimated Receipts and Expenditures for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 fiscal years, Estimated Surplus or Deficit in operating funds at the end of the current fiscal year, Bonded Debt, and Estimated Per Pupil Expenditures for the Current and Next Fiscal Year.

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VII. Adjournment

Mr. McLaughlin noted the following:

The District Meeting this evening is to be considered in recess until the following day, Tuesday, June 18, 2024 when the polls open in each of the two member towns for the purpose of voting the question. The meeting shall then be considered adjourned following the close of the polls in the two member towns and announcements made of the results of the voting question.

VIII. Voting Machine Information

Mr. McLaughlin read the voting machine question

QUESTION:

Shall the amended budget submitted by the Board of Education for Regional School District No. 14 for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 in the amount of

$ 41,285,463 be approved?

_____yes _____no

Chairman Crocker recessed the meeting.

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, June 17, 2024; 6:05 p.m. (Immediately Following District Meeting)
Mitchell Elementary School
Flanders Room

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

Absent:
Chris Griffin
Tikva Rose

Also Present:
Brian Murphy, Superintendent
Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance and Operations
Mykal Kuslis, Principal, Nonnewaug High School, Presenter

I. Call to Order

Jim Crocker called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Meeting, Tuesday, May 21, 2024

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

B. District Meeting, Monday, June 3, 2024

Jim Crocker made a motion to accept/approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Caren Lipinski, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

C. Special Meeting, Thursday, June 6, 2024

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

III. Superintendent's Report

A. Nonnewaug High School Update

Principal Kuslis shared with the Board the changes for the 2024/2025 school year. These changes included tightening up the cell phone policy, parking, the addition of a spring parent/teacher conference date, frequency of counselor meetings with students, diagnostic assessments, an eight-period schedule, and staffing changes.

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Adjustments will also occur with midterms/finals and due to safety concerns, the student leave/return policy implemented during Covid, which will be revoked.

B. Leave of Absence
Caroline South made a request for a one-year, leave of absence for childrearing purposes for the 24/25 school year. Superintendent Murphy recommended to the Board that they approve the request.

Discussion
Ms. South will not collect a salary nor have health care benefits provided during her leave of absence.

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

V. Committee Reports
There were none

VI. Board Chair Comments
Mr. Crocker gave a heartfelt thank you to the students and their families, Region 14 staff and the communities for their support. He noted that Region 14 is in the top 19% of schools in the State of Connecticut based on state testing and that Mitchell Elementary School is a "School of Distinction".

VII. Privilege of the Floor
There was none

VIII. Old Business
There was none

IX. New Business
A. Memorandum of Agreement Between Regional School District #14 and EdAdvance for the period of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 in the amount of $33,495 (Action Anticipated)

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

X. Other Business
Board member Carol Ann Brown publicly recognized that 13 students obtained their bi-literacy certificate. She also added some positive words regarding the four recent graduation ceremonies.

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XI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Chris Matta to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 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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