Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education
Monday, October 7, 2024; 6:00 p.m.
Mitchell Elementary School
Flanders Room
Official Minutes – Board Approved – Monday, November 4, 2024

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

Absent:
Chris Griffin

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

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. Approval of Minutes
A. Regular Meeting, Monday, September 16, 2024
A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept/approve the minutes as presented, Caren Lipinski and Chris Matta abstained, motion carried.

IV. Superintendent's Report
A. District School Climate Survey
Superintendent Murphy and Dr. Fernandez reviewed the parent and student school climate survey results. Topics included grading, safety, discipline, bullying, and school environment to name a few.

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B. Horse Barn Update

Superintendent Murphy made a recommendation to the Board that the Horse Barn be named the Elizabeth Webb Horse Barn. He shared a brief biography of her impact in Region 14. (Refer to Agenda Item IX. New Business, Subsection A)

C. Nonnewaug High School Open House

An Open House at Nonnewaug High School is scheduled for Saturday, November 2nd from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to showcase the high school building renovations, horse barn and sugar shack/maintenance buildings. Tours of the complex will be available.

D. Constitution Poster Contest Winners

Bethlehem and Mitchell Elementary School students participated in a recent Constitution Poster Contest. Winners attended an awards reception in their respective towns, which was attended by the First Selectman and Karen Reddington Hughes. Student winners Calvin Glabe, Slade Morcey, Madison Suvoski, Ella McGuirk, Fiona Lockwood, and Tori Parker presented their winning posters to the Board.

E. Board of Education Student Representatives

Superintendent Murphy was pleased to introduce this year's Board of Education Student Representatives Maia Colavito, (grade 12) and Addison Bushka (grade 10). Addison provided updates for the elementary schools, which included Mitchell Elementary school theme, SOAR; annual imagination walk, open house, and annual fall festival.

Her summary for Bethlehem Elementary School included Hispanic Heritage, fire prevention presentation, Halloween dance, assessments, and Christmas stamp design contest.

V. Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee: Tina Tanguay recapped the Finance Committee Meeting. Highlights included:

- As of September 30:
  - Collected **$10,638,704** (**25.77%** of anticipated revenue)
  - Spent **$10,336,043** (**25.04%** of budget)

- Received **$37,115** in miscellaneous revenue from closed-out Vo-ag equipment grant
- Auditors completed in-person work earlier than anticipated
- Team preparing request for proposal for busing contract, current contract ends **July 1, 2025**

VI. Board Chair Comments

Chairman Crocker expressed his appreciation to each of the Board members for their dedication, experience, and commitment to the benefit of our students, staff, and communities. He reiterated the four focus groups and status of district projects.

VII. Privilege of the Floor

There was none

VIII. Old Business

There was none

IX. New Business

A. Naming of Horse Barn

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Caren Lipinski to add an agenda item to New Business regarding the naming of the new Nonnewaug Horse Barn/Equine Facility, seconded by Caren Lipinksi, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Carol Ann Brown that the Nonnewaug High School Horse Barn be named for Liz Webb and be called the Liz Webb Equine Center, seconded by Jim Crocker,

<u>Discussions</u>

Discussions ensued regarding the process for naming the facility

A ceremony is planned during the Open House on November 2nd

All in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

X. Other Business

Carol Ann Brown commented on the recent car show event, noting that there were 340 cars. The event was well-attended and a huge success.

XI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Tikva Rose to adjourn the Meeting at 6:48 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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