Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education
Monday, November 4, 2024; 6:00 p.m.
Bethlehem Elementary School
Library
Official Minutes – Board Approved – Tuesday, November 19, 2024

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

Absent:
Tikva Rose

Also Present:
Brian Murphy, Superintendent
Taryn Fernandez, Director of Teaching and Learning
Maia Colavito, Student Representative

I. Call to Order
Chairman Crocker called the meeting to order at 6:01 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 dated Monday, October 7, 2024
A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Caren Lipinski to accept/approve the minutes as presented, Chris Griffin abstained, motion carried.

B. Regular Meeting dated Monday, October 21, 2024
A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Caren Lipinski to accept/approve the minutes as presented, Chris Griffin abstained, motion carried.

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

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. Board of Education Student Representative Report

Student Rep, Maia Colavito, provided an update on elementary school activities, which included:

- Mitchell Elementary School:
  - School implemented "Soar with your imagination" theme for the year
  - Imagination Walk event on September 27th raised over $3,000
  - Nine community organizations participated in annual open house
- Bethlehem Elementary School:
  - Nonnewaug High School AP Spanish students taught Hispanic heritage to grades 3-5 on October 8th
  - Fifth grade students are participating in Bethlehem Post Office Christmas stamp design contest

B. Nonnewaug High School Open House Update

Superintendent Murphy reported

- Event was held on Saturday, November 2nd and featured building renovations and new barn/maintenance/sugar shack facilities
- Elizabeth Webb traveled from Pennsylvania for horse barn dedication ceremony in her honor
- Principal Kuslis delivered personalized dedication speech based on research of Elizabeth Webb's contributions
- Culinary students provided refreshments/Student band performed during the event
- Multiple community members praised the renovated facilities and ceremony

NOTE: Superintendent Murphy informed the Board that the regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 19th will be held in the library at Bethlehem Elementary School due to the Bookfair at Mitchell Elementary School/Flanders Room.

V. Committee Reports

A. Agriscience Committee Update

Carol Ann Brown recapped the meeting held earlier in the evening. The first

meeting of the Agriscience Advisory is scheduled for Thursday, November 7th with a second scheduled for March 7th. Members of the advisory, in addition to Ms. Brown, include Tikva Rose, Caren Lipinski and Chris Griffin.

B. Policy Committee

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

1. Policy 4000.1/4200.1/5145.44 – Sexual Harassment/Title IX (Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified/Students)

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

C. Safe Schools Committee Update

Chris Matta, Chair of the Safe Schools Committee, provided an update on the recently held meeting. Though the meeting adjourned due to lack of a quorum, those persons remaining engaged in discussions that included evacuation drills, safety assessments, the SRO hiring process for Mitchell Elementary School, drill requirements, and student privileges. There were no motions.

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. He also thanked those who were instrumental in orchestrating the successful open house at Nonnewaug High School.

VII. Privilege of the Floor

There was none

VIII. Old Business

A. Reconstitution of the NHS Renovate to New Building Committee/Additional Member Retroactive to October 21, 2024

<u>Motion</u>

Due to an oversight at the last regular meeting, Chairman Crocker made a motion to include J.P. Fernandes as a member of the reconstituted Building Committee retro-active to October 21, 2024, seconded by Alice Jones, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

IX. New Business

A. Donations to the NHS Music Department: Taryn Fernandez reported
A number of instruments were donated to the Nonnewaug High School Music Department:

(1) Jupiter JTB-730 Trombone with a value of $1800 donated by Lee Walkup and Fred Rossomando "Horns for Kids"

(1) Yamaha 650 Clarinet with a value of $2300 donated by Sandy Carlson and Edward Dzitko

(1) Mendini MTS-PL Tenor Saxophone with a value of $300 donated by Sandy Carlson and Edward Dzitko

(1) Donation of mouthpieces and reeds with a value of $400 donated by Sandy Carlson and Edward Dzitko

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

X. Other Business

There was none

XI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Chris Griffin to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 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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