REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7

Newbury Library Media Center
Board of Education Meeting
December 11, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.
APPROVED 1.8.25

PRESENT: Chair Ms. Molly Sexton Read (B), Vice-Chair Mr. Robert Jerram (NH), Ms. Deborah Bell (N), Ms. Lisa Fragale (C), Ms. Terri Kenneson (C), Ms. Mary Duran (B), Superintendent Steven K. LePage, Director of Finance & Operations Mr. James Gaskins, Secretary / Treasurer Mr. Noel Gauthier (NH), HS Principal Gary Franklin, MS Principal Ryan Cornelius, and Student Representatives Amaya Washington and Owen Langer.
Absent: None.

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Sexton Read called the Regular Board of Education meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

PUBLIC PORTION: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Duran, to **APPROVE** the November 13, 2024 Regular meeting minutes as amended. **AYE**: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Bell, Ms. Fragale, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Crone, and Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED**.

REPORTS

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS- Amaya Washington & Owen Langer

Updates: Spirit week is next week. Students are excited for their class themes and the upcoming pep rally. Winter sports have started practices with games to begin soon. Lunch block monthly talent shows still have a great turn out and are having positive feedback. Students who submitted early applications should be receiving responses any day now. The spring musical theme has been determined as “Into The Woods”.

HS PRINCIPAL REPORT- Mr. Gary Franklin

NEASC: The visit went very well. A draft should be sent for review within 4-6 weeks. Their commission meets in March and in June to finalize. Brief discussion followed.

MS PRINCIPAL REPORT- Mr. Ryan Cornelius

School Climate Legislation: Transition is in the works but it is reported that we are ahead of other districts at this time.

MS Updates: Staff and administration are working collaboratively to create consistent grading policies among all grade levels. Tier 2 is still in the works for the MTSS program to help better assist students that need additional help in Math and Reading. Brief discussion followed.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Benefits Meeting: A meeting was held with Brown & Brown on December 12th 2024. This year’s number is continuing on from last year’s trend. We are currently within year one with a 11.9% increase cap.

Curriculum Council: Will be meeting at Hartland school with other superintendents to build better connections.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Transportation Contracts Update: A meeting is to be scheduled to review the proposals for Barkhamsted, Colebrook, and Norfolk. At this time, we are still waiting for New Hartford's proposals.

2025/ 2026 Budget: Is still an ongoing project, currently the largest concerns are benefits, special education, and transportation contracts. Brief discussion followed.

Audit Update: A draft of the audit was received and there were no findings noted which is great news. It should be signed off on soon.

OLD BUSINESS

Updates: None.

NEW BUSINESS

Title IX: Brief discussion of soft roll out for quarter 3 or enforcing policy as is. No decision was made at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Ms. Kenneson, seconded by Ms. Crone, to **ADJOURN** at 7:24 p.m. **AYE**: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Fragale, and Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

The next BOE Meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Vacila
Board Clerk