Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education
Monday, February 3, 2025; 6:00 p.m.
Bethlehem Elementary School
Library
Official Minutes – Board Approved – Monday, March 3, 2025

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

Absent:
Tikva Rose
Chris Griffin

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

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, January 13, 2025
A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Alice Jones to accept/approve the minutes as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

IV. Superintendent's Report
A. Board of Education Student Representative Report:
Addison Bushka reported on events at both elementary schools which included:
Mitchell Elementary School
- Mid-year diagnostic tests
- Donation of warm items to Saint Vincent DePaul
- Black History Month Celebrations
- Annual student-staff basketball game

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Bethlehem Elementary School

- Fuel Drive
- Scripps National Spelling Bee
- Winter Chess Champion, Hudson Magill
- Valentine's Day Grandparents' Dinner

B. Connecticut Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Inductee
David Green, NHS Wrestling Team Coach and retired Nonnewaug High School Teacher, was being recognized as a Connecticut Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Inductee. Superintendent Murphy said a few words on his behalf and presented him with a certificate. Mr. Green will be formally recognized at the Mohegan Sun later this spring.

C. Director of Student Services Development Plan
Dina Ericson, the Director of Student Services, presented her 2024/2025 Development Plan. The plan included the district's four goals, Academic Performance, Communication, Safety, and Budget along with Vision-of-a-Learner, the Department's specific Theory of Action as well as strategies and action plans to support the department's four goals. The plan also included data from various tests and screenings such as MClass Dibels, NWEA, and SBAC to identify the district's standings.

VI. **Committee Reports**

A. Curriculum Committee
Ms. Jones, Chair of the Curriculum Committee, recapped the curricula brought forward to the Board for approval on a recommendation of the subcommittee.

1. AP Spanish Language and Culture
Motion
A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept/approve the AP Spanish Language and Culture curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

2. UConn Spanish/Spanish 4
Motion
A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept/approve the UConn Spanish/Spanish 4 curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

3. UConn ASL/ASL 3
Motion
A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the UConn ASL/ASL 3 curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

4. World Regional Studies 1 (6th Grade Social Studies)
   Motion
   A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Caren Lipinski to accept/approve the World Regional Studies 1 curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

5. World Regional Studies 2 (7th Grade Social Studies)
   Motion
   A motion was made Alice Jones and seconded by Caren Lipinski to accept/approve the World Regional Studies 2 curriculum, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

B. Finance Committee

Ms. Tanguay, the Director of Finance and Operations, reported.
Budget and revenue status through January

- Revenue through January 31st reached $23,902,401 (57.9% of budget)
- Expenditures totaled $23,345,038 (56.55% of budget)
- VOAG tuition billing for second semester in process
- Miscellaneous revenue included, not expected
  - $37,000 from May 2023 project closure reimbursement
  - $39,000 from state para-educator medical stipend

C. Policy Committee

1. On a recommendation by the Policy Committee to accept/approve the following policies, second read, action anticipated
   a. Policy 6148 FAFSA
      Motion
      A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve Policy 6148 as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

   b. Policy 6172.4 Parent and Family Engagement Policy for Title I Students
      Motion
      A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Caren Lipinski to accept/approve Policy 6172.4 as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

2. On a recommendation by the Policy Committee to accept/approve the following policies, first read, no action anticipated:
   a. Policy 3323 Soliciting Prices (bids and Quotations)
      - Increases bidding threshold from $25,000 to $50,000 due to rising costs and procurement efficiency

b. Policy 6172 Alternative Education Programs
   - Provides new language, which is relevant specifically to districts that provide a credit recovery program as part of their alternative education program

VII. Board Chair Comments

Chairman Crocker reiterated his sincere appreciation to each of the Board members for their dedication, experience, and commitment to the benefit of the Region 14 students, staff, and communities. He stated that Region 14 is a great place to be, learn, and work and is continuously improving.

VIII. Privilege of the Floor

There was none

IX. Old Business

A. Educator Evaluation and Support Plan Revisions

Dr. Fernandez reviewed the revised plan, which was specific to Appendix C, Observation Frequency for staff new to the profession/Region 14 and Tenured Staff.

Motion

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

X. New Business

A. Agriscience Field Trip (Jenn Jedd presented)
   - Miami, Florida
   - April 12-17, 2025

Motion

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

B. 2025/2026 Region 14 School District Calendar (Tabled from January 13, 2025, Action Anticipated)

Superintendent Murphy noted several changes from previous calendars:
   - Professional Learning Wednesdays from 4 to 2 (1st and 3rd Wednesdays)
   - 182 student school days to 181 (The law is 180 days)

Motion

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Alice Jones to accept/approve the 2025/2026 Region 14 School District Calendar as presented; all in favor; none

opposed, motion carried unanimously.

C. Discussion/Possible Action on Finalization of Horse Barn Project and Grant Submission (Action Anticipated)

Motions

Jim Crocker made a motion, seconded by Chris Matta that the Region 14 Board of Education accept as complete the Horse Barn project (Nonnewaug High School-State Project No. 214-0094 VA/EA-Vo-Ag Building Grant), reserving its rights under law to pursue any claims with respect to the same, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Jim Crocker made a motion, seconded by Chris Matta that the Region 14 Board of Education authorize the School Administration to finalize and submit to the State Department of Administrative Services 1) the final grant application for Nonnewaug High School -State Project No. 214-0094 VA/EA (Vo-Ag Building Grant) and 2) the notice of project completion, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

The project is officially closed.

XI. Other Business

A. Superintendent's Mid-year Evaluation (Executive Session Anticipated)

Motion

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Caren Lipinski to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Superintendent Murphy's mid-year evaluation, all were in favor, none opposed. The Board invited Superintendent Murphy into Executive Session at 7:25 p.m.

Public Session

The Board returned to Public Session at 8:21 p.m.

Motion

There was no action taken

XII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Jim Crocker to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 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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