Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education
Monday, September 8, 2025; 6:00 p.m.
Mitchell Elementary School
Flanders Room
Official Minutes - Board Approved – Monday, October 6, 2025

Present:
Chris Matta, Chairman
Alice Jones, Vice Chairman
Jim Crocker
Chris Griffin
Carol Ann Brown
Michael Carbonneau
Caren Lipinski (via phone)
Tikva Rose

Absent:

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

I. Call to Order
Chairman Matta called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance and Introductions
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and acquaintances were made

A moment of silence was held in memory of Andrew Tammero

II. Approval of Minutes
A. Regular Meeting, Monday, July 14, 2025
A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the minutes as presented, Chris Griffin abstained, remaining were in favor, motion carried.

III. Superintendent's Report
A. Connecticut High School Coaches' Association Boys' Tennis Coach of the Year/NAAE CT Teacher's Turn the Key Professional Development Scholarship Recipients/CAAE Ideas Unlimited Award Recipient

Dr. Kuslis, Principal, Nonnewaug High School, announced the recipients of several awards to staff members Nick Sheikh, Leanne Foster, Katie Gorman, and Marisa

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Bedron, all of whom, graduated from Nonnewaug High School. Each awardee was provided with a certificate acknowledging their accomplishment.

B. Nonnewaug High School NEASC Accreditation Update
On August 1, 2025, Nonnewaug High School was awarded their continued accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. The Commission was impressed with the progress made on the Priority Areas for Growth and increased alignment with the Principles of Effective Practice since the time of the Collaborative Conference Visit. The Commission congratulated the school administration and faculty for completing the first two phases of the Accreditation Process: the Self-Reflection and Accreditation visit.

C. Personnel Report
Superintendent Murphy formally welcomed the district's new hires for the 2025/2026 school year.

D. Increase Agriscience Funding Strategies
Superintendent Murphy was pleased to report that they have developed some tangible, concrete, and comprehensive strategies to extract more funding from the State of Connecticut to the district's agriscience program. An Agriscience Funding Committee has been developed and is made up of community members, politicians from the towns of Bethlehem and Woodbury with Jim Crocker serving as chair. Chris Matta explained the work of the committee moving forward and provided the names of the participants. The first meeting is planned for Wednesday, October 8th. Superintendent Murphy noted that an outside organization is currently reviewing the funding mechanisms for the program.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Curriculum Committee
1. On a recommendation by the Curriculum Committee to accept/approve the following curricula (Action Anticipated):
   a. AP/UConn Environmental Science
   A motion was made by Michael Carbonneau and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the AP/UConn Environmental Science curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.
   b. Physics
   A motion was made by Michael Carbonneau and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the Physics curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.
   c. English 11: Surviving the Journey – A Literary Perspective
   A motion was made by Michael Carbonneau and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the English 11 curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

d. Building Bridges B
   A motion was made by Michael Carbonneau and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve Building Bridges B curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.
e. Marketing I
   A motion was made by Michael Carbonneau and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve Marketing I curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.
f. UConn ECE Personal Finance
   A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept/approve UConn ECE Personal Finance curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.
g. AP French
   A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept/approve the AP French curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.
h. Culinary Arts I
   A motion was made by Michael Carbonneau and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the Culinary Arts I curriculum, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.
i. Culinary Arts II
   A motion was made by Michael Carbonneau and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the Culinary Arts II curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.
j. Farm to Table
   A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Chris Griffin to accept/approve the Farm to Table Curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.
k. Leadership Development
   A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Chris Griffin to accept/approve the Leadership Development curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.
l. Animal Assisted Therapy
   A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Chris Griffin to accept/approve the Animal Assisted Therapy curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.
m. 7th Grade Science
   A motion was made by Michael Carbonneau and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the 7th Grade Science curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

2. On a recommendation by the Curriculum Committee to accept/approve the following course proposal (Action Anticipated):
   a. Dual Credit French 4 through ECSU

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept/approve the Dual Credit French 4 course proposal, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

B. Policy Committee

1. On a recommendation by the Policy Committee to accept/approve the following policy: (First Read, No Action Anticipated)

   a. Policy 5131.911 Connecticut School Climate Policy

   Revised policy addresses bullying investigation procedures, annual climate surveys, and the establishment of School Climate Committee

V. Board Chair Comments

VI. Privilege of the Floor

There was none

VII. Old Business

There was none

VIII. New Business

A. Resolution for Webster Bank (Action Anticipated)

Chris Matta moved to adopt a resolution for Webster Bank, NA to authorize the removal of James Crocker and to add Tikva Rose to the Webster, NA Bank Pension Account, seconded by Jim Crocker, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

B. Reserve Fund for Educational Expenditures (Action Anticipated)

Chris Matta moved that the District deposit an estimated balance/surplus funds from the District's 2024-2025 operating budget ($100,000) as a supplemental appropriation into the District's 'Reserve Fund for Educational Expenditures', for special education purposes in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-51(d)(2), as amended", seconded by Jim Crocker, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

IX. Other Business

There was none

X. Adjournment

A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Jim Crocker to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 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
Minutes created with assistance of Circleback AI"