Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education
Monday, January 12; 6:00 p.m.
Flanders Room
Mitchell Elementary School
OFFICIAL MINUTES – BOARD APPROVED – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026

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

Absent:
Tikva Rose

Also Present:

I. Call to Order
Chairman Matta called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

II. Approval of Minutes
A. **Special Meeting, Monday, December 8, 2025**
A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Alice Jones to accept/approve the minutes as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

III. Superintendent's Report
A. Student Representative Report
Student Representative Maia Colavito provided reports for both Nonnewaug High School and Woodbury Middle School.
Nonnewaug High School
- Orange Out, color of leukemia awareness, to honor John Cheung
- Winter concert
- FFA Cookie Decorating Social
- Shepaug Rivalry Games with both the boys' and girls' teams winning
- SAT Study Groups
- Semester wrapping up soon/mid-year exams

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- Chiefs with Character Breakfast

Woodbury Middle School

- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- WMS Winter Concert
- Christmas Tree of Gratitude
- NWEA Testing

B. Leaves of Absence

Superintendent Murphy made two recommendations for teachers requesting extended maternity leaves of absence.

1. J**ennifer Jedd until January 5, 2027**
   A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Carol Ann Brown to accept/ approve the extended leave of absence as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

2. **Heather Casey/January 4, 2027**
   A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Caren Lipinski to accept/approve the extended leave of absence as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

C. Woodbury Middle School Development Plan/Nonnewaug High School

Principals Bill Nemec and Myke Kuslis, along with their assistant principals Suzi Greene and Declan Curtin respectively, presented their School Development Plans to the board. Reports centered on goals, supported by strategic approaches for achievement, comparison data, and progress.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee

- Revenue collected as of December 31st is $22,025,293 or 51.49% of budget
- Expenditures as of December 31st total $19,985,859 or 46.73% of anticipated budget
- District tuition will be billed in January once new semester begins
- Budget position on track at mid-year point
- Mike Molson completed required HVAC systems review and submitted updated forms to state
- HVAC compliance documentation posted on district website under facilities section titled "HVAC Systems Update Notification 2025"

B. Policy Committee

On a recommendation by the Policy Committee to accept/approve the following policies (Second read, action anticipated)

1. Policy 1312.4/6161.13 Library Collection Development and Maintenance

A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Caren Lipinski to accept/approve the policy as presented, 6 were in favor, none opposed, Bridget Calabrese abstained, motion carried.

2. Policy 9230 New Board Member Orientation
   A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the policy as presented, 6 were in favor, none opposed, Bridget Calabrese abstained, motion carried.

V. Board Chair Comments

Chairman Matta thanked the candidates who recently ran for the vacant Board of Education seat, the meeting moderator, Jamie McLaughlin, and the voters. He also welcomed Bridget Calabrese as the Board's newest member.

VI. Privilege of the Floor

There were no participants for Privilege of the Floor

VII. Old Business

There was no Old Business brought before the board

VIII. New Business

A. 2026/2027 Region 14 School District Calendar
   A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Alice Jones to accept/approve the 2026/2027 Region 14 School District Calendar as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

B. Field Trip, April 13, 2026 to April 17, 2026, Music Department to Disney World, Orlando, Florida
   - Music teacher Nick Ciasullo provided a brief overview of the proposed trip to Walt Disney World in Orlando
   - Trip dates: April 13-17, 2026, during spring break
   - Itinerary includes recording workshops, theme park time, visit to United Kingdom pavilion to see peer musicians perform
   - Expected attendance: 20 to 40 students

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

IX. Other Business

A. Superintendent's Mid-Year Evaluation (Executive Session Anticipated)
   <u>Executive Session</u>
   A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Jim Crocker to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of the Superintendent's Mid-Year Evaluation. The Board invited Superintendent Brian Murphy into executive

session; all in favor, none opposed; motion carried unanimously. The board and invited parties entered executive session at 7:38 p.m.

Public Session
The Board returned to public session at 8:25 p.m.

Motion
There was no motion

X. Adjournment

A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Jim Crocker to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 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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