Minutes
Regular Meeting/Budget Workshop
Region 14 Board of Education
Monday, March 9, 2026; 6:00 p.m.
Flanders Room
Mitchell Elementary School
OFFICIAL MINUTES – BOARD APPROVED – MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2026

Present:
Chris Matta, Chairman
Alice Jones, Vice Chairman
Jim Crocker
Carol Ann Brown
Michael Carbonneau
Bridget Calabrese
Caren Lipinkski

Absent:
Tikva Rose

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

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

III. Board of Education Workshop

A. Discussion of the Superintendent's Proposed 2026/2027 Budget
The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Superintendent's proposed budget for 2026/2027 and to answer questions solicited from members.

The meeting commenced with opening remarks from the Chairman Matta, including but not limited to, the following:

- The budget reflects thoughtful planning, strong advocacy for our district and a continued commitment to provide outstanding educational opportunities for the district's students
- Region 14 is currently ranked in the top 24% of school districts in Connecticut
- Accountability Index is 80.5, well above state average

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- Proposed budget of $44,757,503 represents a 4.6% increase with 79% of the increase tied directly to salaries and benefits
- Superintendent Murphy has shown strong leadership and transparency
- Formed an independent review of the Agriscience Program, working closely with state legislators and state-wide education groups to advocate for increased Agriscience funding
- Strengthened collaboration with local town leadership with regular meetings
- Created a Region 14 Budget Task Force to ensure continued fiscal responsibility

Other Members:

- Expressed pride in the many positive developments and achievements benefiting students
- Acknowledged the strength and dedication of the teaching staff, as well as the exceptional leadership across the district
- Reaffirmed the Board of Education's commitment to continuing its progress toward excellence

At their previous meeting, Board members were asked to review the proposed 26/27 budget and to reach out to Tina Tanguay with questions. The questions encompassed SRBI/MTSS, required services that interventionists provide, and outplacement of students with associated transportation/tuition costs responsibilities.

The questions were asked in an effort to help educate community members who may not be familiar with the complexities of special education.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patricia Paige
Board Clerk
Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Patricia Paige, Board Clerk
Chatgbt