REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.7
Newbury Library Media Center
Board of Education Special Meeting
July 7th, 2026- 6:00pm.

MINUTES

APPROVED 8.19.26

PRESENT: Chair Ms. Molly Sexton Read (B), Vice Chair Mr. Rob Jerram (NH), Ms. Terri Kenneson (C), Ms. Deb Bell (N), Ms. Kim Crone (N),Secretary / Treasurer, Mr. Noel Gauthier (NH), Director of Finance & Operations, Mr. James Gaskins, and Superintendent Steven K. LePage.
Absent: Student Representatives, Mia Doyle and Amaya Washington, High School Principal, Mr. Gary Franklin, Middle School Principal, Mr. Ryan Cornelius, Ms. Lisa Fragale (C), Ms. Mimi Duran (B).

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Molly Sexton Read called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

2.0 PUBLIC PORTION

None.

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 June 24, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting

MOTION by Kim Crone, seconded by Noel Gauthier, to **APPROVE** the June 24, 2026, Regular Board of Education meeting minutes, as amended. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

4.0 REPORTS

4.1 Superintendent's Report - S. LePage

- **Board Retreat & Goals:** Superintendent LePage thanked the Board for a productive retreat and goal-setting session. The four draft district goals have been slightly reworked for clarity and are placed under Old Business for review.
- **Matriculation Data:** Followed up on a previous request regarding post-graduation data. Six-year graduation and outcome data from the clearinghouse will be utilized to track student pathways.
- **Hallway Review Committee:** A walkthrough of the high school and middle school took place this morning with five committee members. The committee identified damaged, outdated, or overly busy items for removal or storage to establish a cleaner, collegiate, and branded aesthetic. Notable items include relocating the butterfly artwork by a prominent artist and organizing student activity/club boards within the cafeteria hallway.

- **Communication Norms:** A set of communication guidelines was shared with the administrative team to minimize off-hours noise and establish healthier digital boundaries (e.g., utilizing scheduled emails). A formal presentation will be given to staff before the start of the school year.
- **Key Upcoming Dates:** The Administrative Summit is scheduled for August 18th (location TBD). New staff orientation and the Instructional Leader Summit will follow on August 19th[1][2][3], with all teachers returning on August 24th.

4.2 Director of Finance and Operations - J. Gaskins

- **Summer Facilities Projects:**
    - **Bleachers:** The new bleachers have been ordered. Due to a custom red color-matching request, delivery is expected in November. Installation will take approximately seven days, requiring the rescheduling of one or two athletic events.
    - **Flooring & Carpeting:** VCT tile replacement is underway to remove remaining carpet in the counseling, SRO, and math/English offices, as well as one classroom. The trainer's room flooring and cabinetry are being redone, followed by epoxy flooring installation at the athletic entrance.
    - **Server Replacement:** Scheduled to take place from July 20th to July 24th as part of routine tech lifecycle updates.
    - **Painting:** Painting begins in the auxiliary gym tomorrow. Starting July 13th, 12 middle school classrooms will be repainted.
    - **Science Department Fume Hood:** Ordered to comply with the OSHA report; installation will be scheduled upon delivery.
    - **Track Repairs:** Minor root penetration was discovered under a small section of the track. Keith Boyle met with the repair company today to coordinate the maintenance work.
    - **HVAC Units:** Aged-out mini-split air conditioning units in the Vo-Ag library and aqua room are being replaced.
- **Alternative Funding Projects:**
    - A new hot lunch serving station is being purchased using food service program surplus funds.
    - An animal shed with added water and electricity will be installed in the upper paddock on Battistoni Drive, funded through surplus funds.
    - Fire alarm panels are being replaced using grant funding.
- **Budget Update:** As of July 1st, the FY 2025-2026 assessment offset is projected at $793,000 ($28 under the prior year), remaining exactly on target. The FY 2026-2027 budget is currently in excellent standing.

5.0 OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Updates

Included in the Superintendent and Director of Finance reports.

5.2 BOE Goals

The Board reviewed the updated draft of the district goals. A minor grammatical edit was noted by Kim Crone to remove an unnecessary comma in District Goal 3 ("increased authentic career experiences"). Board members are requested to submit any final edits to Superintendent LePage prior to the August 19th meeting, where the goals will be presented for formal adoption.

6.0 NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Review and Discussion of Facilities Condition Assessment Energy Audit

The Board received the draft report from Kaestle Boos Associates and Bureau Veritas last Wednesday.

- **Areas Noted in Poor Condition:** The roof, sidewalks, retaining wall, field drainage, exterior HVAC system, parking lots, and elevator cab.
- **Board Discussion:** Initial review indicates that some estimated costs in the draft are heavily exaggerated (such as a $2M–$4M estimate for the retaining wall, which is structurally intact but experiencing surface deterioration/crumbling of the pre-material block faces).
- **Next Steps:** The report recommends a civil engineering study on site drainage for the athletic fields. The administration will schedule a formal review meeting with the consultants to thoroughly vet the data and refine the pricing estimates before the final version is released.

6.2 2nd Reading and Possible Action of Policies

The Board conducted a second reading of the following updated policies driven by recent legislative shifts:

Discussion: The Board discussed incorporating specific local feedback, clarifying several aspects of the policies including language regarding K-12 designations, and areas for review based on recent legal decisions.

- *a. Health Assessments and Immunizations 5141.3*

  MOTION by Terri Kenneson, seconded by Kim Crone, to **APPROVE** Policy #5141.3 Health Assessments and Immunizations, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

- *b. Reporting of Child Neglect 5141.4/R5141.4*

  MOTION by Terri Kenneson, seconded by Kim Crone, to **APPROVE** Policy #5141.4/R5141.4 Reporting of Child Neglect, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

- *c. Use of Physical Force 5144.1*

  MOTION by Terri Kenneson, seconded by Kim Crone, to **APPROVE** Policy #5144.1 Use of Physical Force, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

- *d. Restraint and Seclusions Law In CT (Appendix)*

  MOTION by Terri Kenneson, seconded by Kim Crone, to **APPROVE** Policy #5144.1 Use of Physical Force, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

- *e. Protective Measures Procedures (Appendix) 5144.1 A / 5144.1 C*

  MOTION by Terri Kenneson, seconded by Kim Crone, to **APPROVE** Appendix #5144.1A/ 5144.1C Restraint and Seclusions/ Protective Measures Procedures, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

- *f. Protective Measure Report (Appendix) 5144.1 D*

  MOTION by Terri Kenneson, seconded by Kim Crone, to **APPROVE** Appendix #5144.1D Protective Measure Report, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

- *g. Form #1 Physical Restraint Report Form 5144.1 Form #1*

  MOTION by Terri Kenneson, seconded by Kim Crone, to **APPROVE** Policy #5144.1 Form #1, Physical Restraint Report Form, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

- *h. Form #2 Seclusion Report Form 5144.1 Form #2*

  MOTION by Terri Kenneson, seconded by Kim Crone, to **APPROVE** Policy #5144.1 Form #2, Seclusion Report Form, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

- *i. Form #3 State Incident Report 5144.1 Form #3*

  MOTION by Terri Kenneson, seconded by Kim Crone, to **APPROVE** Policy #5144.1 Form #3, State Incident Report, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

- *j. Sexual Abuse Prevention & Education- Student Opt Out Form 5145.511*

  MOTION by Terri Kenneson, seconded by Kim Crone, to **APPROVE** Policy #5145.511 Opt-Out Form, Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

- *k. Title IX 5145.44*

  MOTION by Terri Kenneson, seconded by Kim Crone, to **APPROVE** Title IX 5145.44, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

None.

8.0 OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Terri Kenneson, seconded by Noel Gauthier, to **ADJOURN** at 6:54 p.m. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Bell, Ms. Crone. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**