

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
24 Lyon Road, Burlington, CT 06013
Monday, August 31, 2026
8:05 p.m.

Minutes

Board Members Present:

Scott Savelle, Chairman
Thomas Fausel, Vice Chairman
Melanie Wilhelm, Treasurer
Cassandra DuBois, Secretary
Amy Boisvert-Baltrush
Matt Cummings
Rachel McFadden
Scott Ragaglia
Matthew Szydlo

Absent:

Victoria Basile

Also Present:

Fran Thompson, Superintendent
Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations
Vonetta Romeo-Rivers, Director of Teaching and Learning
Deb Foley, Director of Student Services

<i>Call to Order</i>	The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Scott Savelle, at 8:05 p.m.
<i>Communication</i>	Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Thompson thanked the Lewis Mills Athletic Booster Club for their recent donations in support of our students and school activities. Har-Bur Middle School received a thank-you letter from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Jimmy Fund Walk for the generous donation made by Har-Bur school. The new school year is officially underway in Region 10. Staff returned on August 24th, followed by the annual convocation on August 25th. Students returned to school on August 26th. During the first and second days of school, Superintendent Thompson rode the school bus to each elementary school to welcome students and staff back for the new school year.

Communication Continued	Lewis Mills High School has completed extensive work updating its procedures regarding cell phone use and vaping. Thank you to Chris Rau, Jen Otte, and Rebecca Stoll for their work on these updates. All information regarding the new procedures can be found in the student handbook. Region 10 was awarded full funding for a High-Quality Special Education Incentive Grant from the Connecticut State Department of Education. Thank you to Deb Foley, Sue Laone, and Rich Miller for their collaboration and hard work in preparing the grant application. This past weekend, Superintendent Thompson, along with Principal Masi, attended the Emergency Drill – Bus Catastrophe event. A special thank-you goes to the Burlington Fire Department and the surrounding EMS departments for their participation and support in this important training exercise. Board Chair Report: Chairman Savelle thanked the Administrators and Principals for their weekly communications, noting that they are enriched with valuable information and help everyone stay connected and informed about what is happening across all of the schools. Although Chairman Savelle was unable to attend the convocation, he received emails from teachers sharing their feedback about the event. The teachers expressed their appreciation and happiness with both the event and its format. Chairman Savelle stated that the positive feedback speaks to the strong support of the administration and reflects the direction in which the school district is heading. He noted that it is encouraging to receive emails of this nature and thanked everyone involved in creating such a positive environment. He also expressed his appreciation for the collaboration across departments and acknowledged the hard work of all those who contributed to the success of the district and emphasized that these efforts are greatly appreciated.
Approval of Minutes	A motion was made by Scott Ragaglia and seconded by Matthew Szydlo to accept/approve June 8, 2026, minutes 8 in favor; none opposed; 1 abstain; motion passed.
Consent Agenda	Approval of the Financial Report dated June 20, 2026 & July 31, 2026 and the Personnel Report: A motion was made by Cassandra DuBois and seconded by Scott Ragaglia to accept/approve the consent agenda as presented. All in favor; none opposed; motion passed.
Public Participation	Amanda Larson - 79 Taine Mountain Road, Burlington

Business	Proposal – Cooperative wrestling team A motion was made by Scott Ragaglia and seconded by Tom Fausel to move the proposal cooperative wrestling team to Action item F on the agenda. 8 in favor; none opposed; 1 abstained; motion passed
Action Items	Lewis S. Mills 2027 Graduation date: June 9, 2027 A motion was made by Rachel McFadden and seconded by Melanie Wilhelm to accept/approve the Lewis S. Mills 2027 Graduation date as June 9, 2027. All in favor; none opposed; motion passed. Lake Garda enrichment program donations: A motion was made by Cassandra DuBois and seconded by Matt Cummings to accept/approve the Lake Garda enrichment program donation as presented. All in favor; none opposed; motion passed. Clerical contract ratification: A motion was made by Tom Fausel and seconded by Melanie Wilhelm to accept/approve the clerical contract ratification as presented. All in favor; none opposed; motion passed. Administration contracts: A motion was made by Melanie Wilhelm and seconded by Matt Cummings to extend the administrators’ contracts for another fiscal year at an increase of 3.5% per contract as presented. All in favor; none opposed; motion passed. Potential bonding package: Cassandra DuBois made a motion to pass the following resolution which was seconded by Scott Ragaglia. RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$5,000,000 FOR HVAC REPLACEMENTS AT DISTRICT SCHOOL; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE PORTION OF THE APPROPRIATION NOT DEFRAID BY GRANTS as distributed at the community meeting tonight and on the website. RESOLVED, 1. That Regional School District Number 10 of the State of Connecticut appropriate FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$5,000,000) for costs related to HVAC replacements at Lewis S. Mills High School, Har-Bur Middle School, Lake Garda Elementary School and Harwinton Consolidated School (the “Project”). The appropriation may be spent for design and engineering costs, including the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications, acquisition and installation costs, related construction, materials, removal of existing units, the acquisition and installation of related equipment, consulting fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings, other financing costs, and other expenses related to the Project. The Board of Education is authorized to determine the scope and particulars of the Project. The Board of Education may reduce or modify the scope of the Project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the Project as so reduced or modified.

***Action items
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2. That the District issue its bonds and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$5,000,000) to finance the appropriation for the Project. The amount of bonds or notes authorized to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of grants received by the District for the Project. The bonds and temporary notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 10-56 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds and notes shall be general obligations of the District and its member towns, secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the District and its member towns. The law firm of Pullman & Comley, LLC is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds and notes. The Chairman and the Treasurer of the Board of Education, or such other officer or body to whom the Board of Education delegates the authority to make such determinations, are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds and notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for keeping a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the District in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.

3. That the District hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that Project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that (except to the extent reimbursed from grant moneys) the District reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the Project. The Chairman and the Treasurer of the Board of Education, or such other officer or body to whom the Board of Education delegates such authority, are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the District pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

4. That the Chairman of the Board of Education and the Treasurer, or such other officer or body to whom the Board delegates such authority, are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.

Action items continued	5. That the Board of Education is authorized to approve the entering into of contracts for the Project, and the Board of Education, or such officer or body to whom the Board delegates such authority, is authorized to approve the expenditure of said appropriation and such other matters as it deems desirable or necessary to complete the Project. 6. That the Region 10 Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the Project. 7. That the Board of Education is authorized to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject grants for the Project. 8. That the Superintendent of Regional School District Number 10, the Chairman and Secretary of the Regional Board and any other proper officers or officials of the District are each authorized on behalf of the District to execute one or more applications for federal, state and other grants in aid and to accept or reject such grants on behalf of the District and to execute any and all necessary agreements and other documents in connection therewith. All in favor; none opposed; motion passed. ... Cassandra DuBois made a motion to pass the following resolution RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$14,935,000 FOR ROOF REPLACEMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS AT LEWIS S. MILLS HIGH SCHOOL AND HAR-BUR MIDDLE SCHOOL; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE PORTION OF THE APPROPRIATION NOT DEFRAIDED BY GRANTS Cassandra DuBois reinstated the motion. Cassandra DuBois made a motion to pass the following resolution which was seconded by Matt Cummings. RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$14,935,000 FOR ROOF REPLACEMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS AT LEWIS S. MILLS HIGH SCHOOL, HAR-BUR MIDDLE SCHOOL AND LAKE GARDA SCHOOL; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE PORTION OF THE APPROPRIATION NOT DEFRAIDED BY GRANTS as distributed at the community meeting tonight and on the website. RESOLVED, 1. That Regional School District Number 10 of the State of Connecticut appropriate FOURTEEN MILLION NINE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$14,935,000) for costs related to roof replacements and improvements at Lewis S. Mills High School, Har-Bur Middle School and Lake Garda School (the "Project"). The appropriation may be spent for design and engineering costs, including the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications,
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construction, materials, demolition and removal of existing materials, the acquisition and installation of related equipment, consulting fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings, other financing costs, and other expenses related to the Project. The Board of Education is authorized to determine the scope and particulars of the Project. The Board of Education may reduce or modify the scope of the Project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the Project as so reduced or modified.

2. That the District issue its bonds and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed FOURTEEN MILLION NINE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$14,935,000) to finance the appropriation for the Project. The amount of bonds or notes authorized to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of grants received by the District for the Project. The bonds and temporary notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 10-56 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds and notes shall be general obligations of the District and its member towns, secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the District and its member towns. The law firm of Pullman & Comley, LLC is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds and notes. The Chairman and the Treasurer of the Board of Education, or such other officer or body to whom the Board of Education delegates the authority to make such determinations, are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds and notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for keeping a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the District in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.

3. That the District hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that Project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that (except to the extent reimbursed from grant moneys) the District reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the Project. The Chairman and the Treasurer of the Board of Education, or such other officer or body to whom the Board of Education delegates such authority, are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the District pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

4. That the Chairman of the Board of Education and the Treasurer, or such other officer or body to whom the Board delegates such authority, are

Action items continued	authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes. 5. That the Board of Education is authorized to approve the entering into of contracts for the Project, and the Board of Education, or such officer or body to whom the Board delegates such authority, is authorized to approve the expenditure of said appropriation and such other matters as it deems desirable or necessary to complete the Project. 6. That the Region 10 Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the Project. 7. That the Board of Education is authorized to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject grants for the Project. 8. That the Superintendent of Regional School District Number 10, the Chairman and Secretary of the Regional Board and any other proper officers or officials of the District are each authorized on behalf of the District to execute one or more applications for federal, state and other grants in aid and to accept or reject such grants on behalf of the District and to execute any and all necessary agreements and other documents in connection therewith. All in favor; none opposed; motion passed. ... Cassandra DuBois made a motion to pass the following resolution which was seconded by Amy Boisvert-Baltrush RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$3,900,000 FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A MULTIPURPOSE SYNTHETIC TURF FIELD AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS AT LEWIS S. MILLS HIGH SCHOOL; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE PORTION OF THE APPROPRIATION NOT DEFRAIDED BY GRANTS as distributed at the community meeting tonight and on the website. RESOLVED, 1. That Regional School District Number 10 of the State of Connecticut appropriate THREE MILLION NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,900,000) for costs related to the installation of a multipurpose synthetic turf field and related improvements at Lewis S. Mills High School (the "Project"). The appropriation may be spent for design and engineering costs, including the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications, installation, construction, materials, demolition and removal of exiting materials, the acquisition and installation of related equipment, consulting fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings, other financing costs, and other
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4. That the Chairman of the Board of Education and the Treasurer, or such other officer or body to whom the Board delegates such authority, are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market

Action items continued	disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes. 5. That the Board of Education is authorized to approve the entering into of contracts for the Project, and the Board of Education, or such officer or body to whom the Board delegates such authority, is authorized to approve the expenditure of said appropriation and such other matters as it deems desirable or necessary to complete the Project. 6. That the Region 10 Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the Project. 7. That the Board of Education is authorized to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject grants for the Project. 8. That the Superintendent of Regional School District Number 10, the Chairman and Secretary of the Regional Board and any other proper officers or officials of the District are each authorized on behalf of the District to execute one or more applications for federal, state and other grants in aid and to accept or reject such grants on behalf of the District and to execute any and all necessary agreements and other documents in connection therewith. 6 in favor; none opposed; 3 abstentions; motion passed. ... Cassandra DuBois made a motion to pass the following resolution which was seconded by Melanie Wilhelm RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$3,100,000 FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A MULTIPURPOSE NATURAL GRASS FIELD AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS AT LEWIS S. MILLS HIGH SCHOOL; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE PORTION OF THE APPROPRIATION NOT DEFRAID BY GRANTS as distributed at the community meeting tonight and on the website. RESOLVED, 1. That Regional School District Number 10 of the State of Connecticut appropriate THREE MILLION ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,100,000) for costs related to the installation of a multipurpose natural grass field and related improvements at Lewis S. Mills High School (the "Project"). The appropriation may be spent for design and engineering costs, including the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications, installation, construction, materials, demolition and removal of exiting materials, the acquisition and installation of related equipment, consulting fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings, other financing costs, and other expenses related to the Project. The Board of Education is authorized to determine the scope and particulars of the Project. The Board of Education
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Action items continued	deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes. 5. That the Board of Education is authorized to approve the entering into of contracts for the Project, and the Board of Education, or such officer or body to whom the Board delegates such authority, is authorized to approve the expenditure of said appropriation and such other matters as it deems desirable or necessary to complete the Project. 6. That the Region 10 Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the Project. 7. That the Board of Education is authorized to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject grants for the Project. 8. That the Superintendent of Regional School District Number 10, the Chairman and Secretary of the Regional Board and any other proper officers or officials of the District are each authorized on behalf of the District to execute one or more applications for federal, state and other grants in aid and to accept or reject such grants on behalf of the District and to execute any and all necessary agreements and other documents in connection therewith. 8 in favor; none opposed; 1 abstention; motion passed. ... Cassandra DuBois made a motion to pass the following resolved which was seconded by Melanie Wilhelm RESOLVED, that the Board of Education recommends to the towns comprising Regional School District Number 10 that the aforesaid bond and temporary note authorization be approved by referendum vote; and that said referendum be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, that notice of said referendum be given by publication and posting between five and fifteen days before said date, and that said notices of the referendum in the Towns of Burlington and Harwinton be substantially in the following form: "WARNING" REFERENDUM VOTE Regional School District Number 10 Town of Burlington & Harwinton November 3, 2026 A referendum vote of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Burlington & Harwinton , Connecticut will be held in the Town of Burlington & Harwinton at the following polling places: Burlington Town Hall 200 Spielman Highway Burlington, CT Harwinton Town Hall 100 Bentley Dr. Harwinton, CT
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Action items continued	and simultaneously in the other Town in the District on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M. pursuant to Section 10-56 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, upon resolutions adopted by the Regional Board of Education which will be placed on the ballot labels as the following questions: “SHALL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 10 APPROPRIATE \$5,000,000 AND AUTHORIZE BONDS AND TEMPORARY NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT FOR HVAC REPLACEMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS AT DISTRICT SCHOOLS?” “SHALL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 10 APPROPRIATE \$14,935,000 AND AUTHORIZE BONDS AND TEMPORARY NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT FOR ROOF REPLACEMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS AT LEWIS S. MILLS HIGH SCHOOL, LAKE GARDA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND HAR-BUR MIDDLE SCHOOL?” “SHALL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 10 APPROPRIATE \$3,900,000 AND AUTHORIZE BONDS AND TEMPORARY NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A MULTIPURPOSE SYNTHETIC TURF FIELD AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS AT LEWIS S. MILLS HIGH SCHOOL?” “SHALL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 10 APPROPRIATE \$3,100,000 AND AUTHORIZE BONDS AND TEMPORARY NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A MULTIPURPOSE ENGINEERED NATURAL GRASS FIELD AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS AT LEWIS S. MILLS HIGH SCHOOL?” Voters approving said resolution shall vote “Yes” and those opposing said resolution shall vote “No”. Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk’s office. All in favor; none opposed; no abstention; motion carried as amended ... Proposal – Cooperative Wrestling Team: A motion was made by Scott Ragaglia and seconded by Matt Szydlo to accept/approve the proposal cooperative wrestling team. All in favor; none opposed; no abstained; motion passed
Board Committee Reports	<u>Athletic Strategic Planning</u> – The committee has not met. <u>Building Committee</u> – Have not met. <u>Curriculum</u> – The committee has not met.

	<u>Communication</u> – The committees next meeting will be to discuss an article for the school bell. <u>Facilities</u> – Held a joint meeting with finance committee in July. <u>Finance</u> – Met in July. <u>Policy</u> – Have not met. If there are any changes to policies, the committee will make sure the district is in compliance. <u>Security</u> –Have not met. <u>Superintendent's Evaluation</u> –Have not met. <u>Technology</u> – Have not met.
<i>Upcoming Meetings</i>	Board of Education Regular meeting; Monday, September 14, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the John A. Deeb Auditorium.
<i>Adjourn</i>	A motion was made by Scott Ragaglia and seconded by Cassandra DuBois to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. All in favor; none opposed; motion passed.



Cassandra DuBois, Secretary



Date

Board of Education Meeting Minutes are placed on our web page (www.region10ct.org) within seven (7) workdays following the Board of Education Meeting.

The minutes are marked as DRAFT, pending Board of Education approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

When participating in or attending a Board of Education meeting or reviewing minutes, please note that the Board of Education uses formats prescribed by Robert's Rules of Order for conducting meetings and publishing minutes.

Robert's Rules state, "Minutes are a record of what was done at a meeting, not a record of what was said." [RONR (11th ed.), p. 468, ll. 16-18] which is the standard for which board minutes strive. For this reason, the minutes will typically not reflect the discussion surrounding a motion, only its outcome.

Additionally, Robert's Rules in brief advises "The name and subject of a guest speaker or other program may be given, but no summary of the talk." [RONRIB page 149]

Both books can be found at our local libraries for anyone interested in more information.

