MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Education
Monday, September 14, 2026; 6:00 p.m.
Flanders Room
Mitchell Elementary School
Official Minutes - Board Approved – Monday, October 5, 2026

Committee Members Present:
Chris Matta, Chair
Alice Jones, Vice-Chair
Carol Ann Brown
Mike Carbonneau
Jim Crocker
Tim Drakeley

Absent:
Bridget Calabrese
Caren Lipinski

Also Present:
Brian Murphy, Superintendent of Schools
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 and Introductions

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and acquaintances were made

III. Approval of Minutes

A. **Regular Meeting, Monday, July 13, 2026**

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

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. 2026/2027 School Opening

Superintendent Murphy stated that we had a very successful opening to the school year. The elementary schools have already hosted music recruitment nights and athletics have begun at the middle and high schools. This is the first

year that NHS is part of the NVL for football and they began their season with a win against Oxford.

B. Region 14 Staff Update
Superintendent Murphy formally welcomed the district's new hires for the 2026/2027 school year.

C. NHS/WMS – Additional Parent/Teacher Conference Dates
Superintendent Murphy stated that the middle and high school would like to add additional parent/teacher conferences in March. Currently the conferences are only held once per year and we would like to increase that to twice per year. The middle school dates are March 8 and 10, 2027 and the high school date is March 24, 2027. Superintendent Murphy asks for a motion from the Board to approve these dates and the corresponding early dismissals for the school on those dates.

Motion
A motion was made by Chris Matta to approve the additional dates and corresponding early dismissals. The motion was seconded by Jim Crocker, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

V. Committee Reports

A. Curriculum Committee
On a recommendation by the Curriculum Committee to accept/approve the following curricula (Action Anticipated):

a. English 9 (Revision)
A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Mike Carbonneau to accept/approve the English 9 (Revision) curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously

b. Algebra 1A
A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Mike Carbonneau to accept/approve the Algebra 1A curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously

c. Chemistry: Matter and Energy
A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Mike Carbonneau to accept/approve the Chemistry: Matter and Energy curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously

d. AP Physics I
   A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Mike Carbonneau to accept/approve the AP Physics I curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously

e. 6th Grade Math
   A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Mike Carbonneau to accept/approve the 6th Grade Math curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously

f. 7th Grade Math
   A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Mike Carbonneau to accept/approve the 7th Grade Math curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously

g. 7th Grade Advanced Math
   A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Mike Carbonneau to accept/approve the 7th Grade Advanced Math curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously

h. 8th Grade Advanced Math
   A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Mike Carbonneau to accept/approve the 8th Grade Advanced Math curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously

i. Nutrition (6th Grade Culinary)
   A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Mike Carbonneau to accept/approve the Nutrition (6th Grade Culinary) curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously

j. What's Cooking (7th Grade Culinary)
   A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Mike Carbonneau to accept/approve the What's Cooking (7th Grade Culinary) curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously

k. Tasty Treats (8th Grade Culinary)
   A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Mike Carbonneau to accept/approve the Tasty Treats (8th Grade Culinary) curriculum as presented, 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 5141.3 Health Assessments and Immunizations
        - This is an existing policy updated to be consistent with CT Law, memorializing practices already in place
        - Starting the **2027–2028** school year, students in grades **9–12** must receive an annual health assessment before participating in interscholastic athletics, including a screening for serious cardiac conditions that could cause sudden cardiac death
        - Religious exemption for immunizations is available only if the family had it in place by **2021**

    b. Policy 6145.3 Student Clubs
        - This is a new policy which establishes clear guidelines for student clubs; distinguishing three categories: school-sponsored curriculum clubs, school-sponsored non-curriculum clubs, and non-school-sponsored clubs
        - The policy is grounded in the Federal Equal Access Act, ensuring students have equal access to form lawful clubs while setting requirements around staff involvement, sponsorship, outside organizations, advertising, fundraising, and administrator oversight
        - It is noted that even if a student requests a club, administration is not required to approve it — approval is subject to the values of the school district

C. Finance Committee
- Revenue collected: $8,277,552 (18.49% of budget)
- Expenditures: $7,641,404 (17.07% of expenditures)
- All financial benchmarks are on target
- The District is closing out the 2025/26 school year; Auditors are coming this week and we expect to be where we anticipated. The final audit report will be released in late December
- The state has started its audit of the high school renovation project and has requested documents, which the District is uploading to the state's portal. Once the state finalizes its review, the District expects to retire or refinance one bond using the remaining state funds
- The Secretary Union contract is the one negotiation on the horizon, due **July 1, 2027**; The bus contract runs through **2030**

VI. <u>Board Chair Comments</u>

Chairman Matta thanked Superintendent Murphy for his informative report. He was pleased to hear the start of the new year was smooth and the Board is happy with all the wonderful things happening in Region 14.

VII. Privilege of the Floor

There were no participants for Privilege of the Floor

VIII. Old Business

There was no Old Business brought before the board

IX. New Business

There was no New Business brought before the board

X. Region 14 Community Update

Carol Ann Brown wished to express how pleased she was at the turnout for the Agriscience Open House.

She reminded everyone about several upcoming fundraisers:

- The FFA Alumni Car Show which will be held on Sunday, October 4th . It is their biggest fundraiser and has come a long way from their first show 4 years ago.
- The GradNite Bottle/Can and Clothing Drive is scheduled for October 17th

XI. Other Business

There was no Old Business brought before the board

XII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Chris Matta and seconded by Jim Crocker to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 p.m., all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Effes
Board Clerk

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Kimberly Effes, Board Clerk
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