MEETING MINUTES

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.7
Newbury Library Media Center
Board of Education Regular Meeting
September 9th, 2026- 6:00pm.
APPROVED 10.14.26

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

1.0 Call to Order

Ms. Sexton Read called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

2.0 Public Portion

None.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

3.1 August 19, 2026, Regular BOE Meeting Minutes

MOTION by Noel Gauthier, seconded by, Kim Crone, to **APPROVE** the August 19, 2026, Regular Board of Education meeting minutes, as presented. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** Ms. Duran. **MOTION PASSED.**.

4.0 Reports

4.1 Student Representative Reports

- **Landon Nadeau & Mia Doyle:**
  - **School Climate & Transition:** Students are setting high goals and settling well into the new academic year. Observed a positive shift in student culture and strong, approachable support from teachers.
  - **Policy Enforcement:** Noted positive impact from strict, consistent cell phone enforcement in hallways and classrooms. Highlighted beneficial classroom instruction regarding responsible AI use.
  - **Athletics & Activities:** Fall sports are underway (Soccer, Cross Country, etc.). Senior privileges, courtyard ping-pong, class shirts, and officer elections are active.
  - **Upcoming Events:** New Hartford Night for the band, Student Council blanket sale fundraisers, and Read Across America and Haunted Hallway prep.

4.2 Principals' Report

- **Mr. R. Cornelius (Middle School):**
  - Smooth transition for 120 incoming 7th-grade students.
  - Successful Open House held on September 8th with strong family participation.
  - Upcoming internet safety and cybercrime parent/student presentation led by Scott Driscoll on September 18th.

- **Mr. G. Franklin (High School):**
  - Smooth start to the high school year following early-day assemblies covering AI guidelines, student conduct, and mutual respect.
  - Junior Board Member selection process concluded; Landon Nadeau selected to join Mia Doyle.
  - Administration and department chairs are developing a synchronized, transparent master activity and field trip calendar to manage instructional time effectively.
  - High School Open House scheduled for September 11, 2026 (6:30 PM – 8:30 PM).

4.3 Superintendent's Report

- **Superintendent S. LePage:**
  - **Regional Curriculum Alignment Proposal:** Met with EdAdvance (Lisa Bowden and team), regional superintendents, board chairs, and administrative leadership regarding a multi-year regional curriculum alignment initiative starting with K–12 Mathematics.The estimated cost for the curriculum work done by Ed Advance would be $40,000–$45,000 annually, with Northwestern's proportional share estimated at ~50–55% (~$22,000). Remaining costs distributed among elementary feeder districts. The next regional consensus meeting will be scheduled for October.
  - **Facility & Environment Enhancement:** Updates from the Hallway Committee. Recent aesthetic work includes clearing clutter, removing damaged posters/gridwork, brightening the main foyer, adding targeted bulletin boards, and prepping permanent branding/Vision of a Graduate graphics with Sign Pro.

  - **Facilities Audit:** As predicted the major items are the school roof, the roof HVAC systems, the Vo-Ag Green house, the ongoing retaining wall project, and window glazing. The Board is aware of these and is already in the process of coordinating the roof to be done.

4.4 Director of Finance and Operations

- **J. Gaskins:** Brief operational and facility status updates provided regarding summer capital completions and district account preparation for the fiscal year.

5.0 Old Business

5.1 Updates

- Continuation of Policy updating and First review of next batch.

5.2 2nd Reading and Action on Policies

The Board reviewed the following policies for second reading and formal action:

MOTION by Kim Crone, seconded by Lisa Fragale to **APPROVE** Policy #0100 Mission

Statement. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Kim Crone, seconded by Lisa Fragale, to **APPROVE** Policy #0521 Nondiscrimination, as amended. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Kim Crone, seconded by Lisa Fragale, to **APPROVE** Policy #3231 Medical Reimbursement for Special Education Students. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Kim Crone, seconded by Lisa Fragale, to **TABLE** Policy #3511 Compliance with 504 Regulations. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Kim Crone, seconded by Lisa Fragale, to **RESCIND** Policy #3516.2 Operations of School during Covid-19 Pandemic. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Kim Crone, seconded by Lisa Fragale, to **APPROVE** Policy #3520.13 Data-Based Information Management System. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Kim Crone, seconded by Lisa Fragale, to **APPROVE** Policy #3524.1 Pesticide Application and Integrated Pest Management (Replacing current Policies #3524.1 and #1322). **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Kim Crone, seconded by Lisa Fragale, to **APPROVE** Policy #3541.5 Transportation Safety Complaints (Replacing Policy #3549.9). **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION by Kim Crone, seconded by Lisa Fragale, to **APPROVE** Policy #3542 Free and Reduced Priced Meals. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

Note: Policy 0525.1 (*Grievance Procedure for Section 504, Title IX, Title VII*) was formally removed from the 2nd reading per Superintendent LePage's communication on August 20, 2026.

6.0 New Business

6.1 1st Reading on Policies (4000 Series)

- First reading presented for updates to the **4000 Series (Personnel Policies)**. No official voting took place; policies will move to a second reading at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

MOTION by Terri Kenneson, seconded by Noel Gauthier, to **CANCEL** the September 23, 2026, Regular Board of Education meeting. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**

7.0 Correspondence

None.

8.0 Opportunity for Public to Speak on Agenda Items

None.

9.0 Adjournment

MOTION by Noel Gauthier, seconded by Kim Crone, to **ADJOURN** at 7:25 pm. **AYE:** Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Ms. Kenneson, Ms. Crone, Ms. Fragale, Ms. Duran. **NAY:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION PASSED.**