

The Regular Meeting of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held on Monday, November 19, 2012 in the Nonnewaug High School Library, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, Connecticut.

Present: Superintendent Jody Ian Goeler; Board members Sophieazane Bartlett, George Bauer, John Chapman, Charles Cosgriff, John Swendsen, Gary Suslavich, Maryanne Van Aken and Pamela Zmek; Interim Director of Operations John Turk; Director of Buildings/Grounds Michael Molzon; and Board Clerk Debra Carlton  
Audience members included: NHS faculty member Katie Yocis, and two additional members of the community

I. Call to Order

Mr. Bauer called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Review of the Minutes

Mr. Bauer pointed out an error in the minutes of 10/15/12: in Ms. Zmek's Public Relation Committee report, the date of her upcoming meeting should read 11/20/12 and not 11/19/12. He requested *a motion to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting of October 15, 2012 as amended.* Entered by Mr. Chapman and seconded by Mr. Cosgriff, the **motion carried 6-0-2** with Ms. Bartlett and Mr. Suslavich abstaining.

III. Correspondence

None.

IV. Report from the Chairman

Mr. Bauer reported on his attendance at the CABE/CAPSS Convention last week, along with Ms. Zmek and Mr. Goeler. There were great ideas and strategies shared, opportunities for networking and ways to improve the schools. He enjoyed hearing from speakers such as Mary Broderick, Stephan Pryor and Gary Brochu. Common themes of shared resources and the abundance of materials to address Common Core initiatives, and keeping students in the forefront of all we do, were evident. He will share the information he brought back with everyone, as well as links to sites where more information is available.

Ms. Zmek agreed that the event was eye-opening, in that many districts share the same struggles as we do, but she also noted that we are doing many things right.

Mr. Bauer concluded by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

V. Report from the Superintendent

Mr. Goeler, likewise, enjoyed participating at the CABE/CAPSS Convention and agreed that a great deal of material is out there related to the Common Core; but, the challenge will be to mine those materials that will be best used here and to train teachers in how to implement them.

He also reported having sent revised MES ed specs to the architects.

He met with Literacy Specialists around aligning practices with Common Core standards.

He will meet with Angelo Casagrande around teacher evaluations and professional development committees.

Jonathan Costa's third session with the Strategic Planning Team was today, at which teacher/administrator evaluations were discussed.

He informed the board of the CAPSS Superintendents' Award Banquet last week, at which Leland Malloy and Karly Willis, for WMS, and Jake Vollmer and Emilie Cole, from NHS, were honored.

He attended a legal issues forum at which insurance and national health reform were covered; and, he attended Veterans' Day events at both elementary schools, adding that John Turk was honored at MES.

He and his leadership team did walk-throughs at BES today with Dr. Tony Rigazio-Digilio from CCSU. He thanked Tony for his work with the district, now in its 5<sup>th</sup> year, and also thanked the faculty and staff of BES for accommodating them today.

Teacher negotiations is ongoing, he said.

Regarding strategic planning, he said the group had devised mission statement and beliefs around three components: goals for learning, instructional practices aligned with curriculum and 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills, and assessments, including where gaps exist.

Discussion followed regarding these components, around who assesses alignment with the Common Core, what resources are available to teachers to prepare for this, and how administrators and content area specialists can facilitate the sharing of resources through PD, faculty meetings and other opportunities.

**VI. Privilege of the Floor (agenda specific)**

None.

**VII. Report from the Director of Finance and Operations**

Mr. Turk reported that packages for next year's budget have been sent out and are due back by 12/10/12.

**VIII. Committee Reports**

For Facilities: Mr. Chapman reported a good meeting last week, including progress with the gas contract, discussion of increased number of leaks in the middle school roof, and the bus contract.

For Finance: Mr. Bauer reported review of the status of the 2012-13 budget, special education reporting to the board, expenditures by vendor exceeding \$10,000, the auditor RFP, and Mr. Turk's suggestions as to summary information to be made available on the website.

For Planning: Ms. Van Aken reported having met tonight with Nate Levinson; other firms will also be looked at and her committee will report back to the board.

For Negotiations: Mr. Cosgriff reported 2 meeting thus far; proposals have been exchanged; dates of 11/29 and 12/10 have been established; and attendance has included 2 members each from Woodbury and Bethlehem Boards of Finance.

For Building: Mr. Bauer reported his committee saw topographical survey work and a presentation from Antinozzi Associates was discussed to include updated ed specs. Andy O'Brien presented information on space challenges at his school related to increased graduation requirements. Also, next steps for the elementary school proposals were discussed, and the next meeting will be on 11/27 at 6 pm.

**IX. Old Business**

None.

**X. New Business**

Mr. Turk reported having finalized the bus contract; however, he awaits confirmation of a location in each town where buses will be housed before the contract can be board approved.

On the topic of leaks in the middle school roof, Mr. Molzon was called on to provide detail on the extent of damage and options for pricing/financing, bonding v. phased repair work, warranties, and material options, including metal.

XI. Board Announcements

Mr. Suslavich noted that board meetings should not be scheduled on the same night as town meetings.

XII. Privilege of the Floor

None.

XIII. Executive Session

Ms. Van Aken entered the *motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's review*. Seconded by Mr. Swendsen, the **motion carried 8-0**.

XIV. Adjournment

Mr. Swendsen entered a *motion to adjourn*, seconded by Ms. Zmek. The **motion carried 8-0**. The meeting of the Board of Education adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Sophieane Bartlett, Secretary  
Regional School District #14 Board of Education

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Debra W. Carlton, Board Clerk, 11/20/12