

Minutes of the Planning Committee of the Board of Education
Regional School District 14 www.ctreg.14.org

A meeting of the Planning Committee of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held on February 10, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Central Office, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, Connecticut.

Present were Dr. Robert Cronin, Nonnewaug Interim Principal Kim Gallo, Mitchell Elementary School Principal Dawn Hochsprung and committee members Linda Bulvanoski, Chuck Cosgriff, Monica Gati and student observer Chris Moody.

Linda Bulvanoski called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Mrs. Hochsprung updated the committee on the progress being made in implementing Mitchell Elementary School's 2009-2009 School Improvement Plan. Topics discussed were literacy initiatives, literacy centers, new tone setting, more focused teachers, the student-data consultation team, Town Meetings, School Culture and the School Code. Teachers use the school code on a daily basis to teach students good moral behavior and the importance of making wise choices. Mrs. Hochsprung also commented on the success of the coupons students can earn for being good and redeem in the school store. The school has purchased a number of children's books that can be used in the classroom that emphasize an aspect of the code. Six teachers from M.E.S. have received professional development on the development of literacy stations in the classroom.

The committee discussed the following items:

1. High School Schedule- Mrs. Gallo presented to the committee an 8 period schedule that would include 4, 45 minute lunch periods and defended the merits of a schedule like this to staff, students and corollary teacher assignments.
2. Unified Sports- Mrs. Gallo updated the committee on the progress being made to implement a Unified Sports program at the High School.
3. Scholastic Art Awards- Mrs. Gallo made the committee aware of the changes that would take place in the submission process next year.
4. New Course Offering- Mrs. Gallo presented two new course offerings to the committee: Advanced Financial Banking (Level 2) and E-Commerce Entrepreneurship (Level 2).
5. New Course Descriptions- Mrs. Gallo presented the new course descriptions and leveling for Band and Chorus.
6. Strings Program- the committee decided to table any further discussion about a grade 3-5 strings program until the new Director of Music has been hired.
7. Summer Music Program- the committee had a brief discussion about the status of the summer music program and how the program had to enroll at least 30 students to pay teachers to sustain itself. In light of the current economic status the committee had some reservations. A suggestion was made to perhaps use some music students as mentors/aides to the program. The Summer Music program is not sanctioned by Region 14 and is a Parks and Recreation Department offering.

The meeting was adjourned by Linda Bulvanoski at 5:53 p.m.

Submitted,

Linda Bulvanoski

Regional School District #14 Board of Education