Board Members Present:
Thomas Fausel, Chairman
Bruce Guillemette, Vice Chairman
Paul Omichinski
Eleanor Parente
*Phillip Penn
John Vecchitto (Facetime)
Wendy Darasz
John Goodno

Absent:
Brooke Joiner
Phillip Penn
Assuntina (Susan) Baccaro

Also Present:
Alan Beitman, Superintendent
Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations
Cheri Burke, Director of Student Learning
Savanna Arcuri, Student Representative
Sam Dorman, Student Representative
Patricia George, Recording Secretary

I. Call to Order:
Board Chairman Thomas Fausel called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance:
Mr. Fausel led the pledge of Allegiance

III. Communications:
A. Student Representatives’ Reports:
In the athletic arena, it was reported that the Co-op Hockey team was participating in the state semi-finals this evening and the Swim team was headed to the state championships. The Boys’ Basketball team was participating in the state quarter finals this evening as well, with Campus Principal, Christopher Rau, in the audience and providing periodic updates.
Further newsworthy tidbits included comments on the recently held Cultural Extravaganza, SAT preparations, Spring/Winter Pep Rally, and several upcoming and recently attended field trips.

B. Superintendent’s Report:
   1. Update 2018/2019 Estimate of Expenses
      There are no changes to report since the prior meeting. The current Estimate of Expenses reflects an increase of $85,197 or .21%, which does not include new funds.

      Three items have yet to be resolved and require additional Board consideration. They include Wamogo tuition for students that have been waitlisted, the Board’s request to set aside $35,000 for studies regarding the future needs in Region 10, and Magnet School tuition.

IV. Approval of the Board of Education Minutes:
The following minutes were presented for approval:
   • Finance Committee Meeting, Saturday, February 3, 2018
   • Regular Meeting, Monday, February 12, 2018
   • Budget Workshop, Monday, February 26, 2018

A motion was made by Bruce Guillemette and seconded by Eleanor Parente to accept/approve the minutes as presented; all in favor; none opposed; John Vecchitto abstained; motion carried.

V. Consent Agenda:
A motion was made by Bruce Guillemette and seconded by Eleanor Parente to accept/approve the consent agenda items as presented. Items exhibited included:

   • Financial reports dated February 2018
   • A leave of absence requested by Brittany Root, Special Education Teacher, Harwinton Consolidated School
   • A leave of absence requested by Shayna Quinn, English Teacher, Lewis S. Mills High School
   • A notice of resignation submitted by Aaron Lynch, English Teacher, Lewis S. Mills High School
   • A notice of resignation submitted by Brittany Root, Special Education Teacher, Lewis S. Mills High School

For the record there were no retirements or appointments.

All in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.
VI. Public Participation:
Dawn Czepiel
George Washington Turnpike

Ms. Czepiel spoke on behalf of her daughter and other students who are currently waitlisted and are hoping to attend Wamogo.

Stacey Foote
Clearview Avenue

Read a speech composed by her son expressing his desire to attend Wamogo.

VII. Actions:
A. A motion was made by Wendy Darasz and seconded by Paul Omichinski to authorize the Superintendent of Schools on April 1, 2018 to set the date for the Lewis S. Mills graduation; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

B. On a recommendation by Ms. Susan Laone, the Director of Finance and Operations, a motion was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Bruce Guillemette to accept/approve the firm of Mahoney Sabol as the auditors for the 2017/2018 assessment in Region 10; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

C. A motion was made by Paul Omichinski to set the public hearing date as Monday, March 26, 2018 and to accept/approve an Estimate of Expenses for 2018/2019 in the amount of $39,903,904, which is inclusive of the additional $35,000 requested of the Board to perform a study regarding the future needs of Region 10. The motion also approved the requests of waitlisted students, who wish to attend Wamogo, without adding additional dollars to the budget. The motion was seconded by John Vecchitto. All were in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

D. A motion was made by Eleanor Parente and seconded by Bruce Guillemette to accept/approve the Washington, D.C. field trip as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

E. A motion was made by Bruce Guillemette and seconded by John Goodno to accept/approve the Quebec and Montreal Canada field trip as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Business:
A. Teacher Leadership Monthly Update

An in depth formal presentation outlining the need for additional early release dates for Professional Learning was prepared and presented by the Teacher Leadership Committee under the direction of Ms. Cheri Burke, the Director of Student Learning.
Currently, the district provides for three full days prior to the start of the academic year and three additional days spread across the remainder of the school year. The proposal is to add three additional early release days in the 2018/2019 school year, while maintaining the six full days currently afforded by the district. At the conclusion of the 2018/2019 school year, a survey would be conducted requesting staff feedback as it relates to the additional time and whether or not objectives were met.

Moving forward, a consideration for three additional early release days in the 2019/2020 school year would be solicited. The timing would allow the district to gradually restructure the calendar so that the communities and families can learn and understand what the days are actually being used for.

The final objective is to maintain six full days and six early release days with zero financial impact to the district. The number of requested Professional Development days are more in alignment with those across the state.

The proposal is an anticipated action item at the Board’s next regular meeting and is to include a calendar depicting the professional learning days.

B. NEASC Update

Chris Rau, Campus Principal, provided a sample schedule for the NEASC Fall 2020 schools of which Lewis S. Mills is a part. The NEASC, or New England Association of Schools and Colleges, is the organization which accredits all schools and colleges in New England every ten years.

C. Speaking on behalf of the committee, Bruce Guillemette indicated that members were tasked last year with evaluating an offer from the CCC and whether or not the district should move from the Berkshire League. At that time, and based on the information that was provided, including the pros and cons, there was not a compelling enough reason to move, but the committee did resolve to continue looking at that issue further because there were concerns regarding the continued viability of remaining with the Berkshire league.

At this point and after a substantial review, the committee unanimously recommends moving ahead with accepting the offer from the CCC effective with the fall of 2019/2020 school year.

It was reported that the Berkshire League is not doing well and there is a question about the longevity. The CCC would broaden student opportunities that is not currently viable with any other league.
The item is an anticipated action item at the Board’s next regular meeting.

IX. **Standing Board Committee Reports**
A. Facilities: Looking at situations
B. Curriculum: Have not met – plans are to meet at the beginning of May
C. Superintendent’s Evaluation: on track – added new component
D. Finance Committee:
E. CREC: Meeting with them over the next two Wednesdays
F. Technology: Next Technology Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 26, 2018 and 6:00 p.m.
G. Ad hoc Connecticut Conference Committee: noted earlier

X. *Upcoming Meetings*
Monday, March 26, 2018, Public Hearing
Monday, April 30, 2018 Annual meeting
*Schedule is based upon weather conditions*

XI. **Adjourn:**

A motion was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Bruce Guillemette to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Parente, Secretary

Date

For all agendas and minutes:

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

RSD10 Chair