

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Har-Bur Middle School
The Learning Center
26 LYON ROAD, BURLINGTON, CT 06013
Monday, June 11, 2018
7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Thomas Fausel, Chairman
Bruce Guillemette, Vice Chairman
Eleanor Parente
Wendy Darasz
John Goodno
Paul Omichinski (via Facetime)
Assuntina (Susan) Baccaro
John Vecchitto
Brooke Joiner
Phillip Penn

APPROVED
*8/20/18
mg*

Absent: N/a

Also Present:

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

- I. Call to Order:
Board Chairman Thomas Fausel called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 7:00 p.m.

- II. Mr. Fausel led the pledge of allegiance.

- III. Recognitions:
A recognition observance was held for the district's retiring staff members; the newly appointed, Teacher-of-the-Year and departing student representative, Savanna Arcuri. A token of appreciation was provided to all.

Also recognized were several athletes and athletic teams, who excelled at recent state level competitions, Aiden O'Connor for track with his 14' high jump for Class M and the crew team who medaled in several events.

Brief Recess 7:18

Returned 7:21

IV. Communications:

A. Student Representatives' Reports:

The end of the school year is quickly drawing to a close with many culminating activities underway including independent study presentations, the Brownstone senior trip, yearbook distribution, final exam preparations and the NHS and NFLS inductions.

B. Superintendent's Report

A review of the end-of-year school events was discussed with the concluding event, the Lewis S Mills graduation ceremony scheduled for June 21st at 6:30 p.m. at the Warner Theater in Torrington.

V. Approval of the Board of Education Minutes:

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education dated Monday, May 14, 2018

Special Meeting of the Board of Education dated Monday, May 21, 2018

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

VI. Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Eleanor Parente and seconded by Susan Baccaro to accept/approve the consent agenda as presented. Items exhibited included:

- A. Financial reports dated May 2018;
- B. A notice to retire in June of 2019 submitted by Linda Carabis, Director of Student Services
- C. The appointment of Caitlin Madia, 1.0 Special Education Teacher, Har-Bur Middle School with the start of the 18/19 school year
- D. The appointment of Stephanie Williams, 1.0 School Counselor, Har-Bur Middle School, with the start of the 18/19 school year
- E. The appointment of Ryan Cerniglia, 1.0 (One-year position) English Teacher, Lewis Mills High School with the start of the 18/19 school year
- F. The appointment of Mary Smuniewski, 1.0 English Teacher, Lewis Mills High School with the start of the 18/19 school year
- G. The appointment of Peter Bogen, 1.0 Dean of Students, Har-Bur Middle School with the start of the 18/19 school year
- H. The appointment of Rebecca Kennedy, 1.0 Dean of Students, Har-Bur Middle school with the start of the 18/19 school year
- I. The appointment of Andrew Skinner, .7 Music Teacher, Harwinton Consolidated School with the start of the 18/19 school year
- J. The appointment of Rachel Lacourciere, 1.0 Reading Teacher, Har-Bur Middle School, with the start of the 18/19 school year

For the record there were no leaves of absence or resignations.

All in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

VII. Public Participation

Christopher Rau

Addressed the issue of the CCC. Confirmed his support for the move and that it is a great opportunity for all athletes. That being said, he felt, in his capacity as that of principal, a duty to the parents and students to hear their opinions. He proposed a survey regarding the CCC and alternatives be held in the fall including students and parents in grades 7 through 11, and all full-time coaches at LSM.

Dwight Harris

His concerns regarding the actions in a video instigated an investigation, which did not yield a desired outcome. He felt he was not treated fairly and was bullied. Contributed lots of money to the district and is disappointed with the lack of dignity he was treated with.

VIII. Actions:

- A. A motion to authorize the Director of Finance and Operations to make line item transfers to cover line item deficits with the Superintendent's approval and that such transfers may not exceed the overall appropriation of the 2017/2018 budget without prior approval by the Board of Education was made by Phillip Penn and seconded by Bruce Guillemette; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.
- B. A motion to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to hire staff if needed after communication with the Board of Education Chairman was made by Eleanor Parente and seconded by John Vecchitto; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.
- C. A motion to cancel the July 9, 2018 regular meeting of the Board of Education was made by Phillip Penn and seconded by Susan Baccaro; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.
- D. A motion to accept/approve the Vision of Graduate as presented was made by Eleanor Parente and seconded by Brooke Joiner; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.
- E. A motion was made by Phillip Penn and seconded by Wendy Darasz to accept/approve the 2019 Spring Softball Field Trip to Florida;

Further Discussion:

The board had requested from last month's meeting that the team bring forth further information specific to sponsorships, pricing and fundraising. Approximated that the trip would cost \$1500 per player with 16-24 players participating including incoming freshman. Confirmed that there were no Region 10 dollars involved including coaches' salaries.

All in favor; none opposed; Bruce Guillemette and Eleanor Parente abstained; motion carried.

- F. A motion was made by Phillip Penn and seconded by John Vecchitto to accept/approve the FBLA National Conference Field Trip to Baltimore, MD as presented:

Further Discussion:

Faculty member and teacher chaperone Amanda Atwood was available and provided a brief commentary on the logistics of the trip.

All in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

- G. A motion was made by Phillip Penn and seconded by John Vecchitto to accept/approve the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee to adopt *Discovering Our Past: A History of the World, Early Ages (6-8)* and *Sur Le Vif: Niveau Intermediaire, 6th Edition* textbooks; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

- H. A motion was made by Phillip Penn and seconded by Bruce Guillemette to accept/approve the renewal of employment contracts for the Director of Student Learning and the Director of Finance and Operations; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

- I. Board Chairman Thomas Fausel reached out to the district's SRO Gene Torrence and Sgt. Bob Russell from Burlington shortly after the Parkland shooting occurred to ask questions on security as it relates to Region 10. One question proposed was whether or not they supported having armed personnel in the schools. It was recommended that the security guards be armed in each of the schools. Every guard is a former police officer of rank with the exception of one starting with the new school year.

Moving forward, three four-hour executive sessions were held with Board members, the first selectmen of Burlington and Harwinton, the SRO, representatives from state and local police, finance personnel, attorneys, and insurance agents.

Recommendations stemming from those meetings included:

- Arming the security guards in each of the schools starting in the fall

- Implementing the Stop the Bleed program for horrific situations where action is necessary to sustain life
- Physical enhancements to the facilities that would greatly aid our officers and first responders should a catastrophic event occur.

A motion was made by Phillip Penn to begin the process of arming the securing guards for the beginning of the 18/19 school year, to initiate the Stop the Bleed program on a voluntary basis with the district's staff, and to commit to making, in conjunction with the facilities committee and finance and operations, the physical enhancements to the buildings as proposed, seconded by Bruce Guillemette; all in favor; none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

A subcommittee will be established to look at this on a quarterly basis.

IX. Business:

A. Teacher Leadership Council Monthly Update

Doreen O'Sullivan thanked the board for allowing the council to be a standing agenda item every month. Met last week for the last time and identified new members. They are very proud of the work they have accomplished thus far. Three visitors from Stratford attended the meeting as they are embarking on a TLC program in their district.

B. 1:1 Initiative Update

Ms. Cheri Burke stated that the district is currently embarking on the launch of what the district is referring to as PLD, Personalized Learning Devices for all students at Lewis Mills High School. Every student will receive the Atlas laptop, a demo of which was shared with the Board members last month.

Device deployment is well underway. First shipment of student devices will be received on Monday. Support scheduled to be on site for two days and will be teaching the tech team everything from A to Z to ready the devices.

The staff will be offered a variety of ways to be prepared for the change in their instructional environment including providing live links for on-line tutorials for teachers who wish to engage in as well as a collaboration with the Microsoft Store every Tuesday morning for specific training.

C. Public Hearing Comments from meeting dated Monday, May 21, 2018

Mr. Fausel's opening statement addressed the bullying of several board members' children and their families since the vote to join the CCC. He said this should not and will not be tolerated.

He cited examples where the board has worked very hard with the administration for the community this year including:

- The smallest budget increase in over ten years coming in, at just .3%
- The new 1x1 computer initiative at LSM and district-wide technology improvements for middle school and elementary students.
- The enhanced security measures.

He felt it is extremely unfair and unwarranted to target board members' children and families when the actions of the board are taken by its members with the best interests of the community in mind as was the case with the CCC.

A dialogue to move to the CCC was had in March where it was discussed and explained and subsequently voted on at the April board meeting with a 6-3 vote in favor of the move. The application has been submitted to the CCC and subsequently accepted.

Mr. Fausel took the time to answer questions that were previously posed to the board.

X. Committee Reports:

A. Board Committee Reports:

1. Facilities: Expecting meeting next few weeks
2. Curriculum: A meeting was held last week, brought several books to the board for approval
3. Superintendent's Evaluation: Gathered all data, expected to meet soon
4. Finance: No meeting
5. CREC: No report
6. Technology: discussed earlier in the meeting
7. Ad hoc student involvement committee: Hopes to have organized soon

XI. Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Monday, August 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Learning Center

XII. Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m. was made by Bruce Guillemette and seconded by Eleanor Parente; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Eleanor Parente, Secretary

9/11/18
Date

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