

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 10**  
 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
**Zoom Webinar/Phone Conference**  
 Monday, July 13, 2020

**The Board of Education Meeting was held through Zoom online and could be viewed at the following link:**

*The link below was used to join the Board Meeting:*  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85055812802>

*or call:* 888-788-0099 Meeting ID: 850 5581 2802

**Board Members Present:**

- Bruce Guillemette, Chairman
- John Vecchitto
- Thomas Fausel
- Eleanor Parente
- Paul Omichinski
- Brooke Joiner
- Dean Cowger
- Scott Ragaglia

**Absent:**

- John Goodno
- Ania Stolarz

**Also Present:**

- Howard Thiery, Superintendent
- Vonetta Romeo-Rivers, Director of Teaching and Learning
- Dana Corriveau, Director of Student Support Services
- Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations
- Joseph Sousa, Director of Technology and Innovation

<b><i>Call to Order</i></b>	The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Bruce Guillemette at 7:00 p.m.
<b><i>Pledge of Allegiance</i></b>	The pledge was recited.
<b><i>Communications</i></b>	<b>Superintendent's Report:</b>

	<p>The primary emphasis this month has been preparing for the reopening of school and what that would ultimately look like. Those details are incorporated into agenda items of this meeting and the superintendent has reserved his comments for those occasions.</p>
<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	<p><b>Minutes:</b> Regular Meeting dated Monday, June 8, 2020</p> <p>A motion was made by John Vecchitto and seconded by Thomas Fausel to accept/approve the minutes as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>Consent Agenda</b>	<p><b>Consent Agenda items:</b></p> <p>A. Approval of the Financial Reports dated June 2020</p> <p>The June 30<sup>th</sup> numbers are preliminary as reported by the Director of Finance and Operations, Ms. Susan Laone; will continue the closeout process through the month of July; numbers will be final after audit.</p> <p>B. Personnel Report</p> <p>The Athletic Director position was recently noticed as a resignation and was not received in time to be included on the Personnel Report for July. The position posting has been circulated; Superintendent Thiery will consult with board members regarding the hiring process.</p> <p>A motion was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Eleanor Parente to accept/approve the Consent Agenda as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>Public Participation</b>	<p>There was no submitted public comment for tonight's regular meeting</p>
<b>Action Items</b>	<p>A. Board Officer Vote and Committee Chair Appointments</p> <p>Due to an occupation conflict, Board Chair, Bruce Guillemette, has been asked to step down from the Board of Education by his employer. Effective with the conclusion of tonight's meeting, Vice Chairman, John Vecchitto will assume the role of Chairman until the next Board officer election in December.</p> <p><b>Board Vice Chairman</b></p> <p>A motion was made by John Vecchitto and seconded by Paul Omichinski to nominate Brooke Joiner as Vice Chairman; no other</p>

nominations were cast; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

**Board Secretary**

A motion was made by John Vecchitto and seconded by Eleanor Parente to nominate Dean Cowger as Secretary; no other nominations were cast; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

**Finance Committee Chair**

A motion was made by John Vecchitto and seconded by Scott Ragaglia to nominate Eleanor Parente as Chair of the Finance Committee; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

**B. Secretarial Union Contract**

Discussions arose regarding agency fees. A request was made to obtain the number of staff members that fall under each of district's collective bargaining units and actual number of dues paying memberships.

Brooke Joiner provided the board members with an overview of the negotiating process and summary of the substantive changes and recommended that the board approve the contract as presented.

A motion was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Dean Cowger to accept/approve the Agreement Between Regional School District #10 and Regional School District 310 Support Staff Employees CSEA/SEIU, Local 2001 dated July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2023; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

**C. Proposed change to the 2020/2021 School Calendar**

A proposal to shift 2.5 approved professional development days to the start of the school year was requested by the Teaching and Learning group so that teachers have a full week to prepare for the safe opening of school. The first day of school will be Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup> and will remain a half-day. New Teacher Orientation will be reduced to one day, Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>.

It was suggested that February 12, 2021 represent one of the 2.5 borrowed professional development days; however,

	<p>Superintendent Thiery stated that Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> is a non-school day for students and is the beginning of a long weekend, which includes Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, Presidents' Day. It was suggested to find an alternate professional development day to preserve the February recess.</p> <p>A motion was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Eleanor Parente to accept/approve the revised 20/21 calendar proposals subject to a final decision on borrowed professional development days; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.</p>
<p><b>Business</b></p>	<p><b>A. Reopening Planning Update</b></p> <p>Health and Safety, Operations, Teaching and Learning, Student Services and Technology represent focus committees that have been established to address the opening of school in the fall. These groups report independently to the district's Steering Committee, which was devised to provide guidance to the focus groups around critical issues.</p> <p>A communication will be disseminated to the Region 10 families and communities in the coming days, depicting the vision for the opening of school, what the school day will look like and how will they operate. A survey will be included addressing whether students will be attending school, transportation decisions and lunch intentions.</p> <p>Superintendent Thiery asked each focus group leader to provide an update. A question and answer period followed each account.</p> <p>The goal is to keep the community updated as the work continues.</p> <p><b>B. Diversity and Equity Strategic Plan Update</b></p> <p>Since their last meeting, the Diversity and Equity plan was shared publicly. The next step will be to convert the plan into an actual action plan complete with dates, outcomes, and people involved so that it becomes a guiding document for the year.</p> <p><b>C. August BoE Meeting Schedule Discussion</b></p> <p>Thomas Fausel made a motion to schedule a special meeting on Monday, August 3, 2020 for the purpose of endorsing the district's reopening plan as requested by Superintendent Thiery; seconded</p>

	<p>by Paul Omichinski; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.</p>
<p><b>Board Committee Reports</b></p>	<p><b>Board Reports:</b></p> <p>A. Committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Facilities:</b> Committee is currently on standby; Paul offered their assistance to the Re-opening focus group</li>   <li>• <b>Curriculum:</b> Met on Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>; reviewed the strategic plan for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice. Discussion also included future curriculum instruction, social and emotional learning and a CREC audit of the district's curriculum. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>.</li>   <li>• <b>Superintendent's Evaluation:</b> Committee has met several times in varying formats; met with Superintendent Thiery to review the original goals and self-assessment; currently each member of the committee is writing up a summary and recommendations; plan to schedule a board member to present his evaluation.</li>   <li>• <b>Finance Committee:</b> No report</li>   <li>• <b>Technology:</b> Met on June 17<sup>th</sup>; working through the Technology Plan; integrated learning is the next phase. Reviewed the new website design and the recent acquisition of computers.</li>   <li>• <b>CCC Assessment</b> CIAC has everything scheduled, but it is a "wait and see" on the final rollout.</li> </ul> <p>B. Liaisons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CREC:</b> CREC has diminished its operating budget by 63 million dollars this year; about 14.5 million outside of construction; acting very responsible.</li>   <li>• <b>HB4 Diversity</b> Plan to meet again in August to look at strategic partnerships.</li> </ul>

**Adjourn**

A **motion** was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Scott Ragaglia to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 p.m.; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Paige  
Board Clerk

Approval:  Date: 8/9/20  
Dean Cowger, Board Secretary

Board of Education Meeting Minutes are placed on our web page ([www.region10ct.org](http://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