REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
The Learning Center
26 LYON ROAD, BURLINGTON, CT 06013
Monday, January 11, 2016
7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:
Phillip Penn, Chair
Paul Omichinski
Thomas Fausel, Vice Chair
John Vecchitto
Eleanor (Ellie) Parente
Brooke Joiner
Bruce Guillemette
Corey Rewenko
John Goodno

Absent:
Susan Baccaro

Also Present:
Alan Beitman, Superintendent
Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations
Cheri Burke, Director of Student Learning
Jenna Sadecki, Student Representative
Brian Drisdelle, Student Representative
Patricia George, Recording Secretary

I. Call to Order:
Phillip Penn called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 7:00 p.m.

II. Mr. Penn led the pledge of allegiance.

III. Communications:

A. Superintendent’s Report:
1. Superintendent Beitman read a thank you note received from recently retired staff member, Patricia McGlynn, in which she thanked the Board for her proclamation and gift certificate.
2. A presentation to the Board of Education members regarding the fiscal year 2015 audit results was heard. Michael J. VanDeventer and Lauren Blair of Mahoney Sabol CPAs and Advisors were on hand and
discussed the scope of the work, auditors’ reports, financial highlights, required communications, internal control related matters, and concluded their discussions with a brief question and answer period. Reports outlining the specific details of the audit are on file.

B. The student representatives’ reports, presented by Jenna Sadecki and Brian Drisdelle, included narratives on the upcoming mid-term exams, course selection for underclassmen, the National Honor Society “Thinkfest”, and the annual Senior Citizen Prom sponsored by members of the National Foreign Language Honor Society. Athletic events were also highlighted, with an emphasis on the Farmington Valley Generals hockey team’s 5 and 0 record.

IV. A motion was made by Bruce Guillemette and seconded by John Vecchitto to accept/approve the minutes from the regular meeting of the Board of Education dated Monday, December 14, 2015 as presented; eight in favor; none opposed; Eleanor Parente abstained; motion carried.

V. Consent Agenda:

A. A motion was made by Bruce Guillemette and seconded by Thomas Fausel to accept/approve the financial reports as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

It was noted by the Director of Finance and Operations, Susan Laone, that the special education costs were being scrutinized on a consistent basis in anticipation of a likely shortfall in the budget once the estimated revenue for excess cost is received from the state.

B. A motion was made by Eleanor Parente and seconded by Corey Rewenko to accept/approve the appointment of Sarah Urso as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

C. A motion was made by John Vecchitto and seconded by Eleanor Parente to accept/approve the leaves of absence as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

D. Resignations: n/a

E. A motion was made by Bruce Guillemette and seconded by Corey Rewenko to accept/approve the retirement of Bruce Burnett, a social studies teacher at Lewis S. Mills High School, with the conclusion of the 2015/2016 school year; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

VI. Public Participation:
There was no public participation.
VII. Actions:
A. A motion was made by Bruce Guillemette and seconded by John Vecchitto to accept/approve policy 5144, Use of Restraint and Seclusion as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

B. A motion was made by Thomas Fausel and seconded by Bruce Guillemette to accept/approve the Agreement between the Board of Education of Regional School District 10 and the Regional Education Association District #10 (READ 10) dated July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019 as presented;

Further Discussion
The salary grids will be revised to include the step numbers, and the gross wage increase and increases per step as a footnote.

Eight in favor; none opposed; Eleanor Parente abstained; motion carried.

C. A motion was made by Corey Rewenko and seconded by Paul Omichinski to accept/approve the budget transfers as presented;

Further discussion:
Budget line transfers in the amount of $344,147 were reallocated into a reserve account in anticipation of the shortfall in special education costs.

All in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

D. Two new courses were brought before the board for approval; Forensics and Engineering and Design. Ms. Cheri Burke, the Director of Student Learning, provided a snapshot of each of the courses under consideration.

On a motion made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Eleanor Parente to accept/approve the new courses as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Business:

A. Grade 5 Team Update/Review

Principal Kenneth Smith was invited back to the board to provide a mid-year evaluation of the 5th grade teaming approach that was implemented with the 2015/2016 school year. The concept was originally brought before the board in the spring. The rationale of the new configuration was to move grade 5 students and staff from the traditional, self-contained formation to that of a teaming approach. This would permit the students to slowly transition to the model utilized by students in the upper grade levels. The process has been well-received by both students and staff.
B. Policy 6165 Acceptable Use Policy & 6165A Acceptable Use Administrative Regulation

Both Policy 6165 and Administrative Regulation 6165A are before the board for a first review. The policy and its regulation relate to the use of the Internet. It is anticipated that the policy will be accepted and approved at the board meeting scheduled for February 8, 2016.

Mr. Thomas Fausel, Chair of the Technology Committee, provided a summation of the committee’s goals and objectives.

IX. Board Committee Reports
A. Committee Assignments
The Board Chair called for any changes regarding committee assignments. It was noted that John Goodno will participate on the Facilities Committee.

X. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Monday, February 8, 2016 in the Lewis S. Mills auditorium.

Board members were reminded that a board retreat was reserved for Saturday, January 16, 2016.

XI. A motion was made by Eleanor Parente and seconded by Bruce Guillemette to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 8:33 p.m.; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

John Vecchitto, Secretary

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