

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10**  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
**The Learning Center**  
**26 LYON ROAD, BURLINGTON, CT 06013**  
Monday, April 3, 2017  
7:00 p.m.

**Board Members Present:**

Phillip Penn, Chairman  
Thomas Fausel, Vice Chairman  
Corey Rewenko  
John Vecchitto  
Paul Omichinski  
Susan Baccaro  
Bruce Guillemette  
Brooke Joiner  
John Goodno \*(arrived 7:10 p.m.)

**Absent:**

Eleanor Parente  
Student Representative, Savanna Arcuri

**Also Present:**

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

- I. Call to Order:  
Board Chairman, Phillip Penn called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 7:00 p.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance:  
Mr. Penn led the pledge.
- III. Communications:
  - A. Student Representatives' Reports: (Brian Drisdelle)  
Student Representative, Brian Drisdelle reported that students were feeling hyped up with the tease of warmer weather and were also preparing for the on slot of SAT and CAPT testing. On the lighter side, a pep rally with an administration versus student dodge ball game was had, as well as students participating in Spirit Week. Science Olympiad and Math Team competitions were held and noted as being in good standing.

B. Superintendent's Report:

1. Update of the 2017/2018 Estimate of Expenses

Superintendent Beitman began his commentary by stating that there were no changes in the Estimate of Expenses.

He apprised the Board that kindergarten enrollment numbers continue to climb at both elementary schools translating to the possibility of having to add one, perhaps two, kindergarten teachers back into the Estimate of Expenses by the April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. If not then, perhaps over the summer. The April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, which will be held in the Lewis Mills Auditorium, has two parts; the first meeting is the public hearing and the second identifies a budget to send to referendum.

The graduation date has been set for June 21<sup>st</sup> at the Warner Theater in Torrington and the last day of school will be June 20<sup>th</sup>.

IV. Approval of the Board of Education Minutes:

- a. Special Meeting/Expulsion Hearing dated Wednesday, March 8, 2017
- b. Regular Meeting/Budget Workshop dated Monday, March 13 2017

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.

V. Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Corey Rewenko and seconded by Susan Baccaro to accept/approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Items exhibited were:

- Leave of Absence for Rebecca Kennedy, Assistant Principal, Harwinton Consolidated School, effective March 23, 2017;
- Leave of Absence for Julia McKenna, Kindergarten Teacher, Harwinton Consolidated School, on or about May 29, 2017;
- Leave of Absence for Kristen Rubin, English Teacher, Lewis S. Mills High School, on or about May 15, 2017.

For the record, there were no resignations, retirements, or appointments.

All in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

VI. Public Participation:

Melissa Haras

Ms. Haras addressed the Board advocating for more students to attend Wamogo. She has been in contact with multiple people at the state level regarding Equal Access and no one has an answer. She questioned the legality.

\*(John Goodno arrived 7:10)

VII. Actions:

A. Proposal for Grade Eight fieldtrip to Quebec & Montreal, Canada:  
This field trip has been offered successfully to students for several years. A motion was made by Corey Rewenko and seconded by Bruce Guillemette to accept/approve the Quebec & Montreal fieldtrip; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

B. Appointment of Auditor:  
Director of Finance and Operations, Susan Laone, recommended to the Board another year with the firm of Mahoney Sabol & Co, LLP indicating that they not only provide auditing services, but continue to challenge her and her staff.

A motion was made by Susan Baccaro and seconded by Bruce Guillemette to accept/approve Mahoney Sabol & Co, LLP for the 2016/2017 audit; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

C. Approval of the extension of the bus contract:  
Prior to this evening's meeting, the Finance subcommittee met to review a potential extension of the bus contract for up to five years with an option to go to market in the fourth year. It was the recommendation of the Finance committee to move forward with the adoption of the extension.

A motion was made by Thomas Fausel and seconded by Paul Omichinski to accept/approve the extension of the bus contract; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Business:

A. Teacher Leadership Monthly Update:  
Ms. Cheri Burke, the Director of Student Learning, introduced two teacher representatives from the Teacher Leadership Council, Alecia Bohan and David Sawicki, who shared what they have been doing at Har-Bur Middle School.

Mr. Sawicki stated that there was always a leadership meeting at the building level, but it is more teacher-centered now with Mr. Smith, the principal, turning over the reins. Overall, there has been a smoother transition in getting their voice out. He noted that the Har-Bur administration has been very supportive.

B. France Fieldtrip Proposal: Dr. Jodiann Tenney

The proposed trip to France would provide students with an authentic experience and an opportunity to visit with their Pen Pal School. The

itinerary was provided in the Board packet, along with other pertinent information.

Mr. Penn expressed his concerns about world climate and acts of terrorism, specifically Paris, and inquired whether the trip was structured in a way that if it had to be canceled, the money outlaid by the students and/or parents would be protected and if she had looked into trip insurance.

As an added security measure, Board member, Bruce Guillemette asked if there would be any contact with the American Embassy in Paris advising them of our presence in the country.

IX. Standing Board Committee Reports

A. Facilities: Paul Omichinski  
No Report

B. Curriculum Committee: Susan Baccaro  
Will be meeting on Wednesday

C. Superintendent's Evaluation: Paul Omichinski  
Last meeting – reported on interim status, next report in a couple of months.

D. Finance Committee: Phillip Penn  
Met to talk about the bus contract, which was discussed earlier in the evening.

E. CREC: No report

F. Technology: Thomas Fausel  
Met on the 20<sup>th</sup> of March, actively working to put together a three-year plan. Ms. Burke added that five or six staff members will be sharing with members of the Curriculum Committee, at their meeting on Wednesday, how they are integrating technology into their classroom and how they are using new technology to communicate with parents.

G. Ad hoc Central Connecticut Conference Committee: John Vecchitto  
Members of the committee endeavored to address questions that were brought to them. Mr. Vecchitto said they took their time and tried to be very reflective. Their analysis, and ultimate decision, was framed within the "Statement of Educational Goals for Region 10", Curriculum and Instruction and "Guiding Principles".

Topics discussed included, transportation costs, travel time, program and staffing costs, level of competition, Berkshire League, scheduled competitions, facility needs, community impact, and other schools' experiences to name a few.

In conclusion, it was the unanimous consensus of the committee that a league change at this point in time was not convincing.

A vote by the Board will take place at their meeting on Monday, May 8, 2017.

X. Upcoming Meetings:


Public Hearing & District Meeting, Monday, April 17, 2017

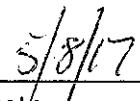
Annual Meeting, Monday, May 1, 2017

XI. Adjourn:

A motion was made by Corey Rewenko and seconded by Bruce Guillemette to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 8:01 p.m.; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Vecchitto, Secretary

  
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Date

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