

Region 10 Schools

Serving the Towns of Burlington and Harwinton

Board of Education
24 Lyon Road, Burlington, CT 06013
www.region10ct.org

Mission: Regional School District #10 provides a safe and respectful learning environment to promote academic excellence and personal growth. We work collectively to cultivate the skills and knowledge of our students to create inquisitive learners, innovative leaders, and responsible citizens.

Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education (Held by Zoom Webinar)
Monday, September 14, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

John Vecchitto, Chairman
Dean Cowger
Brooke Joiner
Paul Omichinski
Thomas Fausel
Eleanor Parente
John Goodno
Ania Stolarz
Scott Ragaglia
Scott Savelle

Absent: None

Also Present:

Howard Thiery, Superintendent
Vonetta Romeo Rivers, Director of Teaching and Learning
Dana Corriveau, Director of Student Services
Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations
Joseph Sousa, Director of Technology
Christopher Rau, Lewis Mills Principal
Jay Pelchar, Lewis Mills Athletic Director

- I. Call to order
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Chairman John Vecchitto

- II. Pledge of Allegiance
The Pledge was recited.

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III. Communications:

A. Superintendents Report

The Superintendent reported on a change in the Board Agenda structure and the Board discussed proposed changes to the Board Business and Action Items structure. There was consensus that any structure needed to clearly define agenda items as action items. The Board communicated that it is a best practice for items to be presented to the Board at the meeting prior to a need for a vote except where the Board determines otherwise.

The Superintendent asked the Board to let him know if they are not receiving the newsletters and announcements from the schools.

The Superintendent thanked the Board Chair John Vecchitto for doing a walk-through of the Middle School and High School campuses to observe the Covid Safety plan at work during a school day. The Superintendent also explained that in the event of a covid case in the school community a notification will be sent to the entire school community.

The Superintendent informed the Board that the District will be conducting tabletop contact tracing exercises for all of the schools over the next two weeks. Lastly the Board was told that there are professional development opportunities that will be shared with them and if they are interested, they can let the Superintendent know and he will assist in getting them registered.

IV. Approval of the Board of Education Minutes for: (Enclosure 1)

A. Minutes BOE Official Meeting August 24, 2020

A motion to accept the Minutes of the 8/24 Board Meeting was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Ellie Parente.

The Board asked that corrections be made as follows:

- the reference to the date of the next meeting be changed to 9/14
- the number of students in the description of the hybrid model attendance be changed to 248
- that the Board Vote on the MOU with READ 10 reflect that Ellie Parente abstained Paul Omichinski made a motion to amend his prior motion to accept the minutes with the revisions as described, Ellie Parente seconded.

The Board vote was unanimous the motion passed.

V. Consent Agenda:

A. Approval of the Financial Reports dated: (Enclosure 2)

Paul Omichinski made a motion that the Board accept the financial report as presented and Scott Ragaglia seconded. John Vecchitto asked about the tuition line showing a negative projected balance. Director of Finance and Operations Sue Laone explained that this line is currently negative because it does not reflect Excess Cost Grant funds that will be received later in the year.

The Board vote was unanimous the motion passed.

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B. Personnel Report: (Enclosure 3)

A motion was made to accept the personnel report by Ellie Parente and seconded by Scott Ragaglia.

The Board vote was unanimous the motion passed.

VI. Public Participation - The Region 10 Board of Education welcomes public participation.

There was no public comment submitted.

VII. Old Business:

A. School Reopening Update

The Superintendent reported that this week we have transitioned grades K-6 to fully open for all students. In two weeks, on 9/28, we will transition grades 7-12 back. The current regional and local data still supports these transitions to schools being fully open. Mr. Thiery recognized and thanked the tremendous commitment to the safety systems on the part of students, staff and faculty.

VIII. New Business

A. Fall Athletics Plan (Enclosure 4)

Chris Rau, Lewis Mills' Principal, presented the Fall Athletic Plan to the Board. Chris thanked the Athletic Director Jay Pelchar for all the work he put into the plan. The plan is based on the Region 10 School Reopening plan as well as guidelines for individual sports from the DPH and CIAC. Mr. Rau highlighted that girls' volleyball will play indoors but they will wear masks during practice and games to mitigate the risks of indoor play.

Two new coaches for Crew were recently hired and they are only practicing on dry land. All major competitions have been cancelled.

Cheerleading has started practicing but they will not do any group stunting in order to maintain social distancing.

The DPH has said they cannot support 11 v. 11 full contact games or full contact practices this fall. The CIAC has not yet issued guidance on what types of football activities will be permitted moving forward in light of the DPH position.

Our fall teams will be playing in smaller "pods" of five other teams to keep play more local and contained.

A motion to accept the Fall Athletic Plan was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Ania Stolarz.

The Board discussed that there is also a spring Crew season.

The Board discussed the plan, particularly what may be allowed to happen for football and the unknown nature of that at this point in time. The Superintendent advised that the Board vote on the plan as presented, which has no football activities beyond the current training activities that reduce the risk.

The Board discussed whether they needed to amend the motion due to the open ended nature of the information about football. Mr. Thiery advised that they could proceed with this motion because the plan is up to date at this time and does not

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include any plans for football competition or full contact practice. If this were to change administration would need to come back to the Board with an updates plan for approval.

The Board vote was unanimous the motion passed.

IX. Board Reports:

A. Committees:

1. Facilities

Has not met will schedule a meeting for the week of 9/21

2. Curriculum

Is meeting on 9/15 at 4:30 will discuss the Personal Finance Courses and class rank.

3. Superintendent's Evaluation

Has not met since last meeting

4. Finance Committee

Chairs are meeting with Sue Laone and Howard Thiery at the end of September and anticipate a full committee meeting in October.

5. Technology

Will schedule a meeting on 10/5 at 6:00 pm

6. CCC Assessment

Has not met since the last meeting.

B. Liaisons:

1. CREC

John Vecchitto provided information related to his report from the August meeting. CREC will receive 8 million dollars per year over five years for running the Head Start program for the greater Hartford region.

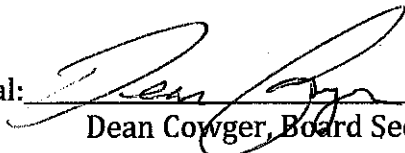
X. Upcoming meetings:

Regular Meeting; Monday October 5, 2020; 7:00 p.m.

XI. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:29

Approval:


Dean Cowger, Board Secretary

Date:

10/13/20

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.

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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

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