

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
JANUARY 11, 2010
THE LEARNING CENTER**

Board Members Present:

Joseph Arcuri – Chairman
Noel Carmody
Kathy Deprey
Jeanne Doerr
Beth Duffy
Paul Omichinski
Phillip Penn – Departed at 9:05 pm
Ted Scheidel
Elaine Schiavone
Raymond Sikora - Vice Chairman

Absent:

Also Present:

Alan Beitman	Superintendent of Schools
Michael Landry	Assistant Superintendent
David Lenihan	Business Manager
Stephen Sikora	Student Representative
Jordon Brault	Student Representative

<p>Chairman of the Board, Joseph Arcuri, called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:35 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p>
<p><u>Superintendent's Report:</u> Mr. Beitman presented a status report of the 2009-2010 Estimate of Expenses.</p> <p><u>"Novice" Crew Coach Recommendation:</u> Mr. Beitman explained that Lewis S. Mills High School currently has approximately sixty-six (66) crew athletes. These students practice primarily on the water. With this many participants on the water at once, safety concerns have been expressed. Therefore, Mr. Beitman recommended creating a "novice" crew coach position. A "novice coach" would be below an assistant coach. Mr. Beitman explained that the pay for this coach would be \$2,000 per season. The Booster Club has agreed to donate \$1,000 for the spring season. Therefore, the cost to the Board for the 2009-2010 spring season will be \$1,000. He said that he wanted to move quickly on this in order to allow for ample recruitment time. He went on to explain that in the 2010-2011 budget he would be requesting \$4,000 to cover both the fall and spring season.</p> <p><u>Emails and Letters:</u> Mr. Beitman shared an email he received from Ms. Karen Sullivan thanking the Board for the lovely gift. In addition, she expressed gratitude for their close working relationship during her time as a Region 10 Board of Education member.</p>	<p>COMMUNICATIONS</p>

<p>Mr. Beitman shared a letter which he received from Mr. Robert Dunn, President of the Football Booster Club. Mr. Dunn wrote that the Football Booster Club is willing to forgo the scheduled additional funding from the Board of Education 2010-2011 school year because he is aware of the difficult challenges facing the school district.</p> <p><u>Student Representative Reports:</u></p> <p>Mr. Steven Sikora reported that Jam Fest was held and was a great success. He said there were six (6) bands that competed. The Lewis S. Mills High School Student Council hosted Jam Fest. He went on to report that mid-term exams are scheduled for the week of January 12th. Mr. Jordan Brault reported that on Monday, January 4th students received class sign up forms for the 2010-2011 school year. He also reported that Lewis S. Mills High School would be featured on WFSB Channel 3's Cool Schools Segment on Friday, January 15th.</p>	
<p>A motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board of Education Meeting of December 7, 2009, the financial report dated December 31, 2009, and the leave of absence for Mr. Anthony Mitchell, Lewis S. Mills science teacher, for the remainder to the 2009-2010 school year was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mrs. Duffy. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (10/0/0)</p>	<p>CONSENT AGENDA</p>
<p>Mrs. Cathy Bergstrom, First Selectman Town of Burlington, asked about Region 10's stance on tracking in the upper schools since the State Department of Education recommends the removal of this type of tracking. Mr. Beitman explained that Region 10 supports the elimination of this kind of tracking of students because studies show that when it does not exist, students tend to challenge themselves more. Ms. Niehoff stated that the administration and teachers at the high school feel that all students should have access to all courses provided they have the background to support it. They strongly encourage students to challenge themselves.</p> <p>Mrs. Amy Palumbo, Town of Burlington, spoke in support of the addition of a "novice" crew coach.</p> <p>Mr. Mark DiOrio, Town of Burlington, indicated that he had used some software programs that support the college application process and he found them to be very helpful. Therefore, he asked the Board if there might be some interest in forming a subcommittee to evaluate these types of programs for their use at Lewis S. Mills High School. He commented that several schools already use this type of software. Mr. Beitman asked Mr. DiOrio to meet with the high school administration and then they could make a recommendation to the Board.</p> <p>Mr. Arthur Symonds, Lewis S. Mills Social Studies teacher, introduced himself to the new Board members as the teacher liaison to the Board.</p>	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p>

Lewis S. Mills Varsity Girls' Lacrosse Approval:

Mr. Tanner, Region 10 athletic coordinator, circulated details regarding the Lewis S. Mills Girls' Lacrosse program which included the participation rate and finances. He reported that last season there were twenty-one (21) participants and the cost was about \$300 - \$350 per athlete. He explained that the numbers were included in the budget that was presented last year. He requested approval of a varsity team at this time. He indicated that as the numbers increase he would look into asking for approval of a junior varsity program.

A **motion** to approve a Lewis S. Mills varsity girls' lacrosse team was made by Mr. Sikora and was seconded by Ms. Schiavone. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (10/0/0)

Approval of the Lewis S. Mills Model U. N. Field Trip for the Social Studies Club:

Mr. Beitman recommended that the Board approve the Model U.N. trip.

A **motion** to approve the Lewis S. Mills Model U.N. field trip for the Social Studies Club was made by Mrs. Duffy and was seconded by Ms. Deprey. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (10/0/0)

Approval of the Har-Bur Middle School Student Council Extended Field Trip to Washington D.C.:

Mr. Beitman recommended that the Board approve the Har-Bur Middle School Washington D.C. field trip for the student council.

A **motion** to approve the Har-Bur Middle School student council extended field trip to Washington D.C. was made by Mr. Penn and was seconded by Mr. Sikora. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (10/0/0)

Approval of the Lewis S. Mills Graduation Site:

Mr. Beitman recommended that the Board approve the graduation site of The Warner Theater for the Lewis S. Mills 2010 graduation ceremony. He explained that the exact date would need to be determined after April 1, 2010 due to state statues.

A **motion** to approve the 2010 graduation site of The Warner Theater was made by Mr. Penn and was seconded by Ms. Deprey. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (10/0/0)

Approval of the Agreement between the Board of Education and The Region 10 Administrators' Association from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013:

Mr. Beitman commended the administrators for their professionalism and for negotiating their contract in just one (1) session. He commented that they came to the negotiations with the understanding that this was a very difficult time. He thanked them for stepping up as professionals. Mrs. Duffy expressed appreciation for the administrators' willingness to do what was right for the district. Mr.

Omichinski echoed Mrs. Duffy's sentiments.

Mr. Lenihan summarized the salary schedule as follows:

Year 1 - 0% in the first year and no step movement

Year 2 – step movement plus GWI (general wage increase) for a total increase of 3%

Year 3 – step movement plus GWI for a total increase of 2.99%

Year 2 & 3 health care premium cost shares were increased by 1% each year

In addition, all administrators agreed to participate in the high deductible (HSA) insurance plan beginning in year 1.

A **motion** to approve the agreement between the Region 10 Board of Education and the Region 10 Administrators' Association from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013 was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mrs. Duffy. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (10/0/0)

Approval of the agreement between the Board of Education of Regional School District #10 and the Region 10 Education Association from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013:

Mr. Beitman complimented the teachers and the negotiation team for their professionalism and for understanding the environment that the district is operating in. Mrs. Duffy commended the teachers for making a sacrifice as a whole in order to preserve teacher's jobs in the district.

Mr. Lenihan summarized the salary schedule as follows:

Year 1 – Hard freeze no salary or step increases

Year 2 – step increases and teachers on the maximum step will get a 1/2 % increase for a total increase of 2.97%

Year 3 – no step increases and across the board GWI for a total increase of 3%.

Year 2 & 3 health care premium cost shares were increased by 1%each year.

In year 2 & 3 there are also adjustments to insurance co-pays.

A **motion** to approve the agreement between the Board of Education of Regional School District #10 and the Region 10 Education Association from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013 was made by Mr. Sikora and was seconded by Mrs. Duffy. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (10/0/0)

Mrs. McGlynn spoke to the Board. She stated that this district has a history of freezing teachers on their steps even during better times. She stated that the teachers of Region 10 feel this is demoralizing. She reported that some teachers have been frozen on a step four (4) times now. She reported that she would be conducting a survey of teachers asking what step they are currently on and what step they should be on. She will then present the information to the Board.

<p><u>Approval of the Har-Bur Middle School Schedule for 2010-2011:</u> Mr. Beitman recommended that the Board move to approve the restructuring of the middle school schedule so that staff at the middle school can move forward in a timely fashion to build schedules for next year.</p> <p>A motion for preliminary approval of the Har-Bur Middle School schedule change was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mrs. Duffy. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)</p> <p><u>“Novice Crew Coach Recommendation:</u> Mr. Beitman recommended the approval of a novice crew coach position for the spring of 2010 crew seson.</p> <p>A motion to approve the addition of a novice crew coach was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mrs. Duffy. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)</p>	
<p><u>Lewis S. Mills Football Update:</u> Mr. Tanner introduced the head football coach, Mr. Peter Flammia. Mr. Tanner reported that the Lewis S. Mills football team has been accepted into the Pequot League. There are currently twenty-one (21) schools in this league. Mr. Flammia indicated that they had a great season. He said that the athletes grew throughout the season both in school and on the field. He reported that the home game was very well attended and there was a great deal of support with 770 tickets sold. Mr. Tanner commended the football coaches for their strength in addressing any issues that arose and stated that this contributed to a successful season. He indicated that approval of a varsity and junior varsity football team would come before the Board later this spring. Mr. Beitman commended Mr. Tanner for the outstanding work he is doing as the athletic coordinator. Mr. Tanner thanked the Board for their support throughout the process. Mr. Flammia also thanked the Board for their support.</p>	BUSINESS
<p><u>Board of Education Goals Committee:</u> In Mr. Penn’s absence, Mr. Beitman presented one of the goals that the committee developed. He stated that any questions could be presented to Mr. Penn.</p> <p><u>Board of Educaiton Ad Hoc Committee on Co-Curricular Activities:</u> Mr. Arcuri reported that the committee put together a document illustrating the cost to of each activity for each student.</p> <p><u>CREC:</u> Mrs. Duffy reported that the council would be meeting next week.</p> <p><u>Curriculum Committee:</u> Mr. Sikora reported that the Curriculum Committee met. Mr. Dorgan, social studies coordinator, presented five (5) booklets which he intends to be used in third grade next year. Mr. Sikora reported that Ms. Barlowski, math coordinator, presented the committee with a</p>	COMMITTEE REPORTS

statics/trigonometry course that she would like to see implemented next year. He also reported that Mr. Grigociewicz, science coordinator, presented the AP biology textbook and he discussed the addition of a level 1 anatomy and physiology course next year at Lewis S. Mills High School.	
A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mr. Sikora. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries (9/0/0) The meeting ended at 9:50 pm.	ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanne Doerr, Secretary

Date 3/8/10