

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
November 7, 2011  
REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
THE LEARNING CENTER**

**Board Members Present:**

Joseph Arcuri, Chairman  
 Jeanne Doerr  
 Beth Duffy  
 Kathy Deprey  
 Paul Omichinski  
 Phil Penn  
 Ted Scheidel  
 Elaine Schiavone  
 Ray Sikora, Vice Chairman  
 Noel Turner

**Absent:**

**Also Present:**

Alan Beitman            Superintendent of Schools  
 Michael Landry        Assistant Superintendent  
 David Lenihan        Business Manager  
 Rebecca Spitz        Student Representative  
 Matthew DiSorbo     Student Representative

<p>Chairman of the Board, Joseph Arcuri, called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:33 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p>
<p><b><u>Invited Town Officials:</u></b>        Mr. Beitman explained that each year town officials are invited to the regularly scheduled November Board of Education Meeting to offer their views on the development of the following year's estimate of expenses.         Mrs. Cathy Bergstrom, Town of Burlington First Selectman, indicated that she understands that the Board works hard to balance quality education with responsible spending and she knows that a good education begins in the classroom, therefore, she would like Board Members to look at non-classroom positions when considering reductions.         Mr. Frank Chiamonte, Town of Harwinton First Selectman, said that Harwinton officials would prefer to see no increases. He reported that there was little that had changed in Harwinton over the past year. He indicated that he feels that the Board of Education needs to hold the line when planning the 2012-2013 Estimate of Expenses.         Mr. Art Johanson, Chairman of the Burlington Board of Finance, thanked the Board for the fine job they did last year. He commented that he is looking for the Board to do even better this year. He reported</p>	<p><b>INVITED GUESTS</b></p>

<p>on upcoming projects in the Town of Burlington and he asked Board Members to do as well as they did last year or better.</p> <p>Mr. Peter Thierry echoed what Mr. Johanson said. He asked that the Board do as well as they did last year or better. He reported that the grand list has seen very little increase and the Town of Harwinton has some projects coming up with no capital increase.</p> <p>Mr. Roger Powell, Town of Burlington Board of Finance, indicated that Burlington's grand list remains the same this year as last.</p>	
<p><b><u>Student Representative Report:</u></b>  Miss Rebecca Spitz reported that on October 27 Lewis S. Mills High School supported a campaign entitled "Say the Word to End the Word". Students signed a large banner promising to no longer use the "r word". She reported that students enrolled in Chinese classes will be taking a trip to Chinatown in New York City to visit a Chinese museum and to dine on authentic Chinese food. The Fall Drama Production has been rescheduled to Nov. 18 &amp; 19 and the Mr. Mills competition has been rescheduled to Dec. 10. Mr. Matt DiSorbo reported that the boy's and girl's cross country teams competed in the Class M championship and the boy's team placed 4<sup>th</sup> out of 22 teams. Kevin Sullivan qualified for the state open. The girls placed 16<sup>th</sup> out of 21 teams and Stephanie Deccy finished 4<sup>th</sup> out of all runners and will compete in the girl's state open. He also reported that the first senior sponsored Courtyard Dance was very well attended and that everyone had a good time. Mr. DiSorbo reported that the Lewis Mills 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration was held and was a great success. Finally on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> Senior Halloween was celebrated and seniors showed off their creativity and wit by dressing in funny and creative costumes.</p> <p><b><u>Superintendent's Report:</u></b>  Mr. Beitman indicated that everyone's focus the past week has been on the storm and the cancellation of school. He reported that just prior to the storm, the State Department of Education met to discuss the lawsuit and he reported that a mediator will soon be assigned to hear the arguments sometime in the coming weeks on the responsibilities for public schools to pay for pre-school and magnet half-day tuition.</p>	<p><b>COMMUNICATIONS</b></p>
<p><b><u>Consent Agenda:</u></b>  A <b>motion</b> to approve the financial report dated October 31, 2011 was made by Mr. Sikora and was seconded by Mrs. Duffy. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries (9/0/0)</p>	<p><b>CONSENT AGENDA</b></p>
<p>There was no public participation.</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b></p>
<p><b><u>Approval of Funding for Lewis S. Mills High School Overnight Fieldtrip for Social Studies Club to the National High School Model United Nations:</u></b>  Mr. Beitman reminded the Board that this field trip is a reoccurring field trip. He indicated that at the October meeting the Board decided that reoccurring field trips would come before the Board for just one meeting for approval. Only newly proposed field trips would be brought before</p>	<p><b>ACTION</b></p>

the Board for two meetings. He indicated that this field trip is a reoccurring field trip.

A **motion** to approve the Lewis S. Mills High School field trip for the Social Studies Club to the National High School Model United Nations and to approve funding in the amount of \$300 for bus transportation was made by Mr. Sikora and was seconded by Mrs. Duffy. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)

**Approval to hold Regular School Days on Nov. 10, February 21, and March 16:**

Mr. Beitman explained that as a result of the unusually long weather-related school closings during the week beginning October 31, 2011, he and the administration recommend that school be in session on November 10, 2011, February 21, 2012 and March 16, 2012. He further explained that February 21 would have been a vacation day and that November 10 and March 16 would have been professional development days. He reminded the Board that last year the 2011-2012 school year calendar was revised to include the phrase "the Board of Education reserves the right, under unusual circumstances, to consider scheduling a regular school day on February 21, March 16, and/or April 16-20, beginning on Monday, April 16". He commented that he would like to hold off, for now, on adding days to the April vacation.

The Board discussed other options for adding additional school days including adding back Veteran's Day and January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Beitman commented that he would look into exploring these and other options.

A **motion** to approve a revision to the 2011-2012 school year calendar to include November 10, February 21 and March 16 as regular school days was made by Mr. Sikora and was seconded by Ms. Schiavone. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)

**Review of Revised Policies and Regulations:**

Mr. Beitman indicated that each year during the legislative session new state statutes are developed and as a result policies need to be revised. The revisions to the policies listed below are the result of changes to existing state laws. He asked that the Board members review all of the revised policies and regulations and if they have any questions to please contact him. The policies and regulations are:

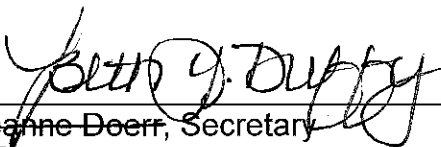
- Policy #5152 Bullying/Guidelines For Safe School Climate Plan
- Policy #5114 Student Discipline
- Administrative Regulation #5115A Student Attendance and Truancy
- Policy #1500 Award of Diplomas to Veterans
- Policy #5122 Weighted Grading
- Administrative Regulation #5125A Education Records

Mr. Beitman further explained that in each of the policies/regulations listed below the revision was limited to the addition of the language "gender identity or expression" whenever the policies refer to the

**BUSINESS**

<p>various protected classes of people.</p> <p>Policy #4111.1 Equal Employment Opportunity  Administrative Regulation #4111.1A Procedure for Employee Complaints of Discrimination  Policy #4118.10 Sexual and Other Unlawful Harassment  Administrative Regulation #4118.11A Sexual and Other Unlawful Harassment - Personnel  Policy #5118 Equal Educational Opportunity  Administrative Regulation #5118A Equal Educational Opportunity  Policy #5150 Sexual and Other Unlawful Harassment of Students.  Administrative Regulation 5150A Sexual and Other Unlawful Harassment of Students</p>	
<p><b>CREC:</b>  Mrs. Duffy reported that for the first time since she began serving on the CREC council they did a very comprehensive overview of all of the CREC magnet schools, including where the students come from, where they are at now, tuition cost, etc. She indicated she has the information for anyone who is interested in reviewing it.</p> <p>She reported that the lawsuit is being watched very closely by many school districts. They are all waiting to see where it goes with great interest. Mr. Bruce Douglas, Executive Director of CREC, brought up the half-day program at the last meeting and commented that it is not really a half-day program, he seemed to be justifying it a bit. She also reported that there is a lot of talk about economizing through shared services and that there is a push for a common calendar because of magnet schools and the number of students coming from other districts to attend magnet schools. The State has a template and she suggested that Region 10 consider the template when developing future calendars.</p>	<p><b>COMMITTEE REPORTS</b></p>
<p>A <b>motion</b> to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Penn and was seconded by Mrs. Turner. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)</p> <p>The meeting ended at 8:36 pm.</p>	<p><b>ADJOURN</b></p>

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeanne Doerr, Secretary  
**BETH L. DUFFY**

12/12/2011  
Date