

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
January 14, 2013
REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
THE LEARNING CENTER**

Board Members Present:

Joseph Arcuri, Vice Chairman
Susan Baccaro
Beth Duffy
Theresa Foley
Paul Omichinski
Ted Scheidel
Elaine Schiavone
Ray Sikora, Chairman
Noel Turner

APPROVED

Absent:

Phil Penn

Also Present:

Alan Beitman	Superintendent of Schools
Robert Choiniere	Director of Student Learning
Susan Laone	Director of Finance & Operations
Matthew DiSorbo	Student Representative
Katie Hurlock	Student Representative

<p>Chairman of the Board, Raymond Sikora, called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:02pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p>
<p>Rick Keegan – Expressed an interest in resolving the issue of the availability of field space for the Lacrosse team to practice and play on. He said he would like more transparency and expressed an interest in working together in order to find a time and a place for the students to play.</p> <p>Upon the superintendent’s request, Mr. Tanner updated the audience and Board on the Lacrosse field use issue. Mr. Tanner explained that he approached both the Town of Harwinton and the Town of Burlington to request field space. Mr. Tanner said he has a plan but the plan will require the Town of Burlington and the Town of Harwinton to work with them.</p> <p>Lacrosse Coach Patrick Schmidt explained what they are looking at with regard to practice and game availability. He explained that plans are contingent upon the Towns of Harwinton and Burlington working with them.</p> <p>Rick Keegan asked if there is any field space on Region 10 property that can be used. Mr. Tanner explained how other fields would be compromised if they were opened for additional use.</p>	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p>

Patrick Keegan, LSM student spoke in support of working together to find field space for the Lacrosse team to practice and play.

Ben Kelley, LSM student spoke in support of working to find field space for the Lacrosse team to practice and play.

Connor McNaboe, LSM student spoke in support of working to find field space for the Lacrosse team to practice and play.

Tania McNaboe asked Mr. Tanner if the existing field had been designated for Lacrosse practice. She told a story which compared a living room that is off limits to children to the lacrosse field and indicated that as a taxpayer, she does not want to support a field that can't be used.

Matt Stone, LSM student spoke in support of working to find field space for the Lacrosse team to practice and play.

Kristine Woods – spoke in support of working to find field space for the Lacrosse team to practice and play.

Jeff Kowalek – indicated that previous speakers comments represented his view.

Review of Financial Audit for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2012:
 Mr. Scott Trenholm from Grant Thornton reported that he and Mr. Michael VanDeventer performed the Region 10 audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and that Grant Thornton had issued an unqualified “clean” opinion with respect to the District’s financial statements. In addition, federal and state single audits were performed in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, OMB Circular A-133 compliance supplement, CT state single audit act and applicable grant and contract agreements. He reported that with regard to compliance and internal control there were no instances of noncompliance. No internal control weaknesses that were noted. Mr. VanDeventer outlined the government-wide financial highlights, governmental funds financial highlights, and general fund budgetary highlights. Mr. Scott Trenholm finished by reporting the required communications and the recently issued accounting standards. Mr. Trenholm and Mr. Van Deventer answered Board member’s questions.

Superintendent’s Report:
 Mr. Beitman indicated that preparation of the estimate of expenses is in full swing. He reported that tomorrow is a critical meeting for Region 10’s health care representative as he going out to bid.

He explained that as a result of the Newtown tragedy he would be presenting changes depending on what is coming from the State level. He indicated that in the coming weeks the Student Resource Officer would be appointed.

He also commented on the repeal of the preschool tuition decision. He said that a number of senators are upset as well and are taking action.

COMMUNICATIONS

<p>Student Representative Report: Student Representatives reported on NFLHS senior citizen prom, the activity for the incoming freshmen that was held at Lewis Mills High School, the upcoming senior citizen breakfast, National Honor Society induction Ceremony, the Poetry Out Loud competition, mid-term exams and the Lewis Mills "Got Talent" production.</p>	
<p>Approval of the Board of Education Minutes: A motion was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Ms. Schiavone to approve the minutes for the Regular Board of Education Meeting of December 10, 2012. Eight (8) in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (8/0/0)</p> <p>Consent Agenda Items Included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of the Financial Report Dated December 2012 <p>A motion was made by Mr. Arcrui and was seconded by Mrs. Duffy to approve the financial report dated December 2012. Eight (8) in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (8/0/0)</p>	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES & CONSENT AGENDA</p>
<p>Approval of Revisions to Policy #3460 Student Activity Accounts:</p> <p>A motion to approve the revisions to policy #3460 Student Activity Accounts was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mrs. Turner.</p> <p>Mrs. Duffy expressed concerns regarding the band fund. Mr. Beitman recommended adopting the policy with a directive for the superintendent to review it with the Board's attorneys.</p> <p>The motion was amended:</p> <p>A motion to approve the revisions to policy #3460 Student Activity Accounts and to direct the superintendent to explore revisions with the Board's attorneys was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mrs. Turner.</p> <p>Eight (8) in favor none (0) opposed. Motion carries (8/0/0)</p> <p>Approval of Connecticut Education Evaluation and Support Plan: Mr. Beitman reviewed the new Connecticut Education Evaluation and Support Plan and explained that all school districts must respond by January 15, 2013 indicating whether or not they intend to adopt CT System for Educator Evaluation and Development (SEED) model for teacher and administrator evaluation or whether they will be submitting their own plan for approval. Mr. Beitman indicated that school districts have not yet seen an actual plan so they are uncomfortable adopting a plan they have not seen. Therefore, he is recommend that the Board approve the district-proposed alternative.</p> <p>A motion to approve the district-proposed alternative evaluation plan for teacher and administrator evaluation was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mrs. Baccaro. Eight (8) in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (8/0/0)</p>	<p>ACTION</p>

Approval of Model UN Field Trip and Funding for Bus Trip to Waterbury:

A **motion** to approve the Model UN Field Trip for the 2012-2013 school year with funding for the bus trip to Waterbury was made by Mr. Arcuri and was seconded by Mrs. Duffy. Eight (8) in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (8/0/0)

Superintendent Seeks a Motion to Recommend the Angela's Way Petition be Referred to Attorney William Connon for Review and Recommendation:

A **motion** to recommend the Angela's Way petition be referred to Attorney William Connon for review and recommendation was made by Mrs. Baccaro and was seconded by Mr. Arcuri.

Mr. Omichinski indicated that he has an issue with the motion because there is a Board of Education policy in place that clearly defines the district's transportation responsibilities and limits. He reminded the Board that the residents of Angela's Way can request a transportation hearing and the Board will listen to their concerns.

None (0) in favor seven (7) opposed one (1) abstained. Motion denied. (0/7/1)

Review of Recommended New Economics Textbook:

Mr. Choiniere indicated that the curriculum committee met and approved the proposed Economics book and he recommends that the Board approve this book. Mrs. Turner indicated that the high school currently has no Economics textbook. This item will appear on the February 11, 2013 agenda for approval.

Review of Recommended New Sociology Textbook:

The Board discussed the recommended newly proposed Sociology textbook for Lewis S. Mills High School.

This item will appear on the February 11, 2013 agenda for approval.

Review of Recommended New Psychology Textbook:

The Board discussed the recommended newly proposed Psychology textbook.

This item will appear on the February 11, 2013 agenda for approval.

Review of Newly Proposed Course, STEM Applications: Digital Design at Lewis S. Mills High School:

Mrs. Deb Greenier indicated that Mr. Justin Schumacher developed the idea for the proposed course. It will allow students to apply science skills and math skills and will utilize game-making technology that can be applied to any career interest area with regard to creating simulations. The class will be offered as a one-semester course. It requires a significant physics and math background and therefore will be offered to juniors and seniors.

BUSINESS

This item will appear on the February 11, 2013 agenda for approval.	
<p>Curriculum Committee Report: Mrs. Susan Baccaro and Mrs. Theresa Foley presented the curriculum committee report which included details regarding the new textbook proposals and the proposed new course offering at Lewis S. Mills High School.</p>	COMMITTEE REPORTS
<p>A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mrs. Duffy and was seconded by Ms. Schiavone. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (8/0/0)</p> <p>The meeting ended at 9:42 pm.</p>	ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Duffy, Secretary

Date