

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 10**  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
**THE LEARNING CENTER**  
**24 LYON ROAD, BURLINGTON, CT 06013**  
Monday, August 26, 2013  
7:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**Board Members Present:**

**Joseph Arcuri, Vice Chairman**  
**Susan Baccaro**  
**\*Beth Duffy**  
**Thomas Fausel**  
**Theresa Foley**  
**Paul Omichinski**  
**\*Phillip Penn**  
**Ted Scheidel**  
**Raymond Sikora, Chairman**  
**Noel Turner**

**Also Present:**

**Alan Beitman, Superintendent**  
**Bob Choiniere, Director of Student Learning**  
**Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations**  
**Linda Carabis, Director of Support Services**  
**Peter Bogen, Assistant Principal, Har-Bur Middle School**  
**Katie Hurlock, Student Representative**  
**Eric Uhl, Student Representative**  
**Patricia George, Recording Secretary**

**\*Arrived 7:08 p.m.**

**I. Call to Order**

Chairperson Ray Sikora established a quorum and called to order the Regular meeting of the Board of Education at 7:00 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairperson Ray Sikora led the Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Sikora acknowledged the Board's newest member, Mr. Tom Fausel, who replaced departing member, Elaine Schiavone. He also shared a thank you letter from Ms. Schiavone who expressed her pleasure in working with the Board.

### III. Communications

#### A. Superintendent's Report

##### 1. Staffing Update

Superintendent Beitman updated the Board with recent staffing changes, which have occurred in the district since the beginning of August. The areas of concern appear to be in Mathematics and World Languages. Several part-time Language teachers have secured full-time positions in neighboring school districts.

Demographics played a role in some of the Region's departing teachers, as well.

Open vacancies to date are a Mathematics teacher at Lewis S. Mills High School and a .6 World Language teacher at Harwinton Consolidated School.

##### 2. Enrollment Update

Superintendent Beitman indicated that enrollment numbers are, "about flush" with roughly 2,730 students. Numbers may fluctuate a bit in the final week before the start of school. He indicated that many new homes were under construction, particularly in Burlington, with some in Harwinton. Kindergarten enrollment numbers have increased from where they were last September/October; high school numbers remain firm, even with the increase in students who are attending out-of-district magnet schools.

##### 3. Security and Summer Projects Update

Good news on all fronts with the unit ventilator project being completed at the end of July and finishing under budget.

The PA system at both schools was upgraded, the fire alarm at Lake Garda School is brand new, and the district is in the process of upgrading all of its walkie-talkies to digital. An executive session is planned for a subsequent meeting to discuss the district's security measures in more detail.

Two satellite offices, one at Lake Garda School and one at Harwinton Consolidated School, have been established for State Troopers who are working/traveling the area as a place to complete their paperwork. Superintendent Beitman clarified that the space was not a "working police office....., not a place where they will bring somebody, not a place where they will interview somebody, and not a place where the public will be invited in to meet the trooper."

##### 4. Superintendent's Goals (DRAFT) for 2013-2014

Superintendent Beitman provided the Board with a first draft of his goals for the 2013/2014 year. He indicated that he was a bit behind, partly due to the fact that the state released the CMT scores three weeks later than in prior years.

The biggest goal for the year is implementing the state mandated teacher/administrator evaluation plan. A large portion of the summer was dedicated to training and learning the software.

Board member Noel Turner wanted to comment on the drop in recent test scores and how the district will prepare to respond.

Superintendent Beitman explained that there were two reasons for the drop. With the state transitioning to Common Core and CMTs not measuring Common Core, there is a gap created in the classroom practices and learning experiences, which are directly correlated to the CMT tests.

Additionally, the new tests will be very different from the CMTs and will cause a 15% drop in test scores upon implementation.

He noted that the district would most likely not offer CMTs next year. Bob Choiniere said that the district was being coached toward the Smarter Balance tests, which Mr. Beitman said is geared more toward Common Core.

In summation, there is a major transition in the testing program and a major transition underway as we move from CMT/CAPT as standard assessments to Smarter-Balance. It is expected that we will see declines in overall scores during this transitional period.

Plans are to utilize the "School Bell" publication, the PTA, and future board presentations to communicate where we are and how we are moving forward as a district to address all elements of reform.

- B. Student Representatives' Reports: Katie Hurlock and Eric Uhl  
Eric reported that the first day of school for all students is next Tuesday and the Lewis S. Mills marching band will have their first performance during "Tavern Day" which is scheduled for the 8<sup>th</sup>.

Katie reported that Lewis S. Mills seniors had their photos taken for the yearbook by Art Rich over the summer. In addition, she reported that Link Leader training commenced today, a group comprised of juniors and seniors working together to create a positive school environment.

#### **IV. Consent Agenda:**

- A. Approval of the Financial Report dated June 2013
- B. Approval of the Financial Report dated July 2013  
A motion was made by Phillip Penn and seconded by Joe Arcuri to accept/approve the Financial Reports for June 2013 and July 2013 as presented; motion carried unanimously. 9/0/0

C. Appointments

A motion was made by Phillip Penn and seconded by Susan Baccaro to accept/approve the appointments as presented; motion carried unanimously. 9/0/0

D. Leave of Absence

A motion was made by Phillip Penn and seconded by Paul Omichinski to accept/approve the leave of absence as presented; motion carried unanimously. 9/0/0

E. Resignations: Acknowledged, no action required

F. Retirements: Acknowledged, no action required

**V. Public Participation: No public participation**

**VI. Action**

A. Approval of the Contract Extension for:

1. Director of Finance and Operations – Susan Laone

On a motion made by Joe Arcuri and seconded by Noel Turner to accept/approve the contract for the Director of Finance and Operations, Sue Laone, as presented; all in favor; motion carried unanimously. 9/0/0

2. Superintendent of Schools – Alan Beitman

A motion was made by Beth Duffy and seconded by Noel Turner to accept/approve the contract for the Superintendent of Schools, Alan Beitman, as presented;

Further Discussion:

Discussions ensued regarding language on page 2 of Mr. Beitman contract as it related to Outside Professional Activities. The Board decided to remove the words “consultative work” from the sentence. Board member Beth Duffy amended her original motion to reflect the change, seconded by Noel Turner, all in favor; motion carried unanimously. 9/0/0

**VII. Business: None**

**VIII. Next Meeting**

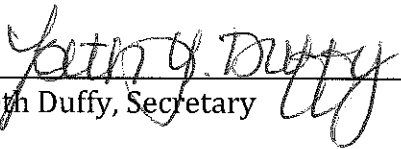
The Teacher-of-Year, Josh Krampitz, as well as new staff members, certified and non-certified, are invited to attend a reception on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 p.m. The Regular meeting of the Board of Education will commence at 7:00 p.m.

Board members were also invited to attend the Welcome Back Orientation for staff which would be held the following day.

**IX. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Beth Duffy seconded by Joe Arcuri to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 8:24 p.m., motion carried unanimously. 9/0/0

Respectfully submitted,

  
Beth Duffy, Secretary

  
Date