

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
THE LEARNING CENTER
24 LYON ROAD, BURLINGTON, CT 06013
Monday, September 9, 2013
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Joseph Arcuri, Vice Chairman
Susan Baccaro
Beth Duffy
Thomas Fausel
Theresa Foley
Paul Omichinski
Raymond Sikora, Chairman
Noel Turner

Board Members Absent:

Phillip Penn
Ted Scheidel
Katie Hurlock, Student Representative

Also Present:

Alan Beitman, Superintendent
Bob Choiniere, Director of Student Learning
Dave Fortin, Building and Grounds Supervisor
Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations
Kenneth Smith, Principal, Har-Bur Middle School
Megan Mazzei, Principal, Harwinton Consolidated School
Jack Gedney, Principal, Lake Garda School
Pam Lazaroski, Principal, Lewis S. Mills School
Eric Uhl, Student Representative
Patricia George, Recording Secretary

- I. Call to order
The Board Chairman, 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
The Board Chairman, Ray Sikora, led the pledge of allegiance.
- III. Special Guests
Superintendent Beitman invited each of the building administrators to introduce their new staff to members of the Board of Education. Additionally, faculty member Joshua Krampitz, was formally recognized as this year's Teacher-of-the Year.

BRIEF RECESS:

The meeting reconvened at 7:26 p.m.

IV. Communications:

A. Superintendent's Report

1. **Building and Grounds update: Mr. David Fortin**
Superintendent Beitman introduced Mr. David Fortin, Region 10's Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds. Mr. Beitman invited Mr. Fortin to attend the Board meeting for two reasons; to ask that the Board recognize him for his tireless efforts on behalf of the district, students and community, and to provide a quick update on the district's projects and where they currently stand.

Mr. Fortin indicated that it was a busy summer with many projects to complete; the unit ventilator project at Lake Garda School being the largest. Additional undertakings included PA systems, fire alarms and a dredging and expansion of the fire pond at Lake Garda School.

Mr. Fortin publicly thanked the Board, Administrators, and both communities for their continued support with the district's capital improvement projects.

2. **Regional Food Service Director – Mrs. Maggie Dreher**
Superintendent Beitman introduced Mrs. Maggie Dreher, the district's newly hired Director of Food and Nutritional Services. Mrs. Dreher is currently servicing two districts, Region 10 and Avon and will encompass a third, Canton, next year. Mrs. Dreher commented on how wonderfully welcoming the district has been and how devoted to students the food service staff is. One of Mrs. Dreher's preliminary initiatives is to encourage the students to select a complete, well- balanced meal.

B. Student Representative Report- Eric Uhl

Student representative Eric Uhl reported that the, "first day of school was a blast as the Link Leaders wore their 'Keep Calm and Lead On' shirts and were clearly successful in showing the incoming freshman the ins and outs of high school."

He also reported that the previous day was "Tavern Day" with perfect weather on tap for the Lewis S. Mills High School Marching Band's first performance of the year.

Future events include Picture Day on the 12th and a much anticipated "Welcome Back" dance, which is scheduled for the 20th.

V. Approval of Board of Education Minutes for:

- A. Regular Meeting of the Board of Education dated Monday, June 10, 2013

- B. Regular Meeting of the Board of Education dated Monday, August 26, 2013
On a motion made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Noel Turner to accept/approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education dated Monday, June 10, 2013 and the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education dated Monday, August 26, 2013, as presented; no further discussion; motion carried unanimously.

VI. Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of the Financial Report dated August 2013
On a motion made by Beth Duffy and seconded by Noel Turner to accept/approve the Financial Report dated August 2013; no further discussion; motion carried unanimously.
- B. Appointments:
1. Lindsey Gladue, Mathematics Teacher, Lewis S. Mills High School
On a motion made by Susan Baccaro and seconded by Beth Duffy to accept/approve the appointment as presented; no further discussion; motion carried unanimously.
- C. Leave of Absence: n/a
- D. Resignations: n/a
- E. Retirements: n/a

VII. Public Participation

James A. Pabilonia
Harwinton, CT

A veteran of the Army and Navy, Mr. Pabilonia expressed his discontent that the Middle School Band no longer participated in the Memorial Day Parade, as they had done in the past. He explained that it was a matter of honor for him. It was his understanding the band did not participate because many of the students had other commitments, which reduced the number who were able to march. He felt "some" would be better than none. Mr. Pabilonia ended with a quote, "Let no vandalism of avarice or neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations, that we have forgotten, as a people, the cost of a free and undivided Republic."

Superintendent Beitman shared many of Mr. Pabilonia's concerns and indicated that a meeting was being scheduled to look at possible alternatives.

Joan Kirchner
Harwinton, CT

Ms. Kirshner came before the Board for the purpose of fundraising suggestions to repair and renovate the Arthur Covey mural located in Harwinton Consolidated School. The cost of renovations would be in the area of \$9,000 to \$10,000.

Several ideas were brought forward and discussed in rudimentary detail. Board Chairman Ray Sikora suggested having an open house for the citizens to view it as many, most likely, do not realize its significance.

Jayne Stocker
Burlington, CT

Ms. Stocker addressed the Board regarding the newly released CMT test scores. Using grade 7 as her example, she indicated that in the district's ERG, (C), the district was below average in all three of the tests as noted below.

	7th Grade Math	7th Reading	7th Writing	8th Science
Reg 10	73.2	88.5	67.9	74.1
ERG C avg.	79.33	89.2	78.77	78.96
Points below avg	<6.13>	<.7>	<10.87>	<4.86>

To add to her angst, the 7th grade honor roll, as published in the Register Citizen on April 21, 2013, reported 155 Har-Bur 7th graders earning honors with 54 on the distinguished honor roll and 101 on the honor roll.

In a class of 225 students, that is 24% earning straight A's and overall 69% receiving honors.

She indicated that internally the students look like they are achieving however, statewide, she was concerned.

Superintendent Beitman stated that Mr. Choiniere and the principals are currently working on a presentation, which will be brought before the Board in the near future. The presentation will include where the district is, where the testing is going, and where things are moving at the state level.

VIII. Actions:

- A. Approval of Revisions to Policy #5200, Students, Death-Yearbook
On a motion made Paul Omichinski and seconded by Noel Turner to accept/approve the revisions of Policy #5200; no further discussion; motion carried unanimously.
- B. Approval of Superintendent's Goals for 2013/2014
Prior to requesting a motion, Board Chairman, Ray Sikora asked that Superintendent Beitman choose the goals he considered were the top three. Mr. Beitman explained, "While there are a lot of very important

goals, there is none more important than instruction and learning.” He also included the teacher’s/administrator’s evaluation plan as a high priority.

On a motion made by Theresa Foley and seconded by Beth Duffy to accept/approve the Superintendent’s Goals for the 2013/2014 school year; no further discussion; motion carried unanimously.

C. Approval of Request for Legal Services

A list of top area law firms representing education was provided to Board members. Superintendent Beitman explained that there are three types of law firms specializing in education; educational law, which deals primarily with state statutes; negotiations; and special education. He indicated that a small ad hoc committee would need to be established once the Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) were received, with expected interviews pre-Thanksgiving and a recommendation to the Board at some point in January.

On a motion made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Sue Baccaro to accept/approve the Request for Legal Services:

Board Chairman Ray Sikora had one request. He asked that a time frame be established for those Board members who may have an interest in serving on the committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

IX. Business

A. Region 10 Board of Education Committee Assignments

A review of Board committees and their members was had.

A question was posed regarding the Curriculum Committee, specifically. It is the only committee that is not chaired by a Board member and the only committee that regularly meets at a time when most members of the Board are not able to attend.

Mr. Choiniere, Direct of Student Learning, who has been in the district for seventeen years, noted that the afternoon has always been the most convenient for staff who are part of the curriculum development. Students have also served on the committee, as well.

A suggestion to have a Board member and Bob Choiniere share the responsibility of Chair of the committee was made by Noel Turner.

Board members were asked to contact the Board Chairman or Superintendent Beitman with their interest in committee membership.

A side comment was made by Board member Beth Duffy who felt that the Board should consider having a retreat, once the new members are in place.

A facilities report was provided by Paul Omichinski who indicated that he was in receipt of a draft report pertaining to possible athletic field improvements and changes, and a potential renovation project regarding the tennis courts. The facilities committee is meeting on the 25th of September to review their final version of their presentation. Plans are to bring to the Board a recommendation on how they want to proceed.


X. Next Meeting:

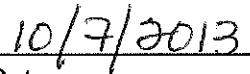
The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, October 7, 2013 at 7:00pm in The Learning Center.

XI. Adjourn

On a motion made by Beth Duffy and seconded Paul Omichinski to adjourn the Regular Meeting of Board of Education at 8:45 p.m.; no further discussion; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Beth Duffy, Secretary


Date