

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
The Learning Center
24 LYON ROAD, BURLINGTON, CT 06013
Monday, April 7, 2014
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Joseph Arcuri, Chairman
Phillip Penn, Vice Chairman
Beth Duffy
Thomas Fausel
Theresa Foley
Paul Omichinski
Brooke Joiner
Bruce Guillemette
Susan Baccaro
Ellie Parente

Absent:

Eric Uhl, Student Representative

Also Present:

Alan Beitman, Superintendent
Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations
Katie Hurlock, Student Representative
Patricia George, Recording Secretary

- I. Call to Order:
Board Chairman Joseph Arcuri called to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 7:00 p.m.
- II. Mr. Arcuri led the pledge of allegiance.
- III. Communications:
 - A. Lewis S. Mills High School Student Representatives' Reports:

Student Representative Katie Hurlock reported on the current SBAC testing, the Spring Parent Athletic meeting, the Spring Drama Performance, the much anticipated spring break and the Spartan Band field trip to Florida.
 - B. Superintendent's Report
As authorized by the Board of Education, the Superintendent establishes the graduation dates annually on April 1st. This year, it has been determined that the graduation date for Lewis S. Mills High

School will be scheduled for June 23rd at 6:30 p.m. at the Warner Theatre in Torrington and on June 20th the Grade 8 Moving Up Ceremony will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Lewis S. Mills Gymnasium.

Speaking to the Estimate of Expenses, Superintendent Beitman noted that Kindergarten enrollment is beginning to increase slightly. In light of the decisions that were made at the last meeting, if necessary, the two positions that were scheduled to be cut, will be added back and funded within the existing budget.

IV. Approval of the Board of Education Minutes for:

- Regular Meeting of the Board of Education dated Monday, March 10, 2014
- Board of Education, Workshop, dated Saturday, March 22, 2014
- Public Hearing and Special Meeting dated Monday, March 31, 2014

On a motion made by Phil Penn and seconded by Paul Omichinski to accept/approve the minutes as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

V. Consent Agenda:

A. Approval of the Financial Reports dated March 2014:

On a motion made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Beth Duffy to accept/approve the Financial Reports as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

B. Appointments: n/a

C. Leaves of Absence:

1. Amanda Corwin, Teacher, Har-Bur Middle School, March 24, 2014 with a return date commencing with the 14/15 school year
2. Catherine McIntire, Grade 2 Teacher, Harwinton Consolidated School, on or about June 4, 2014 with a return commencing with the 14/15 school year.

D. Resignations:

1. Jared Welcome, Technology Education Teacher, Lewis S. Mills High School, effective April 3, 2014

E. Retirements:

1. Linda Johnston, Speech and Language Pathologist, effective with the conclusion of the 13/14 school year

Additionally, Superintendent Beitman took a moment to explain the non-renewal process for non-tenured teachers. The procedure is different than it has been in prior years, but conforms to the changes in legislation. Non-renewal letters will be issued in a week.

On a motion made by Sue Baccaro and seconded by Beth Duffy to accept/approve the leaves, resignations, and retirements as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

VI. Public Participation

Andrea Dussualt and Kristin Guillemette

The ladies spoke to the Board regarding their proposed 7/8 grade middle school field hockey team and indicated that they addressed the two biggest challenges; budget and field availability. They asked that the Board consider taking action on the proposal this evening so that grant deadlines could be met.

Tara Diorio

Ms. Diorio is a resident of Burlington whose son, a special needs student, attends Lake Garda's Early Learning Center (ELC) program. She indicated that she was not informed that this program was being eliminated and felt that she should be contacted.

As a parent of a special needs student, she is asking that the Board reconsider abolishing the program.

Kerri Singh

Ms. Singh's son Ethan is currently enrolled as a peer in the Early Learning Center at Lake Garda School in the three-year old morning program. Ms. Singh recently learned that the program was being eliminated and has concerns that will undoubtedly impact her son, specifically consistency.

She, too, asked that the Board please reconsider eliminating the program.

Amy Battisto

Ms. Battisto's daughter Julianna is also currently enrolled in the Pre-school program and is thriving there. Ms. Battisto was very upset when she learned that the program is being eliminated, but understands the reasoning behind it. She questions the outreach; what has the district done to bring more students into the program. She urged the Board members to please reconsider and have the program remain at Lake Garda at least for another year. If the program must be cut, she felt it was fair to ask for transportation, minimally.

Caroline Brayne

Ms. Brayne's daughter Shalyn is in the program at Lake Garda, too. Ms. Brayne indicated that she is a graduate of Lewis S. Mills High School and a product of the Bristol School system. She said cutting the program is tragic and would like the district to work with the parents whose students would

be affected by the elimination. She asked that the children be allowed to stay for consistency.

Superintendent Beitman appreciated the parents advocating for their children. If additional children enrolled, the program would be re-established.

It is currently proposed that the children enrolled in Lake Garda's program be consolidated into the sister program at Harwinton Consolidated School.

Ms. Linda Carabis, Director of Student Support Services, explained that the program at Harwinton Consolidated School is very similar to the program at Lake Garda; there are just more children enrolled in it.

Discussions ensued regarding current enrollment, staffing, projected enrollment, what the required student population would need to be in order to keep the program as it is, transportation, transitioning plans, and costs associated with the program.

The Board agreed to have Superintendent Beitman establish a meeting with the parents, along with Business Manager, Susan Laone; the Director of Student Support Services, Linda Carabis; and the principals of both buildings to research creative solutions.

VII. Business:

A. Grade 7/8 Field Hockey Proposal:

Superintendent Beitman indicated that there were 3 initial concerns:

1. Were there enough students to support a team;
2. Funding;
3. Field usage.

Ms. Maggie Tieman and newly appointed Athletic Coordinator David Francalanga were on hand to make general comments and to address any concerns or reservations by Board members moving forward.

In order for funding to be secured, the Board would need to approve the program this evening.

On a motion made by Tom Fausel and seconded by Ellie Parente to move the item to an action item; all in favor; none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

On a motion made by Theresa Foley and seconded by Phil Penn to accept/approve the 7/8 grade field hockey as a club activity for the 2014/2015 school year; Paul Omichinski opposed; motion carried.

B. Region 10 Board of Education – Youth and Community Development Award

Joe Arcuri deferred to Tom Fausel, who was instrumental in establishing the award. Its purpose is to recognize outstanding efforts of the Region 10 staff, both certified and non-certified, who have been influential in developing our youth and building a stronger Region 10 Community. It will be awarded annually to staff in each of the four schools by the Board of Education and is not limited to a single person. The recognition will consist of an award certificate with a token gift provided to each recipient. Teachers, parents, and students would be invited to submit nominations.

On a motion made by Tom Fausel and seconded by Beth Duffy to move the item to an action item; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

On a motion made by Tom Fausel and seconded by Beth Duffy that the Board accept/approve the new award; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Actions:

A. Authorization by the Board of Education to permit the Superintendent of Schools to accept a \$900 donation for a batting cage donated by the Burlington Bulldogs

Superintendent Beitman was approached by the Burlington Bulldogs asking permission to utilize Region 10's athletic field in the summer for a baseball program. They are willing to donate \$900 for the purchase of a quality net, as well as ground cover material to install beneath the batting cage.

A motion was made by Beth Duffy and seconded by Paul Omichinski to permit the Superintendent to accept a \$900 donation as noted above; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

B. Policies 3513 and 3513A Regulations Governing Use of School Facilities

The major change to the policy pertained to the fee structure and that any modifications to fees be brought to the Board of Education in advance of approval.

One edit to be noted to Policy 3513: page 3; category 3, users; item d, others; the sentence should read, "The Board of Education may waive....."

On a motion made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Beth Duffy to accept/approve the policies with the noted edit; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

C. Healthy Food Certification/Update:

Business Manager, Sue Laone and Director of Nutritional Services, Maggie Dreher presented a "where we are" snapshot of the lunch program.

Superintendent Beitman alerted the Board that lunch prices will be increased to keep in line with Federal Guidelines.

Superintendent Beitman deferred to Maggie Dreher, Director of Nutritional Services to review the Healthy Food Certification.

Section 2 - Certification Statement

Regional School District #10 pursuant to Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes, hereby certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the school(s) under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education *will* meet said standards during the period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. Such certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises, whether or not school sponsored.

Section 3 - Exemption Statement

Pursuant to Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes, Regional School District #10 hereby acknowledges that the Board of Education or governing authority *will* exclude from certification food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards, provided that (1) such food is sold in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend, (2) such sale is at the location of the event, and (3) such food is not sold from a vending machine or school store.

Section 4 - Amendment to Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs (ED-099)

Pursuant to Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs (ED-099) with Regional School District #10 is hereby amended to include the above certification statement of compliance with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and application for funding related to those standards. **This addendum covers the period from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015**

On a motion made by Beth Duffy and seconded by Phil Penn to accept/approve the Healthy Food Certification update as presented: Section 2, Certification Statement; Section 3, Exemption Statement;

and Section 4, Amendment to Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

IX. Committee Reports:

A. CREC: Beth Duffy

Ms. Duffy reported that the "common calendar" is moving closer to completion.

X. Upcoming Meetings:

Annual Budget Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on May 5, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Learning Center.

The next **regularly scheduled** meeting will be held on Monday, May 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Learning Center.

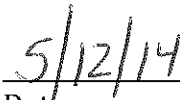
XI. Adjourn

A motion was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Beth Duffy to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 9:36 p.m.; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Theresa Foley, Secretary



Date