

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
Board of Education/Budget Workshop
The Learning Center
26 LYON ROAD, BURLINGTON, CT 06013
Monday, March 10, 2014
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Joseph Arcuri, Chairman

Phillip Penn – Vice Chairman

Beth Duffy

Theresa Foley

Paul Omichinski

Tom Fausel

Brooke Joiner

Bruce Guillemette

Susan Baccaro

Ellie Parente

Absent: n/a

Also Present:

Alan Beitman, Superintendent

Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations

David Fortin, Director of Facilities

Robert Choiniere, Director of Student Learning

Linda Carabis, Director of Student Support Services

Eric Uhl, Student Representative

Katie Hurlock, Student Representative

Patricia George, Recording Secretary

- I. Call to Order:
Board Chairman Joseph Arcuri established a quorum and called to order the meeting of the Board of Education at 7:03 p.m.
- II. Mr. Joe Arcuri led the pledge of allegiance.
Mr. Arcuri took a moment to welcome Ellie Parente as the board's newest member.
- III. Communications:
 - A. Student Representatives' Reports
Student representative Katie Hurlock's report included information on the Cultural Extravaganza hosted by the National Foreign Language Honor Society (NFLHS). The event raised over \$700 which will be donated to Doctors without Borders. She also reported on the Winter Athletic Awards Ceremony which is scheduled for March 20th to mark the

end of the season. In conclusion, she reported that the student cheering section for the basketball games, referred to as the "Thunder Dome" was chosen as the best student section in Connecticut and was featured on television.

Student representative Eric Uhl reported on spring sport practices, team meetings, and tryouts. He also reported that the annual "Mills Got Talent" event was presented on February 27th and featured many singing, dancing, comedy routines and a band performance.

B. Superintendent's Report

1. Review of the 2014/2015 Estimate of Expenses

The newest revision of the Superintendent's anticipated Estimate of Expenses was presented to the Board. Since they last met, the Estimate of Expenses was reduced to 1.90% over the prior year's Estimate of Expenses or \$684,370 and the new money was reduced to \$393,700 or 1.09%. A portion of the reduction was an additional \$31,000 realized through continuing conversations with Cigna regarding health care.

Superintendent Beitman reminded the Board that they will be asked to set an Estimate of Expenses later in the evening with one more opportunity to adjust the number at their special meeting scheduled for March 31, 2014.

IV. Approval of the Board of Education Minutes

On a motion made by Susan Baccaro and seconded by Paul Omichinski to accept/approve the minutes in Section IV. , items A, B, and C as presented; Phil Penn abstains (item A) and Ellie Parente (items A,B,C); all in favor; motion carried unanimously.

V. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the Financial Reports dated February 2014

On a motion made by Phil Penn and seconded by Paul Omichinski to accept/approve the February Financial Reports as presented; Ellie Parente abstained; all in favor; motion carried unanimously.

B. Appointments:

On a motion made by Theresa Foley and seconded by Beth Duffy to accept/approve the appointment of Althea Green; all in favor; motion carried unanimously.

C. Leaves of Absence: n/a

D. Resignations:

On a motion made by Phil Omichinski and seconded by Beth Duffy to accept/approve the resignation of Lawrence Sidney; all in favor; motion carried unanimously.

E. Retirements: n/a

~ BRIEF RECESS ~

7:43 p.m. to 7:47 p.m.

VI. Public Participation: n/a

VII. Actions:

- A. Approve 2014/2015 Estimate of Expenses
On a motion made by Beth Duffy and seconded by Phil Penn to accept/approve the Superintendent's Estimate of Expenses with a 2.99% increase including all the recommended additional items;

Further discussion:

Beth Duffy felt that the new items presented in the budget are truly needed and the Board should move forward with them.

She also felt that 2.99% is a reasonable budget increase given what has gone before the Board in the last few years and the cuts that have been made.

Superintendent Beitman reiterated that 57% of the new money accounts for the outdoor facilities. Without repairs to the tennis courts next year and to the track the following year, the programs would need to be eliminated.

Ellie Parente abstained; all in favor; motion carried unanimously.

- B. Bus Policy 5131.1
On a motion made by Beth Duffy and seconded by Theresa Foley to accept/approve Policy 5131.1 as presented; all in favor; motion carried unanimously.
- C. Approval of three year contract dated July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017 between Custodians (AFSCME, Council 4, AFL-CIO) and the Region 10 Board of Education

Superintendent Beitman highlighted the biggest change in the contract was the change in health care moving to an HSA (High Deductible Health Savings Plan)

On a motion made by Phil Penn and seconded by Beth Duffy to accept/approve the three year contract as presented; all in favor; motion carried unanimously.

- D. Proposed lease between the Board of Education and Volunteer Fire Department/Town of Burlington

Superintendent Beitman provided a brief history regarding the proposed lease between the Region 10 school district and the Volunteer Department of the town of Burlington.

The Lake Garda fire house, which is adjacent to Lake Garda School, is currently moving toward a referendum for an expansion of their facility and has asked to lease a portion of the school district's land.

The lease, which was generated by the Board's attorney, addresses how the land would be used.

A motion was made by Phil Penn and seconded by Paul Omichinski to accept/approve the lease as presented; all in favor; motion carried unanimously.

- E. Authorize the Superintendent of Schools to set the date for the Lewis S. Mills' High School Graduation on April 1, 2014

On a motion made by Beth Duffy and seconded by Sue Baccaro to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to set the date for high school graduation on April 1st; all in favor; motion carried unanimously.

- F. Disband the Exterior Athletic Renovations Subcommittee of the Facilities Committee

Board member Paul Omichinski asked to disband the committee based on the failed exterior athletic renovations referendum.

On a motion made by Phil Penn and seconded by Beth Duffy to disband the Exterior Athletic Renovations subcommittee; all in favor; motion carried unanimously.

- G. Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation for "limited flexibility" regarding the 2013/2014 Teacher Evaluation Plan as approved by the Board of Education and the State Department of Education on or about November 10, 2013

Superintendent Beitman said what the Board would be approving is allowing limited flexibility to permit an evaluator and a teacher to modify their student learning objectives from two to one if they both felt it was necessary.

On a motion made by Sue Baccaro and seconded by Bruce Guillemette to accept/approve the Superintendent's recommendation for "limited flexibility" regarding the 2013/2014 Teacher Evaluation Plan; all in favor; motion carried unanimously.

- H. Policies 3513 and 3513A Regulations Governing Use of School Facilities

The Board of Education has always set fees for use of its facilities. The biggest concern has always been the auditorium. Last year

discussions were had regarding the real costs. The Board of Education, by not raising its fees, began subsidizing to some degree, the use by outside groups. Typically, the largest group would be dance studios and performance groups.

Superintendent Beitman highlighted some of the updates to the policy.

The policy will be brought to the April Board meeting for action.

I. Annual New England Festival

A motion was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Beth Duffy to modify the agenda to include an VII. Actions, subsection I. Annual New England Festival.

Annually in the month of March, students from Lewis S. Mills High School's music department who have successfully auditioned, participate in the Annual New England Festival. This year the festival is being held on March 20th through the 22nd at Mount St. Anthony High School in Bennington, Vermont. Two students from Lewis S. Mills will be participating. Mr. Deeb is requesting that the students be allowed to travel to Bennington in the school van from Litchfield High School with the Litchfield students and possibly students from Simsbury and Wamogo.

By putting this item before the Board, the Board accepts responsibility and insurance coverage for the two students.

On a motion made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Beth Duffy to accept/approve the field trip as discussed; all in favor; motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Business: n/a

IX. Committee Reports: n/a

X. Important Dates:

XI. Adjourn:

On a motion made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Bruce Guillemette to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 8:57 p.m.; all in favor; 8/motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Foley
Theresa Foley, Secretary

4/7/14
Date
