

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
The Learning Center
Har-Bur Middle School
 26 Lyon Road, Burlington, CT 06013
 Monday, January 13, 2020
 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Bruce Guillemette, Chairman
 John Vecchitto, Vice Chairman
 Thomas Fausel
 Paul Omichinski
 Dean Cowger
 Scott Ragaglia
 Ania Stolarz

Absent:

John Goodno
 Brooke Joiner
 Eleanor Parente
 Samuel DiSorbo, Junior Student Representative

Also Present:

Howard Thiery, Superintendent
 Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations
 Vonetta Romeo-Rivers, Director of Teaching and Learning
 Kathryn Bergstrom, Senior Student Representative

Call to Order	The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman Bruce Guillemette at 7:02 p.m. Mr. Guillemette presented the preceding Board Chairman, Thomas Fausel, with a gavel as a memento for his service and leadership to the Region 10 Board of Education.
Pledge of Allegiance	The Pledge of Allegiance was recited
Civic Action Projects	Each semester students enrolled in the Civics Action course at Lewis S. Mills High School, are tasked with researching a positive change they can implement in their school or community.

	<p>Two groups of students from faculty member Sharon Yanosik's class brought forward projects on creating a more eco-friendly cafeteria.</p> <p>The goal of one proposal was to effectively reduce the pollution in the environment starting with replacing materials found in school cafeterias. Their proposition is to eliminate single-use utensils and implement bins for returning bottles and cans and recycling milk cartons.</p> <p>The goal of the second proposal is to switch from Styrofoam to reusable, plastic lunch trays. Again, to reduce the pollution in the environment.</p> <p>Board members were very supportive and expressed an interest in carrying the studies further.</p> <p>Susan Laone, the Director of Finance and Operations, noted that the Director of Nutrition, Margaret Dreher, has already started to look into options and will have a better picture of what the recommendations will be moving forward at a later date.</p>
<p>Review of Financial Audit</p>	<p>Michael VanDeventer and Lauren Messina, both CPAs from Mahoney and Sabol CPAs and Advisors were present to report on the district's final audit results for 2019. Their report included Scope of the Work, Auditors' Reports, Financial Highlights, Required Communications and an opportunity to field questions.</p>
<p>Communications</p>	<p><u>Superintendent's Report:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Superintendent's Entry Update <p>Superintendent Thiery continues to apprise members of the board of his efforts within the district. New undertakings include meeting with the Director of Teaching and Learning on a weekly basis, budget development meetings, faculty meeting intakes, and the formation of a high school advisory team to name a few. He is also looking forward to commencing, in the near future, a PTO Executive Counsel, Coffee Conversations (1/month rotating within the district) and Leadership Rounds.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Lewis S. Mills Track Project Recognition <p>The Lewis Mills' athletic running track project was the first project of its type on the east coast to use post tension concrete construction. The contractor and Region 10 are the recipients of the 2019 Award of Merit for Slab-on-Grade from the Post</p>

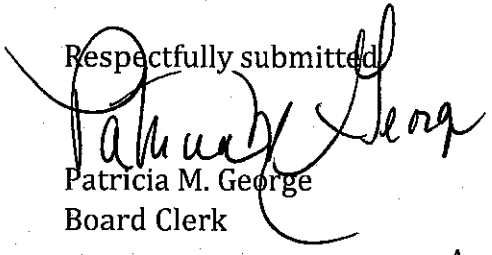
	<p>Tensioning Institute as reported by David Fortin, the Director of Facilities and Maintenance.</p> <p><u>Student Representatives' Reports:</u> Kathryn Bergstrom reported that it has been relatively quiet following the winter break. Mid-terms are on the horizon and winter sports are in full action. Seniors continue with their scholarship and college application processes.</p>
<p><i>Approval of the Minutes</i></p>	<p>A motion was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Scott Ragaglia to accept/approve the minutes as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.</p> <p><u>Minutes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Meeting dated Tuesday, December 3, 2019 • Regular Meeting dated Monday, December 9, 2019
<p><i>Consent Agenda</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Reports dated December 2019 • Personnel Report dated December 2019 <p>A motion to accept/approve the Consent Agenda as presented was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by John Vecchitto; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.</p>
<p><i>Public Participation</i></p>	<p><u>Robert Lamothe</u> Advocated for Spencer Luthy to continue tapping the sugar maples on Harwinton Consolidated School property. He indicated that both he and Spencer believed he had gone through the proper channels and received a permit to engage in tapping by the First Selectman, Michael Criss.</p> <p><u>Spencer Luthy</u> Owner of Maplewood Farm in Harwinton. Present to discuss having access to the sugar bush that is located between Harwinton Consolidated School and the Harwinton Conservation and Recreation area.</p> <p>Mr. Luthy outlined a series of events leading up to the tapping, including a meeting with the First Selectman, Michael Criss, from whom he received a signed permit.</p> <p>Addressing the safety concerns of the students brought forward by members of the board, Mr. Luthy indicated that he would limit his access to the property to before and after school and weekends only, with the collection of maple sap made from the Harwinton Conservation and Recreation side. In return for access to the</p>

	<p>property, he would donate 50 cents a tap to the school or an organization within the school system. Approximately 75% of the trees that are tapped are on the school's property.</p> <p><u>Diane Facey</u> Ms. Facey has lived in town for 25 years and advocated for Spencer Luthy. Having students of her own who have attended, or are currently attending, schools in the district, she is very familiar with the Harwinton Consolidated School property and indicated that there are hikers that use the property and out-of-district families that utilize the playgrounds after school hours.</p> <p><u>Melissa Roderick</u> Listened to the student presentations and was impressed with what they had to say. Her son asked her to pass on a message to the board that he would like the science of climate change taught in school – thought the Lewis Mills/Har-Bur Middle School campus would be a great place to have a charging station for plugin cars. Commended the district for non-binary gender as an option on the kindergarten registration form.</p>
<p><i>Action Items</i></p>	<p><u>Discussion of the 2018/2019 Surplus:</u> The final audit for fiscal year 2018/2019 indicated an operating surplus of \$1,113,262 in the General Fund. The recommendation was to return \$714,223 to the towns and the remaining \$399,039 to the district's capital reserve.</p> <p>A motion was made by Dean Cowger and seconded by Paul Omichinski to direct the Superintendent of Schools to provide a refund of the fiscal year 2018/2019 operating surplus of \$476,958 and \$237,265 to the towns of Burlington and Harwinton respectively, to offset the fiscal year 2020/2021 budget. Such refunds will be reflected as credits against the town payments in fiscal year 2020/2021. The remaining surplus of \$399,039 be transferred into the district's capital reserves to help fund the second year of the five-year capital plan; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.</p>
<p><i>Business</i></p>	<p><u>Board Committee Members Update:</u> Members of the board were provided a list of board committees noting the functions and current members. Other members were invited to join committees of their choosing.</p>

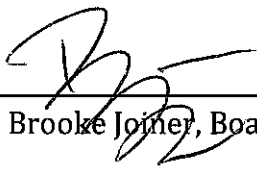
	<p><u>Request permission for commercial syrup tapping on Harwinton Consolidated School Property:</u> Superintendent Thiery was recently notified that there were syrup collecting lines on Harwinton Consolidated School property and it was unknown who they belonged to. A sign was hung asking that the party identify themselves. Subsequently, Spencer Luthy contacted Dave Fortin as instructed and explained that he had obtained, what he believed, was the proper permits. Several conversations were also had with Michael Criss, the First Selectman of Harwinton and the superintendent with the end result being confusion with property boundaries.</p> <p>Mr. David Fortin, the Director of Facilities and Maintenance, voiced several concerns, the first addressing snow removal and where the snow has been previously piled, the syrup lines are now problematic.</p> <p>Mr. Fortin also stated that Mr. Luthy's tapping is a commercial operation and the board has specific policy for profit organizations, which he is paid to enforce. Setting a precedence was an additional concern.</p> <p>The intent is to keep up the lines for a period of seven years or more if the lines prove to be productive.</p> <p>Board member, Dean Cowger, was concerned about liability and would like a review by the district's legal counsel.</p> <p>A motion was made by Dean Cowger and seconded by John Vecchitto to move the item to the Facilities Committee for review; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.</p>
<p><i>Board Committee/Liaison Reports</i></p>	<p><u>Facilities:</u> Meeting tomorrow night/primary mission is prioritization with regards to the budget</p> <p><u>Curriculum:</u> Curriculum/Textbook Approval Process – definition and process to the protocol – asked that it be read and asked for feedback – reinvigorate timeline and process/each step appropriate level of voice</p> <p><u>Superintendent's Evaluation:</u> Members Thomas Fausel and Ania Stolarz asked to join the committee – plans are to meet with Superintendent Thiery to review his goals</p>

	<p><u>Finance Committee:</u> No report</p> <p><u>Technology:</u> Joseph Sousa is currently rolling out a strategic plan – draft will be brought before the board.</p> <p>End goal is to create a set of standards, a plan for implementing those standards K-12 in the appropriate the manner</p> <p><u>CREC:</u> No meeting in January</p> <p><u>HB4 Diversity (Liaison):</u> No report</p> <p><u>CCC Assessment (Liaison):</u> Moving along – reviewing first round of data for fall sports Had successful Captain’s meeting</p>
<i>Upcoming Meetings</i>	The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, February 10, 2020; in the Har-Mur Middle School Media Center
<i>Adjourn</i>	A motion was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Scott Ragaglia to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m.; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted


 Patricia M. George
 Board Clerk

Approval: _____


 Brooke Joiner, Board Secretary

Date: 2/10/2020

Board of Education Meeting Minutes are placed on our web page (www.region10ct.org) within seven (7) work days following the Board of Education Meeting.

The minutes are marked as DRAFT, pending Board of Education approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

When participating in or attending a Board of Education meeting or reviewing minutes, please note that the Board of Education uses formats prescribed by Robert’s Rules of Order for conducting meetings and publishing minutes.

Robert's Rules state, "Minutes are a record of what was done at a meeting, not a record of what was said." [RONR (11th ed.), p. 468, ll. 16-18] which is the standard for which board minutes strive. For this reason the minutes will typically not reflect the discussion surrounding a motion, only its outcome.

Additionally, Robert's Rules in brief advises "The name and subject of a guest speaker or other program may be given, but no summary of the talk." [RONRIB page 149]

Both books can be found at our local libraries for anyone interested in more information.

RSD10 Chair