

**Board of Education
Regional School District 13**

**Regular Meeting
Memorial School, Library**

**December 18, 2013
Minutes & Motions**

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Flanagan at 7:36 p.m. with the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call	Mrs. Flanagan Mr. Hicks Dr. Friedrich Mrs. Adams	Dr. Onofreo Mr. Fulton Mrs. Boyle	Mr. Renninghoff Mrs. Buckheit Mrs. Fronc
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Administrators	Dr. Perlini Dr. Linda Berry	Mr. Melnik	Dr. Veronesi
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Public Present There were 20 members of the public present.

Public Comment

Mrs. Flanagan –We like to have input from the public. I would ask that you limit comments to 3 minutes.

A letter was given to the Board regarding closing John Lyman School which was signed by 104 community members.

The following members spoke about the school: Mary Elizabeth Taylor, Christine Willett, Denise Fudge, Nina Healy, Carissa Connell, Maya Liss, Tracy Wickwire, Michelle DiMauro and Mike Fusco

and comments included:

- We moved here for the school
- The school is an asset
- Test performance is high
- It is a loving and nurturing environment
- Teaching thru the arts
- HOT school
- The students are very independent
- Learn public speaking
- This is the future of where education is going
- The program cannot work if integrated into another school
- If integrated it could result in the program disappearing
- We are glad you are looking at future use of the school buildings, but the program needs to be separate
- The kids are not losing anything by being in separate buildings – they know each other out of school because of other activities
- I hope the Board listens to the community. Our children are our future. How will moving grades around affect the kids?

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Next Board Meeting

The next Board meeting will be January 8, 2014 at John Lyman School.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda made by Mr. Hicks, second by Mrs. Adams. Vote: Unanimous.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the Minutes dated November 13, 2013 Regular Meeting made by Mr. Hicks, second by Mrs. Boyle. Vote in favor: Mr. Hicks, Mrs. Boyle, Mr. Fulton, Mrs. Flanagan, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Fronc, Dr. Onofreo, Mrs. Adams, Mr. Renninghoff. Abstention: Mrs. Buckheit

Communications

Mr. Hicks reported that every year ACES has 12 students design holiday cards. One design is printed on a sweatshirt. He also talked about the state-wide student calendar that the state is working on. They are looking at what to do with irregularities like the Durham Fair.

Mrs. Buckheit said that she has gone to 2 holiday concerts and each was wonderful.

Mr. Hicks spoke about this being Dr. Perlini's last meeting. I have had a proclamation done for him and a copy is attached to these minutes.

Dr. Perlini thanked everyone for their support and comments. This District is in good hands.

Superintendent's Report

Middlesex Chamber of Commerce Breakfast had approximately 500 people present. There are many people connected with Middlesex Chamber of Commerce that are for education.

New Business

Motion to approve Policy 5115 – Student Discipline and Physical Activity made by Mr. Hicks, second by Dr. Friedrich. Vote: Unanimous.

Motion to approve Policy 3324 – Business Contracts as revised made by Mr. Hicks, second by Mrs. Adams. Vote: Unanimous.

Motion to approve Policy 3451 – Student Activity Accounts made by Mr. Hicks, second by Mrs. Fronc. Vote: Unanimous.

Motion to approve the Financial Statements, State Single Audit Report, Federal Single Audit Report and Management Letters for the period ending June 30, 2013 prepared by Blum Shapiro and reviewed by the Educational Resources Committee on December 6, 2013 made by Mr. Fulton, second by Mrs. Fronc. Vote: Unanimous.

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Motion to approve the Field Trip request to the Bretton Woods and Cannon Mountain Resorts on February 15 – 17, 2014 as presented made by Mr. Fulton, second by Mrs. Fronc. Vote in favor: Mr. Fulton, Mrs. Fronc, Mrs. Flanagan, Mrs. Adams, Mr. Renninghoff, Dr. Friedrich, Dr. Onofreo, Mrs. Buckheit, Mrs. Boyle. Opposed: Mr. Hicks.

There was discussion about chaperones, number of students attending, other options, planning the year ahead and becoming a club.

Motion to change the employment contract for Dr. Kathryn Veronesi to have a start date of January 2, 2014 made by Mr. Hicks, second by Dr. Onofreo. Vote: Unanimous.

Public Comment

Michelle DiMauro asked when the NEASC report would be made public.

Mrs. Flanagan said that it is on the agenda for the full board on January 8, 2014.

The following members of the public spoke regarding the closing of John Lyman School: John Kelly, Jon Driscoll, Janina Eddinger and Lori Fusco

and comments included:

- I moved here because of the school system
- People are very concerned about the possible closing of John Lyman School
- Cannot imagine having this style of learning for his children
- Children are excited about academics and the arts
- If we downsize programs, we risk students going to private schools in other towns
- There is talk about moving the middle school grades (K-5 and 6-8)
- Concerned that taxpayers have spent money on a consultant firm and we don't have a plan

Mrs. Flanagan answered that the Board is at the beginning of the budget process. Each option will take a lot of work.

Mr. Fulton acknowledged that the December 11 workshop was so that the Board could generate a conversation and come up with some options.

Follow Up

- Agenda for January 8, 2014 meeting will include 3 presentations, full NEASC report, ACES report and the school calendar.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. made by Mr. Hicks, second by Mrs. Boyle. Vote: Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,



Tammy A. McPherson
Regional District 13
BOE Recording Secretary



Regional District #13 Board of Education
Durham and Middlefield, Connecticut

Be it known to all that on this date Ernest Perlini, Distinguished Interim Superintendent since July 2013, is duly recognized and acknowledged for his dedication to the children and citizens of Regional District #13; and

Whereas, Ernest Perlini, having served with honor, hereby concludes this challenge for the responsibility of educating our youth. Be it known that by these words that his deeds and his positive manner will be long remembered and cherished by this Board of Education, the Towns of Durham and Middlefield and, indeed, our children; and

Whereas, Ernest Perlini served this District as Interim Superintendent. His persistent attention to detail and his vision of operational success for this community will long be remembered as a guide for those that follow in future public service; and

Whereas, Ernest Perlini demonstrated his tireless work ethic on many subcommittees for this Board utilizing his vast background that provided insightful direction and proudly moved the District forward; and,

Whereas, Ernest Perlini made a seamless transition from one superintendent to another and in the process demonstrated determination and common sense that provided this District with balance and a clear point of view for the successful completion of this transition.

Therefore be it resolved that we, the members of the Regional School District 13 Board of Education on this eighteenth day of December, two-thousand thirteen salute Ernest Perlini and encourage others to do the same and join us in recognizing Ernest Perlini, a man who made an extraordinary difference in the success of this School District and the advancement of its mission. All this is with our sincere gratitude for your unselfish service. By your actions, you have distinguished yourself and brought great pride upon this community, our schools and its children.

Kerrie Flanagan, Chairman

Norman W. Hicks, Secretary

Robert Fulton, Treasurer