

The Regional School District 13 Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at Memorial Middle School, 124 Hubbard St., Middlefield, CT at 7:00 p.m. Board members present: Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Renninghoff, and Mr. Willett.

Absent: Mrs. Adams, Dr. Onofreo

Also present: Dr. Veronesi, Superintendent of Schools

Mrs. Flanagan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. after it was determined that a quorum was present.

Mr. Fulton led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Administrator Welcome

Mr. Brough, principal of Memorial School welcomed the Board and the public to Memorial School. Mr. Brough stated that the school year was off to a great start and commented on the energy generated by staff and students.

Public Comment

Shaylah Finnerty, a third grade student at Korn Elementary School wanted to thank her teacher, Mrs. Grenier, her principal, Mrs. Stone, the custodian, Mr. Baker and everyone who helped in making sure all the students were safe during a recent lockdown at Korn School.

Next Board Meeting

Next Board meeting will be held on October 14, 2015 at John Lyman School, 106 Way Rd. Middlefield, CT.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Hicks moved to approve the agenda. Mrs. Boyle seconded.

In favor of approving agenda: Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Renninghoff, and Mr. Willett. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes of August 26, 2015

Mr. Hicks moved to approve the minutes of August 26, 2015. Mrs. Boyle seconded.

Mrs. Boyle stated that her committee report for the Human Resources Committee was not included in the August 26, 2015 minutes. She reviewed her report.

Mr. Hicks moved to approve the minutes of August 26, 2015 as amended. Mrs. Boyle seconded.

In favor of approving the amended minutes of August 26, 2015: Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Renninghoff, and Mr. Willett. Dr. Friedrich abstained. Motion passed.

Communications

Mrs. Fronc requested that the minutes of the Board meeting be recorded.

Mr. Hicks thanked everyone for the phone calls, cards, and flowers during his recent illness. It was very much appreciated.

Mrs. Flanagan stated that a dedication of the soccer field at Memorial School took place prior to the

BOE meeting this evening. She thanked the members of the community for their involvement.

CRHS Student Report

The three student reporters, Larissa Cade, Taylor Marino and Matthew Sawicki informed the Board on various events taking place at the high school. Taylor stated that the first day of school went well. Mr. Falcone met with each class individually. Larissa reported that a new block scheduling has been introduced at CRHS this year. Matt stated that the Jazz Band and Show Choir performed at convocation. Other reports included sports, implementation of new classes and Homecoming events.

State Representative Noreen Kokoruda

Representative Kokoruda provided the Board with an update on items such as the Minimum Budget Requirement, declining enrollment issues and looking for mandate relief. Rep. Kokoruda described her personal reasons for becoming involved on the State level and stated that her number one priority is education. She also stated that Sen. Kennedy and Sen. Fusano are also interested in meeting with the Board. She encouraged the Board to contact her with questions or concerns. Board members thanked Rep. Kokoruda.

Business Manager's Report

Dr. Veronesi stated that she will cover items on the agenda under Business Manager's Report during her Superintendent's Report.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Hicks moved to close building project number 213-0044 at Brewster Elementary School located at 126 Tuttle Road, Durham, CT. The project work included the removal and replacement of an oil tank at the school. The project work was listed as a code violation. Mrs. Fronc seconded.

In favor of closing building project number 213-004: Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Renninghoff, and Mr. Willett. Motion passed.

Mr. Hicks moved to close building project number 213-0045 at Memorial Middle School located at 124 Hubbard St. Middlefield, CT. The project work included the removal and replacement of an oil tank at the school. The project work was listed as a code violation.

In favor of closing building project number 213-0045: Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Renninghoff, and Mr. Willett. Motion passed.

Dr. Veronesi stated that there was a budget calendar in every Board members packet. Budget materials are scheduled to be distributed on October 2, 2015.

Dr. Veronesi honored Mr. Fulton for his work on the Board of Education. At this time Mr. Hicks read the Proclamation.

Mr. Fulton praised the Board for giving him an opportunity to serve.

Dr. Veronesi mentioned to the Board that she and Mrs. Emory have been working closely regarding dyslexia and the special training of staff that is required.

Dr. Veronesi updated the Board on the recent lockdown and the protocol that has been established. In her recent newsletter to parents Dr. Veronesi asked that parents wait to hear from her to ensure

that accurate information is being communicated. Mrs. Boyle requested a copy of the parent's newsletter.

The Wellness Coalition is focusing on the District's Core Ethical Values throughout the community. Dr. Veronesi stated that this is going to be an exciting endeavor.

Chromebook deployment at the high school will begin tomorrow.

Mr. Willet commended Dr. Veronesi on how the staff handled the lockdown and he will make certain that accurate information gets out to her.

Presentation by Dr. Berry

Dr. Berry asked Board members to refer to the handbook that was given to them this evening. Dr. Veronesi stated that the purpose of the binder was to add to it.

Dr. Berry gave an overview of student assessment. She began her presentation by stating the importance of improving student learning and teacher teaching. She presented an introduction to assessment describing each test and what it is measuring. She stressed the importance of Common Core and briefly described assessments that are being given in District. In concluding her presentation Dr. Berry encouraged Board members to email questions they have to her and to the Student Achievement Committee.

New Business

Mr. Hicks moved to approve the 2015-2016 Regional School District 13 Educator Evaluation and Support Plan. Mrs. Boyle seconded.

Discussion took place. Mr. Willet requested a copy of the plan to review. Dr. Veronesi to send a copy of the plan to him.

In favor of approving the 2015-2016 Regional School District 13 Educator Evaluation and Support Plan: Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hicks, and Mr. Renninghoff. Mr. Willett abstained. Motion passed.

Mr. Fulton nominated Dr. Onofreo as treasurer of the Regional School District 13 Board of Education to fill an unexpired term from October 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 and spoke on his behalf. Mr. Hicks seconded the nomination.

Having no further nominations, Mrs. Flanagan declared nominations closed.

In favor of the nomination: Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Renninghoff, and Mr. Willett

Opposed to the nomination: None

Mrs. Flanagan declared Dr. Onofreo was elected Treasurer of the Regional School District 13 Board of Education to fill an unexpired term from October 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

Mr. Hicks stated it is necessary to have an additional motion in the minutes of this meeting regarding the election of the Treasurer.

Mr. Hicks moved that the Board of Education approve that treasurer Anthony Onofreo be allowed to invest the funds of Regional School District 13 according to state statutes. Mrs. Boyle seconded the motion.

In favor of the motion: Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Renninghoff, and Mr. Willett

Opposed to the motion: None

Motion passed.

Committee Reports

A. Student Achievement

On behalf of Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Flanagan and Mrs. Fronc reported that there has been lots of work done on the committee. Graduation policy, level classes/weighted grades, and a full year Professional Development calendar submitted by Dr. Berry are a few of the items being worked on.

B. ERC

Mr. Fulton stated the committee met this evening and discussed the Defined Benefit plan and the moving from one fund to another.

C. Utilization Study Committee

Mr. Fulton, Mrs. Flanagan and Dr. Veronesi updated the members of the board regarding the progress of the Utilization Committee and the information that has contributed to the recommendation to close Korn School at the end of the 2015-2016 school year. Mr. Fulton and Mrs. Flanagan reviewed the draft FAQ document as well as the plans for the upcoming information sessions. Members of the board asked questions and made recommendations for the FAQ document as well as questions that the public might need clarified.

Adjournment

Mr. Renninghoff moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:03 pm. Mrs. Boyle seconded.

In favor of adjourning the meeting: Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Dr. Friedrich, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Renninghoff, and Mr. Willett. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Johnson

Recording Secretary