

The Regional School District 13 Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the Library at Coginchaug Regional High School, Durham, Connecticut.

Board members present: Mr. Augur, Mrs. Boyle, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Geraci, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Moore, Mr. Roraback and Mr. Yamartino

Board members absent: Mrs. Petrella and Dr. Taylor

Administration present: Dr. Veronesi, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Neubig, Business Manager and Mrs. DiMaggio, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Mr. Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Geraci made a motion, seconded by Mr. Augur, to approve the agenda, as presented.

In favor of approving the agenda, as presented: Mr. Augur, Mrs. Boyle, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Geraci, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Moore, Mr. Roraback and Mr. Yamartino. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

None.

Administrator Welcome - Deb Stone

Deb Stone reported that the coaches at Memorial have taken on quite a big role in student achievement this year in the PLC and data team ideas. They are doing data cycles with the teachers to identify areas of need for the kids. Kids grow at all different rates and the coaches help to make sure the teachers are using the instructional strategies that are needed. The reading and writing coaches have been working on the craft of writing. The teachers meet once a week with the coaches.

In the area of engagement, they are working hard to get the parents to Memorial. Mrs. Stone is encouraging the parents to bring any new ideas to her. The principals have also been sending a connection letter to the parents. She also reported that they have a community meeting every other Wednesday to get the students to work with each other. Mrs. Stone encouraged the Board members to come to Memorial and see all the great things going on.

Dr. Veronesi confirmed that the second Friday of every month, parents get a "Connections" update from all schools.

CRHS Reporters - Timothy Arcari, Emily Dell'Orfano, Lindsey Marino

Lindsey Marino reported that the seniors will be going to Washington, DC from November 14th through 17th which means that the reporters won't be at the Board of Education meeting next month. They will tour Oriole Park at Camden Yards, go to the Vietnam, Korean War and Lincoln Memorials and Arlington National Cemetery. All three reporters are part of the National Honor Society and they will participate in

Haunted Hallways where parents can bring their children to the school to trick or treat. This takes place on October 28th from 10:00 to 12:00.

Tim Arcari spoke about the new development in the Career Center. They have partnered with Workforce Alliance, which is an organization whose goal is to promote skilled workers in Connecticut. They hope to educate the students about job shadowing and career opportunities. Hopefully, a job fair will be held later in the year. Representatives from local companies will come in to speak with students at a “Snack and Learn” on Mondays during advisory. Tim also reported that about 10 students are selected to attend the Chamber of Commerce breakfast every month to hear the keynote speaker. They heard the CEO of FedEx speak and next week will be Geno Auriemma.

Emily Dell’Orfano reported that students in the Exploring, Teaching and Learning field experience led activities for the STEAM camps last week. They made slime with the students at Memorial, bouncy balls at Brewster and built towers incorporating patterns at John Lyman. Homecoming is this week and the students have been celebrating Spirit Week. She described the different events being held each day. Girls’ volleyball, girls’ soccer and boys’ soccer are all home games tomorrow and the Shoreline Music Festival is being held tomorrow night. On Friday, the homecoming football game is vs. Windsor Locks, with the homecoming dance on Saturday.

Mr. Moore pointed out that Emily Dell’Orfano performed an Aretha Franklin song at the Durham Fair and will also be going to Disney. Emily reported that she will be going to Disney World at the end of November to participate in the National Honor Choir which is about 200 students from around the country. They will perform at the Coronado Resort.

Dr. Veronesi also reported that the home games are under the lights on Thursday and Friday.

Approval of Minutes

A. Board of Education regular session meeting - September 12, 2018

Dr. Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Mr. Augur, to approve the minutes of the Board of Education regular session meeting of September 12, 2018, as presented.

In favor of approving the minutes of the Board of Education regular session meeting of September 12, 2018, as presented: Mr. Augur, Mrs. Boyle, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Geraci, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Moore, Mr. Roraback and Mr. Yamartino. Motion passed.

Next Board Meeting - November 14, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the Library at Coginchaug Regional High School

School Resource Officer Update

Dr. Veronesi reviewed that the Board had requested that Trooper Hesseltine give an update. She identified the seven areas that were identified in the MOU and asked Trooper Hesseltine to report on those areas for this meeting. Going forward, they thought it would be appropriate for him to report to the Utilization Committee about safety and security items.

Regarding development expertise and relevant law enforcement and crime prevention education, Trooper Hesseltine reported that he spent six months at the State Police Training Academy prior to becoming a trooper and still participates in in-service training each year. He also had to take a two-week class to become an SRO.

Trooper Hesseltine reports that he tries to be very visible in the schools and have conversations with the students, staff and parents, whenever possible. He is working on developing relationships and gaining students' trust. DARE training has just started for the sixth graders and will continue for 10 weeks.

Dr. Veronesi stated that they would like to have Trooper Hesseltine attend faculty meetings over the next few months. He will be present at some of the parent-teacher conferences and at open houses next year as well as other school events. Trooper Hesseltine stated that he has been approached by several parents who say they are happy he is in district.

Mr. Yamartino asked Trooper Hesseltine what his impression is of the district and he stated that the students appreciate him being there. He's had students come in to just talk and ask about careers in law enforcement.

Dr. Veronesi stated that she and Trooper Hesseltine have talked about a few different incident situations and he will attend the district-wide security and safety team meeting on October 23rd. Trooper Hesseltine felt that there would be times that he may have to do criminal investigations and would have open communication with Dr. Veronesi and staff as appropriate.

Trooper Hesseltine described a basic day and his scheduled presence at schools across the district including parking lot surveillance and monitoring student driving in and out of the high school parking lot. He noted an improvement in students' driving safety since his arrival. He does visit two other schools each day and attends all the schools more than once a week.

Trooper Hesseltine reviewed that he cannot always share all of the information on student matters as most of the students are juveniles. He tries to have the parents present when he speaks with them.

Brian Falcone stated that the impact of having Trooper Hesseltine is most visible in the students' driving. He felt that Trooper Hesseltine has a real pulse of what's happening in the school and the kids do stop in to talk with him. He has made a real connection with the students.

Mr. Moore asked if Trooper Hesseltine was getting involved in any sort of social media with the students and he stated that he is preparing presentations for that sort of thing. Dr. Veronesi also commented that they are looking at bringing in Scott Driscoll who does presentations for students on internet safety and other social media topics. Mr. Roraback stated that his school took two days to get every student in their lecture hall and suggested that Trooper Hesseltine talk to other SROs to get ideas. Mr. Falcone explained that they do that now with orientation and that Trooper Hesseltine will be involved in that next year.

Student Achievement Presentation

Mrs. DiMaggio reviewed that her presentation will focus on SBAC scores, achievement scores, growth scores and where we are in the DRG. Curriculum, instruction and assessment must be aligned in order to get good quality student performance.

This year, the math curriculum has been fully implemented at the elementary level and assessments have been aligned to that curriculum. The math curriculum has now been implemented in grades six through eight and the teachers are working to align the assessments. In science, we are rolling out the NGSS science bundles and teachers are working through that process.

The curriculum is more rigorous than it's ever been. The district is in the process of writing the ELA curriculum that is aligned to Common Core standards. Processes and procedures are in place with the writing curriculum and they are also revising the elementary report card.

The district is improving the teachers' craft through professional learning and continuing with the workshop model in both ELA and math. There has been an enormous amount of work done on assessments. There is now an assessment calendar and process and procedures are in place for the data teams. The coaches are also working with the teachers on the problem of instructional practice and learner problems. Mrs. DiMaggio thanked Dr. Veronesi and the Board for all of their support.

Moving on to the student achievement scores, there was an increase from last year in grades three and eight. Scores are consistent across the board. Mrs. DiMaggio feels that the district will see a true increase over the next two years because of the curriculum that has been implemented. The word study program will also be implemented this year. There is no formal writing process in grades K-4 right now. They will work on a curriculum for that, but she does not want to implement that next year. Readers' workshop is being implemented this year in grades six through eight.

Mr. Yamartino asked for some clarification on how to read the scores and Mrs. DiMaggio explained that they are looking at cohorts but they should be looking at the growth scores. She presented a slide from the Data Dashboard and reviewed the meets or exceeds columns.

Mrs. DiMaggio went on to review the claims which are the students' knowledge and skills. She gave several examples of possibilities of students' scores. Brewster has made the most gains over the past three years, from 2015/16 at 54.5 to 2017/18 at 73.8. Grade three across the district made the most gains over the past three years. Grade eight made gains as well, from 65.2 percent in 2015/16 to 71.8 percent in 2017/18. Grade three had the highest at-goal achievement score in the district, 75.7 percent. Grade three Lyman students had the highest percentage of students scoring at level 4, at 53.3 percent. Grade eight had the lowest percentage of students scoring at level 1 at 5.3 percent. The DRG rating continues to grow and the district is above the DRG average.

Areas that require growth include listening across all grade levels, supporting text evidence through written response and word study.

Mrs. DiMaggio went on to report next steps which include continuing to implement Readers' Workshop model, implement word study in grades K-2, provide professional learning in Readers' Workshop grades 6-8, introduce teachers' college writing units in grades 3-8 and continue listening activities in all content areas. Looking again at achievement results, she reviewed the district's place in the DRG at 14 out of 28. Last year, we were 20th. Placement in a DRG is based on median income, education, home language, district enrollment, occupation and family structure. District 13 is within DRG C, with A being the highest, most affluent DRG.

Moving on to math scores, there have been increases from last year to this year in grades 3-8 and over time, significant increases in grades 5-8. In 2014/15, only 35 percent of the students in grade five were at goal and now it is at 58 percent. Mrs. DiMaggio believes that instructional practices have improved over time and they are more aligned to Common Core. Mr. Yamartino asked about the percentage swings in some levels and Mrs. DiMaggio explained that she felt that there was not a viable curriculum in place and there is now. Mr. Moore pointed out that both students and teachers have changed as well and Mr. Augur mentioned that the students also change schools. Dr. Veronesi explained that a decrease is generally seen when students transition from one school to another. Mrs. DiMaggio also mentioned that the reading interventionist program just started at the middle school and the math interventionist is now full-time.

Dr. Veronesi also mentioned that students who received special education support and may have significant disabilities are also required to take the SBAC test and the district wants all students to be at goal or above and to continue to make growth, but that may be more difficult for some students. Mrs. DiMaggio reminded everyone that they are looking at achievement scores, but the growth is really important as well.

Grade three performed the strongest in the district overall, in all three claim areas. Grade eight achievement scores increased significantly, from 50 percent to 48.1 percent and up to 62.3 percent. The district's DRG rating continues to increase and the scores were above the DRG average with the district's standing within the DRG at 17 when we were 20th last year.

As for areas that require growth, they are looking at the performance of students who receive special education services, concepts and procedures, instructional practices and scheduling time, including taking a look at school schedules. It is recommended that there is 60 minutes for math and the district does not have that. They will continue to work on the focus area, concepts and procedures, review elementary unit assessments, implement grades 6-8 curriculum and aligned assessments, provide math professional learning to all interventionists and special education teachers as well as classroom teachers and review aligned assessment and individual student scores.

Mrs. DiMaggio showed a graphic that Dr. Taylor created and reviewed the DRG average for math and ELA.

Overall ELA growth rate for grades 4-8 in ELA is 43.8 percent and the average percentage of target achieved is 63.10 percent. Math is a 46 percent growth rate and average percentage of target achieved is 66.7 percent. After consulting with the state, they expect all students to be at average percentage of target achieved at 100 percent by 2030. This would mean that the district does not want to fall below a 3 percent increase per year. Mrs. DiMaggio explained that growth rate is the same students from one grade level to the next, with each student given their own growth target.

Grade four overall is at 81.3 percent of average target achieved. Grade four at Memorial is at 82.7 percent and Lyman is at 79.3 percent. Grade five is at 72.3 percent. The district is at the top of the DRG for growth rate in grade four and grade five is outstanding. We are right below the DRG average in grade six, with a dip in grade seven, and back to just below the DRG average for grade eight.

Math growth scores are very impressive. Grade four has shown tremendous growth in math as has grade eight. Grade eight is at the top of the DRG in math growth scores, grades four and five are above DRG average, grade six is just below the DRG average and grade seven dips again.

Mr. Augur asked why there were N/A in the DRG scores and Mrs. DiMaggio explained that some districts don't report the score. Dr. Friedrich stated that some districts don't report if the n is small enough that they feel particular students could be identified. One region doesn't have fourth graders and another region is not considered a region at the elementary level. Mrs. DiMaggio will check to see why Chester and Deep River are not reported.

Dr. Friedrich confirmed that each student has a percentage of their target growth achievement and the numbers shown tonight were the average of all of those individual numbers.

Committee Reports**A. Utilization Committee Meeting - September 25, 2018**

Mr. Augur reviewed that the committee discussed the community newsletter at length and also talked about the feedback from the Community Engagement Session. Mr. Moore has drafted the newsletter and key highlights from the feedback will be added into it. He also included the growth rate graphic in the newsletter. The committee reviewed safety and security and asked to have dollar values associated with them. They also reviewed the different timelines for the Town of Durham's process for Korn School and went over capital.

Mrs. Boyle asked for an update on the school closing and the referendum on December 4th. She was under the impression that the Board will be on something soon that is impactful because of the Utilization Committee meetings. Mr. Moore stated that Dr. Veronesi will give her recommendation at the November meeting and the Board will make a decision on utilization at the December meeting. Mrs. Boyle summarized then that the Board's meeting and vote will be after the Town of Durham's referendum on December 4th. Mr. Moore stated that the Board will have time prior to the vote to talk about the Board's direction if the referendum fails. Mrs. Boyle felt that there is a lot going on and December is a busy time for taxpayers and voters. She felt that there was a lot happening in a very short amount of time at a very pinnacle point in the calendar year.

B. Student Achievement Committee Meeting - September 26, 2018

Mr. Moore stated that they had received Mrs. DiMaggio's report at the last Student Achievement Committee meeting.

C. Educational Resources Committee Meeting - October 10, 2018

Mr. Moore reported that the ERC discussed that the reimbursement grant is available for safety and security improvements and the district is looking at options to apply for it. Mrs. Neubig is recommending that we apply for reimbursement for the window film (38 percent in Durham and 45 percent in Middlefield) by December 4th. They will look to see what can be added into that application. Mr. Moore would like the Utilization Committee to firm up which items should be included.

The ERC also discussed the capital budget and Mr. Yamartino reported that Mrs. Neubig has put together various proposals for the different options of restructuring while looking at debt service and budgets. Two different recommendations have come forward; one to request bonding in the next budget cycle for \$6.92 million which would keep the district budget-neutral. The other recommendation is close to \$13 million which would allow the district to do more. For the last number of years, the district has been funding capital in the \$300,000 to \$400,000 range and the actual rate is closer to \$1.5 million with the five schools. The \$13 million is the more appropriate amount given the identified needs.

Mrs. Neubig stated that the \$6.92 million would keep the budget at the current level and the budget would reduce by roughly \$925,000 (2.5 percent) when and if Lyman School is closed. Mr. Yamartino mentioned that the \$6.92 million is earmarked to cover closing a school as well as some of the capital shortfall, but is grossly short of what is needed. With the construction costs of \$2.1 million for restructuring, if the district were to address the critical systems, the amount becomes more like \$8.2 million. If the district were to bond \$13 million, that will result in a budget increase of .68 percent in 2020 and a 1.97 percent increase in 2021 until 2030. She asked the Board members to remember that if Lyman is closed, there will be a budget reduction of 2.5 percent per year which could show a net result of

.53 percent. Mrs. Neubig felt that the district might want to go for the bigger bonding option because of the drop in operating expenses if Lyman is closed.

Mr. Yamartino explained that there is a shortfall to cover those critical systems and a shortfall on things that are not critical but will need to be replaced in the next three to five years. Once that is resolved, there will be a steady rate of approximately \$1.5 million per year in capital that will be required. Should Lyman be closed, that number drops to about \$1.3 million. Mr. Yamartino also stated that it may be possible to stagger when the bonding is done and felt it was important to know that the \$6.9 million will not cover everything. Dr. Veronesi felt that the Board has had the right approach with capital planning, but the amount of money assigned annually has been too low.

Mrs. Boyle felt that a graph of the debt service would be important for the public to see and Mrs. Neubig stated that she has that graph available. Mrs. Boyle would not want the information in a Google Doc, but prefers PowerPoint or a PDF.

Board Retreat

Mr. Augur felt that it was a great meeting with everyone in attendance. They spoke about the four pillars that the district supports: student achievement, fiscal oversight, well-being and engagement. Mr. Moore thanked everyone for attending the retreat and he has begun to create action items under each of the pillars.

Before and After Care Discussion

Mrs. Geraci felt that an extended day program would touch on all of the four pillars. A survey was done and there are about 100 children in the district who would be interested. She felt that a program like this would promote further learning and development. She also felt that the Board needs to talk about ways to create additional revenue streams. The program would include physical activities and social opportunities. She felt that all of the surrounding towns offer this type of program and it seems to be the way most school districts are going.

Dr. Veronesi reviewed that a proposal was made to the Board two years ago and it was not moved forward, probably due to competing priorities. Mr. Moore stated that they had talked about competition with local providers, but there has been changes in that as well. He would like to see a clear definition of what the program would look like before the Board moves forward.

Dr. Veronesi mentioned that one of the questions on the survey was who their current provider was and she didn't draw the conclusion that the district would be in competition with them. Mr. Moore also mentioned that it was the same year as when the BASREP program had to relocate. Dr. Veronesi also stated that Mrs. Neubig has worked in a district that had a very strong, viable extended day program.

Mrs. Boyle stated that she appreciated all the work that Kevin Brough did on this issue, they did learn that it would not be as big a revenue stream as one might think. The expenses and the liability to the district were two major concerns as well as the impact to the local daycare centers. She felt that a lot of people in town felt that the district should not be subsidizing daycare.

Mrs. Geraci stated that if it were not a revenue stream, she didn't feel that every district around would be doing it. Mrs. Boyle spoke to the YMCA about their program and felt that they were very honest about the program. Dr. Veronesi stated that the YMCA was willing to talk about having a YMCA-run program in the district. Mrs. Boyle commented that the state restrictions to run this type of program can be very

strict and very, very costly. She stated that she will follow through with this and will strongly oppose this type of program.

Mr. Augur felt it was a distraction and beyond the Board's charge of the school year and the school day. Dr. Friedrich felt that the district's charge was to educate children as best we can. Mrs. Boyle stated that the district's responsibility was from 9:00 to 3:00 (the school day) and nothing beyond that. Dr. Friedrich stated that the Board needed to cut sports then. Mr. Yamartino felt that the Board needs to list all of the items that need to be looked at and prioritize them. Dr. Veronesi asked if the process would be different if a Board member was to bring up a project.

Communications

Mr. Moore reported that Nick Faiella and Henry Bugai continue to talk with him about ideas for fund-raising for the field house. They have also mentioned some issues with sports funding and communication with the district which he thinks has been 99 percent resolved. Mr. Moore also received a letter from Theresa Weimann inviting the Board to attend Lyman assemblies. He received communication from Paul VanSteenbergen regarding busing issues and potential savings in busing by adjustment in the schools.

Several people spoke with Mr. Moore about class size and Brewster support. John Giammatteo volunteered to serve on the Utilization Committee. Mr. Moore has other people who have volunteered to Student Achievement and other committees. He also received lots of comments at the Durham Fair.

Mrs. Boyle reported that people approached her at the Durham Fair about the class sizes at Strong School. Dr. Veronesi stated that that issue was addressed at the Student Achievement meeting and Mr. Sadinsky responded directly to the two emails he received.

Mr. Yamartino had an inquiry about the MTA and bringing those students back into the district and he addressed that directly with the individual and informed them that the MTA is owned and operated by District 13 and siting those adults with a college community is better for them developmentally and provides better access for life skills. Mrs. Boyle clarified that the district does not own the building where MTA is housed and Wesleyan has been an amazing partner. She also noted that the students have great pride in going to college at Wesleyan. Mrs. Boyle also stated that the MTA is a bona fide revenue source for the district and has also become a template for other districts.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Veronesi reported that Jacob Fazzino's Eagle Scout project is to reclaim the Brewster nature trail and he will be removing all the invasive species, lining the trail and installing wood chips. Jacob Fazzino explained his project for the Board which will include removing the invasive species, laying a landscaping fabric and piling wood chips. He will line the border with cedar edging and he will also go a bit beyond the path to remove the invasive plants. With the brush that he clears, he will create a nature habitat. He will also clear the classroom area that has become overgrown. To raise funds for this, Jacob will hold bake sales at the dump. Mr. Moore suggested he put something at the Craft Fair in November at Coginchaug. Mr. Roraback suggested that Troop 33 in Middlefield might share some of the bottle revenue. Mr. Roraback also asked if any of the invasive species were edible and told a story of a program in Wisconsin where a cooking competition was held with invasive species.

Dr. Veronesi also stated that two years ago, they wrote the strategic coherence plan and rewrote the mission statement. She reviewed that action steps for this coming year have been identified. In student

achievement, the first goal is to focus on authentic learning. Dr. Veronesi reiterated that they want to make sure that what's happening in District 13 is truly engaging for the students.

This past year, an incredible amount of work was done to bring curriculum, instruction and assessment together. Moving forward, metrics have been identified to measure growth for individual students, grade levels, departments, schools and the district. Another important goal is the development of the Data Dashboard. Dr. Veronesi feels that The Workshop Model has been instrumental in changes in growth in ELA. Curriculum planning is ongoing. The feedback on the professional learning is affirming. Staffing decisions will need to be made to target student needs. Dr. Veronesi stated that the interventionists and coaches have impacted student performance. She, too, believes that the district needs to look at schedules, specifically to include 60 minutes of math for elementary level students.

The district feels that the area of well-being is the foundation upon which all success is built. Dr. Veronesi is tremendously proud of this initiative. Other districts feel that District 13 is very courageous to get out in front of this. The social-emotional learning programming came out of discussions about safety and security. Scott Rossignol will attend next month's board meeting to talk about the different levels of support in this area.

Dr. Veronesi invited the board members to join the Well-Being Committee. Safety and security incident planning protocols are always being looked at. They have been involved in the equity teamwork and an equity subcommittee has just been created, with three focus areas of pulling students and parents of minority subgroups in, continuing to work on the partnership with Middletown public schools and exploring a curriculum audit. Mr. Moore added that the equity committee meetings are attended by principals and teachers, the head of Independent Day School and representatives from Middletown.

The area of engagement was an area that came up because the board wants to be sure that the community understands what is being done and is participating and supporting the district's goals and priorities. The district-wide community plan is fully implemented and another survey will be distributed. There has been talk of developing a board communication plan, with the community newsletter four times a year, possibly holding three coffee shops during budget season and holding two community engagement sessions. The partnership with Ningbo, China will kick off in December when Mr. Moore, Dr. Veronesi and perhaps Mr. Hicks will travel to China with Mr. Falcone and a high school teacher.

Probably the most significant work that will be done this year has to do with the creation of the proposal for grade reconfiguration and educational approach. They will then need to create and follow a timeline. That will be linked to decisions made about capital investments. They will continue to engage town officials and community members in the budget process and the capital plan. Dr. Veronesi also suggested that the board have a retreat three times a year.

Business Manager's Report

Mrs. Neubig reports that there is nothing out of the ordinary to report in the general fund, revenue and MTA. She did note that the Pickett Lane culvert did need repair after the torrential rain storm, at a cost to date of \$6,200 with \$5,000 more anticipated to pave it this month. Mrs. Neubig checked and insurance does not cover this issue.

The boiler at Brewster needs repairs and is estimated to not exceed \$4,000. The unit ventilators at both Lyman and Memorial need testing and potential repairs, not to exceed \$6,600. A broken water cooler at Coginchaug was replaced for \$2,200.

The auditors were on-site all last week and the report so far is everything looks good. Their report is anticipated to be completed in December.

Mr. Yamartino also mentioned that the replacement cost for the Brewster boiler is estimated at \$120,000. Mrs. Boyle commended Rob Francis and Jimmy Croteau for their work over the years. Mr. Yamartino also asked about the enrollment and revenue from MTA and Mrs. Neubig stated that it is on target for full tuition.

New Business

A. Vote to accept field trip request

Mr. Hicks made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Boyle, to approve the request for the CRHS Model UN field trip to the University of Hartford on November 30, 2018 and New York City on October 25, 2018, with the understanding that this trip maybe withdrawn at any times by actions of Homeland Security and other law enforcement agencies and that the parents or guardians be apprised of this action.

In favor of approving the request for the CRHS Model UN field trip to the University of Hartford on November 30, 2018 and New York City on October 25, 2018, with the understanding that this trip maybe withdrawn at any times by actions of Homeland Security and other law enforcement agencies and that the parents or guardians be apprised of this action: Mr. Augur, Mrs. Boyle, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Geraci, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Moore, Mr. Roraback and Mr. Yamartino. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Chuck Stengel, from Durham, hoped that the repair of the culvert would not change the flood plain map for Korn School.

Carl Stoup, from Durham, stated that a community center is being considered at Korn School and that should address before and after school care. He also stated that the referendum will be for \$7.1 million, not \$7.5 million as was stated.

Theresa Weimann, from Durham, commented that the State has come out with a position statement on STEAM learning programs for K-12 and while she is very proud of District 13's STEAM programming, she believes the district is far below the recommendations. It really upsets her that the elementary school kids are offered only one after-school STEAM camp besides one or two sessions a month. She hoped that the board would increase the funding for STEAM and that the elementary level could benefit from that. Mrs. Weimann also stated that since some board members are willing to revisit the field house proposal and the board is willing to spend \$200,000 on the China partnership that there really is no reason not to consider at least discussing a before and after school program. The state does recommend after school programs as one of their recommendations. Mrs. Weimann had a letter addressed to the board in regards to parental and community rights regarding education decisions. It discusses the next steps that some parents will be taking in writing up a resolution request. She encouraged all of the board members to read it.

Mr. Hicks had come to the meeting from a Durham Fair meeting where they talked about how everyone pulled together, including Tilcon, Bristol Myers Squibb and Anthem, but they also owe a great deal of thanks to Regional School District 13. Dr. Veronesi, Mrs. Neubig and Mr. Moore offered schools and made the fair a success. Dr. Veronesi reported that she had received a letter from the Fair Association. Mr. Hicks reiterated that Region 13 is a real community partner and publicly thanked everyone on behalf of the Fair Association.

Theresa Weimann, from Durham, wanted to elaborate on a discussion at the last Utilization committee meeting with regard to security at Lyman School. Mrs. Weimann left her phone in the library the night of that meeting and called the next day to see if it was found. She was told that she could come look for it, was let into the school and no one ever asked who she was or why she was here.

Adjournment

Mr. Hicks made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Geraci, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education.

In favor of adjourning the meeting: Mr. Augur, Mrs. Boyle, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Geraci, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Moore, Mr. Roraback and Mr. Yamartino. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debi Waz

Debi Waz
Alwaz First