

The Regional School District 13 Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 7:00 PM remotely.

Board members present: Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Dr. Friedrich, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback, Dr. Taylor and Mr. Yamartino

Board members absent: Ms. Geraci and Mr. Hicks

Administration present: Dr. Schuch, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Neubig, Director of Finance, Mrs. DiMaggio, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Mrs. Keane, Director of Student Services and Special Education, Mr. Pietrasko, Director of Infrastructure and Security Technology, Mr. Falcone, Principal of Coginchaug Regional High School and Mr. Sadinsky, Principal of Strong School

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

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Yamartino made a motion, seconded by Dr. Friedrich, to approve the agenda, as presented.

In favor of approving the agenda, as presented: Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Dr. Friedrich, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback, Dr. Taylor and Mr. Yamartino. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Oanh Stephan, from Durham, stated that she has four kids who are either in the district or have gone through and is a member of Well-Being Committee. She wanted to encourage members of the board to accept the Equity policy that is being presented tonight which acknowledges the need for equality across gender, race and socioeconomic class. This policy recognizes that individuals are different and have been wrongfully and unequally treated because of that difference. It does not compare and contrast, but recognizes and corrects. Mrs. Stephan felt that the policy recognizes that discrimination exists in the schools and that the community will not allow that. She felt that all groups cannot be united at the same table until they recognize that all groups have not been supported equally and action is taken. She does agree that extra support should be provided to students to meet academic benchmarks and the student-centered learning has been working on that. Once again, she encouraged the board to accept the policy as written.

Recognition of CABE Student Leadership Award recipients - Emily Allen, Andrew Fazzino-Chettiar, Aidan Garcia and Caroline Smith

Mr. Falcone noted that Aidan Garcia has earned a 4.03 grade point average at the high school and has taken numerous honors and college-level classes throughout his four years. He received an award in French and has been inducted in the French Honor Society where he serves as co-president this year. He is a member of the boys' soccer team, indoor and outdoor track teams, Chamber choir, a capella group and the Envirothon team at Coginchaug.

The second award winner from Coginchaug is Caroline Smith who has earned a 3.84 GPA, while taking rigorous honors and college-level courses. She has devoted herself to community service throughout her

four years by giving to various organizations, such as the Lions Club of Durham, Habitat for Humanity, The Honduras Children's Project and many others. She teaches dance to younger children and is part of program that teaches dance to children with special needs. Caroline is part of the girls' softball team for four years and is a member of the National Honor Society.

Mr. Falcone congratulated both Caroline and Aidan for a job well done representing Coginchaug.

Mr. Sadinsky introduced Emily Allen who is a hard-working student who shows responsibility and leadership across academics. She is generous, kind and always willing to help others. Emily is incredibly supportive of the life skill students at Strong and has earned the CIAC Unified Sports Michaels Cup Award for the last two years for her participation with the Unified Sports team at Strong.

The second award winner from Strong School is Andrew Fazzone-Chettiar who is a well-rounded student who excels both in and out of the classroom. He has shown immense responsibility and independence by attending eighth grade remotely. He is an active participant in class, seeks out constructive feedback and is a positive role model to his peers. He is also in the Strong School jazz band, debate club and played basketball. He also participates in Paper House Productions theater, Boy Scouts, premier soccer and is involved in his church.

Andrew Fazzone-Chettiar thanked Mr. Sadinsky for all of his support. Emily Allen also thanked everyone. Aidan Garcia is very honored to receive the award and thanked everyone. Caroline Smith also thanked everyone for the recognition. Andrew's mother thanked everyone for the recognition and thanked the district for the fine education that the children receive and all of the support during the pandemic.

Mr. Moore and Mrs. Petrella congratulated all four students. Mr. Roraback added that he was able to catch Andrew's last performance at the high school and it was really well-done.

CRHS Student Reporters - Jaden Astle, Cadence Hurlbert and Noelle Sorensen

Cady Hurlbert noted that all of the teachers have made the most of the unpredictable schedule this year. She asked several teachers how they felt about the year and everyone had a very hard time switching between remote and in-person learning and were frustrated with unexpected schedule changes late at night. Online learning did provide some freedoms that teachers and students had not previously experienced, but often presented challenges. In-person learning with some students online was also difficult. She felt that the fact that they made it through the school year is a testament to the dedication the teachers have to their students and the community.

Jaden Astle explained that the students' motivation levels have certainly decreased and it was hard to concentrate on the content being presented, especially when remote learning was unexpected. Both students and staff were frustrated because it disrupted the flow of the education process. One major result of this is the discouragement that comes from the lack of motivation. It's hard for the students to adapt to the circumstances. He also felt that the environment at school was also very different, with a significant percentage of students being remote. Every day seems to be a reminder of how out of the ordinary everything is, including everyone wearing masks and social distancing. Jaden didn't feel there was a lot to look forward to over the past year. The senior trip was canceled as were music programs and club opportunities. The lack of competition and sports seasons were also discouraging. As they approach the

end of COVID, Jaden felt it was super important to remember that real communities, families and people have been dramatically affected.

Noelle Sorensen did feel there was a light at the end of the tunnel. They finally have some events to look forward to. Spring sports have occurred and the tournaments are coming up soon. They will also have their Senior Night at Quassy this Saturday, including a semi-formal dance, food, a DJ and rides. Next Friday, the first band and choral concert of the year will happen at 5:30 on the turf. The following Friday, the NHS induction will be help in-person for students and live-streamed for parents. Finally, the senior scholarship ceremony will happen on June 9th and graduation on the 17th. Noelle stated that the seniors are grateful to have even a few experiences that make high school so special. She felt that everyone seeks and needs normalcy. Kids need to be back in school at all grade levels because it's not just about academics, but is also about community involvement and engaging the students in something greater than themselves. She thanked the board for letting them share their thoughts.

Mr. Moore asked the student reports about their plans for next year. Cady Hurlbert will be going to Oberlin, majoring in history and possibly minoring in Hispanic studies. Jaden Astle will attend UCONN with a major in cognitive science. Noelle Sorensen will go to Susquehanna in Pennsylvania, majoring in elementary education and playing soccer as well.

Mr. Falcone added that the students have struggled this year, but they wanted to show the work that the teachers and students have done to push through. He did want them to be real with the board and let them know how the students felt. Mr. Moore thanked them for all of their work in keeping the board up to date. Dr. Schuch added his thanks as well for being so transparent and even a little vulnerable. He recognized that the students must wonder why this had to happen during their senior year. Dr. Schuch did feel that the students have inspired everyone to get back to normal as soon as possible.

Approval of Minutes

A. Board of Education regular meeting - March 31, 2021

Dr. Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Mr. Yamartino, to approve the minutes of the March 31, 2021 Board of Education regular meeting, as presented.

In favor of approving the minutes of the March 31, 2021 Board of Education regular meeting, as presented: Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Dr. Friedrich, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback, Dr. Taylor and Mr. Yamartino. Motion carried.

B. Board of Education regular meeting - April 7, 2021

Dr. Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Dr. Taylor, to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2021 Board of Education regular meeting, as presented.

In favor of approving the minutes of the April 7, 2021 Board of Education regular meeting, as presented: Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Dr. Friedrich, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback, Dr. Taylor and Mr. Yamartino. Motion carried.

C. Board of Education public hearing - April 7, 2021

Dr. Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Dr. Taylor, to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2021 Board of Education public hearing, as presented.

In favor of approving the minutes of the April 7, 2021 Board of Education public hearing, as presented: Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Dr. Friedrich, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback and Dr. Taylor. Mr. Yamartino abstained. Motion carried.

Next Board Meeting - May 26, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Mr. Moore explained that the meeting will be held in-person at the Coginchaug Library and there will be an executive session for the superintendent's review. The public will not be able to call in, so comments will need to be in-person or via email.

Committee Reports**A. Policy Committee Meeting - April 21, 2021****1. Possible vote to approve Equity Policy**

Mr. Moore reviewed that the Equity policy has been sent to everyone. Dr. Schuch noted that the second sentence in the draft does not flow well and could be wordsmithed. Dr. Taylor asked if the latest version could be displayed on the screen for the board and Dr. Friedrich agreed to make changes as they move through it.

Dr. Schuch read the second sentence, "the District values diversity in our schools and community and seeks to develop the capacity for cultural competence in empowering learners to thrive as global citizens." Everyone agreed that that sounds better than what is presently there.

Dr. Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Dr. Taylor, to adopt the Equity policy as amended and shown on the screen.

Mrs. Petrella reminded everyone that she had emailed everyone her proposed changes to this policy and that this is the board's first read. She felt that the changes she suggested do not alter the intent or focus of the proposed policy. Mrs. Petrella would like to make it a more inclusive title of Diversity, Inclusion, Equity and Unity policy. She then reviewed her proposed changes.

Mrs. Petrella explained that her focus is on unity as it is the ultimate over-arching goal of the policy and means being united as a whole. It implies solidarity or being together or at one with someone. She did not feel the policy should focus on bias, but rather on unity. She reviewed the work that was done on Portrait of the Citizen which included understanding and taking care of personal health, well-being and the environment. At least 20 of the 28 characteristics involve espousing and supporting an open mindset dealing with debating and problem-solving of issue. Mrs. Petrella then reviewed the main areas of the Portrait of the Citizen and mentioned specifics that focus on students being unbiased and open-minded.

Mrs. Petrella explained that equity is a part of the overall goal of unity and cannot be ignored. She gave the example of the ADA in 1990 and explained that in the process of addressing the needs of the disabled, no other groups were marginalized. She also read the course book that is being used in the class “American Voices” and noted that it is an excellent, unbiased source.

Mrs. Petrella summarized by asking the board to think outside the box and let RSD 13 be a leader in addressing social justice issues and stand out and forge a different, inclusive, open-minded approach.

Mrs. Petrella made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Caramanello, to amend the motion to accept her suggested changes to the Equity policy.

Dr. Friedrich did not agree to modify his motion to include Mrs. Petrella’s changes. Mrs. Caramanello supported Mrs. Petrella’s additions to focus on unity and doesn’t feel it takes anything away from the policy.

Mr. Moore felt that while unity may be a goal, it doesn’t reflect what needs to be done with equity. He explained that equity is about correcting issues that are occurring, directly or indirectly, upon students and others who are somehow marginalized. He felt that the board needs to focus on the equity of the instruction. He also felt that the term bias puts the board in a precarious position to determine what bias is. He summarized that he felt that the district needs to work to correct problems rather than reaching out to a broader goal.

Mr. Roraback felt there was quite a bit of redundancy with unbiased and a more powerful word would be “unconscious bias.” Mr. Yamartino believes the bias language is very important and felt that ensuring unbiased, equitable and equal opportunities and access to programs, services and resources is perfectly appropriate. He added that he is okay with some of Mrs. Petrella’s changes, but not 100 percent and would like to continue discussion so that the board gets it right.

Dr. Friedrich commented that words have the meanings we give them and, in this particular case, the word “unity” scares him. He believes that the word “unity” has widely been used to suppress dissent. Dr. Friedrich believes that including the word “unity” in this policy actually defeats its intention. Dr. Taylor agreed with Dr. Friedrich and noted that “unbiased” is equally problematic. Dr. Taylor felt that to achieve equal opportunity, there sometimes needs to be biased systems. He felt that the two words are particularly pernicious in these types of documents.

Dr. Schuch added that in his interactions with members of the community, the majority of people supported the original draft policy and shared a frustration that there was no policy. He felt that having a policy is better than having no policy and when you read the policy, it reads more like a position statement than a policy. Dr. Schuch believes that it is appropriate for the district to state that position. He stated that he believes that the education system naturally creates inequities and he felt that learner-centered education is an attempt to redesign that system. Dr. Schuch believes that the community has been asking for this policy for some years and felt that the original draft was the most appropriate.

Mrs. Petrella thanked everyone for their comments, but reiterated that this is only the first read and does not have to be voted on tonight. She felt that there are a lot of materials that are biased one way or another and that they become unbiased when both sides of the issue are discussed. She wants to make sure that that is ensured in this policy.

Mrs. Booth would like to see a policy get adopted tonight and felt that this has been discussed since last year. She did agree with some of the points that Mrs. Petrella had, but felt that less words is sometimes better. She would not feel comfortable adopting Mrs. Petrella's changes without having the attorney and community members look at it.

Mr. Roraback summarized that all board members would like to set a high bar on this subject matter and will be judged by their actions and less by their words.

In favor of accepting Mrs. Petrella's amendments to the proposed policy: Mrs. Caramanello and Mrs. Petrella. Opposed: Mrs. Booth, Dr. Friedrich, Mr. Moore, Mr. Roraback, Dr. Taylor and Mr. Yamartino. Motion was defeated.

Mr. Yamartino asked if the proposed text has been reviewed by the attorneys and he was assured that it was.

In favor of adopting the Equity policy as amended and shown on the screen: Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Dr. Friedrich, Mr. Moore, Mr. Roraback, Dr. Taylor and Mr. Yamartino. Mrs. Petrella abstained. Motion carried.

2. Possible vote to approve adding disclaimer regarding overnight travel to Field Trip Policy

Mr. Moore reviewed that this was sent out to everyone for review. Mr. Hicks had proposed adding "parents or guardians of students anticipating participation in field trips must be made aware that school-sanctioned trips may be withdrawn at any time due to the actions of, but not limited to, Homeland Security or other government or law enforcement agencies or health agencies, such as, but not limited to, the Center for Disease Control and that parents or guardians of students be apprised of this possible action." This language would be added to every field trip request.

Dr. Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Mr. Yamartino, to adopt the disclaimer regarding overnight travel to the Field Trip Policy.

Mr. Yamartino felt that it was redundant to name Homeland Security and Center for Disease Control and that that part could be rephrased. Dr. Friedrich revised the policy to read, "parents or guardians of students anticipating participation in field trips must be made aware that school-sanctioned trips may be withdrawn at any time due to the actions of government agencies, such as, but not limited to, Homeland Security or the Centers for Disease Control."

Both Dr. Friedrich and Mr. Yamartino agreed with the revised language.

In favor of adopting the disclaimer regarding overnight travel to the Field Trip Policy, as revised: Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Dr. Friedrich, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback, Dr. Taylor and Mr. Yamartino. Motion carried.

B. Utilization Committee Meeting - April 22, 2021

Dr. Taylor reported that the committee had some discussion on security grants and funding. The decision was made to hold another Utilization meeting prior to the next board meeting to be able to present a number of security options to the full board. The grant needs to be submitted in early to mid-June. They also discussed Lyman School and the potential buyer. Meriden Hills Baptist Church has sent a letter of intent. Dr. Taylor also reviewed that the Town of Durham has now voted to accept Korn School.

Mr. Moore had sent the first phase of getting to a plan amendment out to everyone. It is very similar to what was done last time, but does recognize changes that occurred because of the referendum and configurations to the schools. Mr. Moore read the language to the board and explained that this will be sent to the Commissioner of Education for approval before it can be moved to the next step. Matt Ritter did comment that it cannot contain too much advocacy and it will be straightforward changes to the plan. Dr. Friedrich asked for a slight change in wording and Mr. Moore agreed. Mr. Moore reminded everyone that any amendment needs to pass in both towns.

Mr. Yamartino made a motion to approve the Regional Plan Amendment, as presented.

Dr. Taylor asked if a vote was necessary since it is not on the agenda and Mr. Moore felt that they just needed to concur on it since it is just a letter to the Commissioner of Education. Dr. Friedrich thanked Mr. Moore for his work on this. Mr. Moore added that he also sent this letter to Ann Baldwin, the communications specialist. Dr. Schuch reviewed that they have hired Ann Baldwin's firm to help with communication about Lyman School.

C. Finance Committee Meeting - April 28, 2021

Mrs. Neubig reported that the committee briefly mentioned the budget and then discussed the audit of the Lyman School cost projections with a final report forthcoming. Mrs. Neubig has received a draft report and will discuss it at the next committee meeting. They also spoke about Korn School and capital needs as well as looking to level-fund the debt service going forward. If the legislature approves regional school districts being able to put aside 2 percent of their budget, that will provide additional savings for capital needs. Town representatives at the meeting did not discuss any pressing town needs other than Korn School.

Mr. Moore added that they had also discussed traffic on Pickett Lane and Mrs. Neubig did follow up on that.

Communications

Mr. Moore reported that Dr. Taylor was re-elected on Monday night to serve until December 6th.

Mr. Moore received emails from Oanh Stephan, Marie Watson, Michelle Gohagon and Tina Hurlbert related to the Equity policy and the request to continue the Equity committee at the staff level.

Mr. Yamartino asked about the letter received from Meriden Hills Baptist Church and what the next steps would be. They requested the ability to start entering into negotiation for the purchase/sale contingent upon the sale of their building and they are looking for timing to be summer of 2022. Mr. Yamartino

stated that their level of intent is very real and very high at this point. Mr. Roraback added that that is contingent upon what happens at the referendum in November.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Schuch had forwarded the Meriden Hills Baptist Church letter to everyone and wanted to explain that he has been in contact with Russ Smith, the pastor, and has scheduled another meeting letter this week or next week. Dr. Schuch does feel it's important that everyone knows they are very interested and will be willing to come to terms with the district, sooner vs. later, if the November referendum authorizes the district to close the building. Dr. Schuch noted that they desire to be in the building in the summer of 2022, but he has explained that it is a bit premature for the district to commit to a date at this point. Dr. Schuch will continue his relationship with the church and keep the board up to date. He also added that over 90 percent of the church's membership voted in favor of authorizing the letter of intent.

Dr. Schuch emphasized that the district's priority needs to be in getting the clear communication out to the citizens of both towns to get permission to close the school and ultimately work with the church.

Dr. Schuch has also met with Laura Francis, along with team members and attorneys, and have begun the process of moving the transition of Korn School forward. There will probably be some decisions for the board to make over the next several months. Laura Francis is estimating it will take four months to get everything done. There are Planning and Zoning issues, code compliance issues and other things that need to be done a certain way. Dr. Schuch is very pleased with the outcome of this referendum and assured Mrs. Francis that the district will do whatever they can to make the transition smooth.

Dr. Schuch also congratulated Dr. Taylor on his re-election. Dr. Schuch also reported that Mr. Falcone was recently named as the finalist for the superintendent position in Plymouth and the board there intends to hire him. He has not been officially appointed at this point, so the district is not in a position to begin searching for a replacement, but Dr. Schuch is giving it serious thought.

Dr. Schuch also thanked the board members, Mrs. Neubig and staff for the recent budget process. He also thanked Dr. Serino for getting the process started. He thanked everyone for their patience as he learned the process and noted that he is thrilled with the outcome.

Dr. Schuch also reported that the Department of Education has finally come out with guidance about the next school year and, as of this moment, there will be no requirement for remote learning to be offered in 2021-2022. The district does not intend to offer remote learning in the way it was offered this year, however there may be individual needs. Teachers will not be asked to teach both in-person and remote. Dr. Schuch believes that everyone has learned a lot this year about remote learning and he does feel there is a role for that in education. They will be working to convince families that their children need to be back in school and they will be safe.

Dr. Schuch reviewed that the district has invited all of the staff to get vaccinated and asked Mr. Brough for an update about vaccinations for 12 and over. Mr. Brough stated that several weeks ago, the CDC granted emergency use authorization for individuals from ages 16 to 18 to receive the Pfizer vaccination. Middlesex Health scheduled a dedicated clinic for students in that age group. Today, the CDC granted emergency use authorization for ages 12 to 15. Mr. Brough contacted Middlesex Health and a flyer will be distributed tomorrow to students in that age group providing information about where they can receive

the vaccine. He does believe that a large percentage of the student population will be fully vaccinated at the beginning of next school year. They are also working with the local Health Officer to possibly coordinate a clinic in Durham and Middlefield.

Dr. Taylor asked if they have any idea of the percentage of staff and students 16-18 have been vaccinated. He also asked if there has been discussion about the steps that need to be taken to not have to wear masks. Mr. Brough stated that approximately 71 percent of the staff was vaccinated at the clinic at the Oakdale and he felt that 90 to 95 percent of the staff has been vaccinated. Dr. Taylor asked if there has been discussion about students reporting being vaccinated to schools as they do with other vaccines. Mr. Brough stated that legal counsel will be working to set up guidelines about that. Dr. Schuch added that he understood that there is a distinction in tracking or asking about this data while still under Emergency Use Authorization. Once the vaccines reach full FDA approval, the district would then be in a better position to ask those questions and there may even be a requirement for vaccination at that point. Dr. Schuch felt that they need to wait and see how things play out over the summer. As of now, Dr. Schuch has not heard anything from the state about mask requirements. He hoped to continue to reach out to families and students to encourage them to get vaccinated.

Mr. Moore stated that there is a concert Friday for the first time in a year and a half. Dr. Taylor asked what the district's stance will be on masks outside for that event. Dr. Schuch felt that the CDC is still mandating masks for outdoor events that are large gatherings and they would ask people to wear masks and socially distance. He felt that the same would be true for any other large gatherings they will hold.

Director of Finance's Report

Mrs. Neubig reviewed the general fund came in at 79 percent expended and 84 percent revenue received as of April. Revenue will be down because building use and interest income are coming in under budget. MTA is at 48 percent expended and 67 percent revenue received. She will transfer the health insurance reimbursement and tuition to the general fund in June, which will be between \$100,000 and \$150,000.

Mrs. Neubig also noted that the district has received the final allocations for the American Rescue Plan which came in at \$449,040. There is a 20 percent set-aside for learning loss. Use of these funds is under discussion and they do not need to be expended until September of 2024.

Mr. Yamartino asked what Mrs. Neubig is forecasting for the balance at the end of the year and she felt that they would be more than able to cover the \$400,000 that was transferred to balance the budget and could see another \$200,000 to \$300,000 after that.

New Business

A. Healthy Food Certification - vote on Healthy Food Initiative and Food Exemptions

Mrs. Neubig reviewed that the district participates in the National School Lunch program and receives reimbursement for free and reduced lunch as well as full-paying meals but that is contingent upon offering healthy food and beverages and timing of other sales.

Mr. Yamartino made a motion, seconded by Dr. Taylor, to approve the Healthy Food Options pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, section 10-215f, the Board of Education of Regional School District 13

certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in schools under its jurisdiction and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs and any fund-raising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or by non-school organizations and groups.

In favor of approving the Healthy Food Options for 2021-2022 for food options: Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Dr. Friedrich, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback, Dr. Taylor and Mr. Yamartino. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Yamartino made a motion, seconded by Dr. Friedrich, to allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutritional Standards and beverages not listed in section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes, provided that the following conditions are met: (1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; (2) the sale is at the location of the event and (3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly-scheduled practice, meeting or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays and interscholastic debates are events, but soccer practices, play rehearsals and debate team meetings are not. The "regular school day" is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the school day. "Location" means where the event is being held.

In favor of approving the Healthy Food Certification for 2021-2022 for beverage options: Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Dr. Friedrich, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback, Dr. Taylor and Mr. Yamartino. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Vote to approve CRHS Disney field trip request

Dr. Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Dr. Taylor, to approve the CRHS Disney field trip request.

Mr. Yamartino wanted to make sure that the new policy language is attached to all of permission slips for this trip.

In favor of approving the CRHS Disney field trip request: Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Dr. Friedrich, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback, Dr. Taylor and Mr. Yamartino. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Vote to authorize superintendent to negotiate the sale of Korn School building to the Town of Durham

Dr. Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Mr. Yamartino, to authorize the superintendent to negotiate the sale of Korn School building to the Town of Durham.

Mr. Yamartino asked when the board would see preliminary terms and conditions and asked how the transfer of the land will be handled. Dr. Schuch felt that was reasonable and that the land, field use and maintenance will need to be included. Laura Francis felt that they would need to keep some parking and possibly outdoor use. She is aware that the district will need to continue to use the fields. Dr. Schuch

stated that he intends to keep the board updated, but felt that this motion allows him to negotiate without having to get formal votes on every issue.

Mrs. Neubig added that they have started discussions with the attorneys and Mr. Croteau has met with Durham Public Works as well as Mrs. Francis. They continue to help the town in any way they can. She did mention that there was discussion about a six-acre parcel of land in one of the earlier MOUs. There are also issues with underground oil tanks, who would maintain Pickett Lane, mowing, snow removal, street sweeping, etc.

Mr. Yamartino felt that subdividing would be very challenging and the better option may be for the district to own the land and the town gets the right-of-way for use of the land. There may not be a parcel that the district can legally transfer. Mr. Moore noted that the leaching field is all on a single parcel, but the boundaries need to be identified.

In favor of authorizing the superintendent to negotiate the sale of Korn School building to the Town of Durham: Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Dr. Friedrich, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback, Dr. Taylor and Mr. Yamartino. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

None.

Mr. Moore reminded everyone that the next meeting will be held in the library at Coginchaug. Anyone wishing to speak will need to attend the meeting and everyone will be required to wear masks and socially distance.

Adjournment

Dr. Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Mr. Yamartino, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education.

In favor of adjourning the regular meeting of the Board of Education: Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Dr. Friedrich, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback, Dr. Taylor and Mr. Yamartino. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debi Waz

Debi Waz
Alwaz First