

Revised

The Regional School District 13 Board of Education met in special session on Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 8:00 PM in the auditorium at Coginchaug Regional High School.

Board members present: Ms. Betty (remotely), Mrs. Caramanello, Mrs. Dahlheimer, Dr. Darcy, Mr. Mennone, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella and Mr. Roraback

Board members absent: Mr. DeVecchio and Mr. Stone

Administration present: Dr. Schuch, Superintendent of Schools and Mrs. Neubig, Director of Finance

Mrs. Dahlheimer called the special meeting to order at 8:37 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Petrella made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mennone, to approve the agenda, as presented.

In favor of approving the agenda, as presented: Ms. Betty, Mrs. Caramanello, Mrs. Dahlheimer, Dr. Darcy, Mr. Mennone, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella and Mr. Roraback. Motion carried.

Discussion on Public Hearings/District Meetings

Mr. Moore thanked everyone for their questions and comments.

Mrs. Petrella then the resolution into the record.

“REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 13, TOWN OF DURHAM AND MIDDLEFIELD, RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE QUESTION FOR A REFERENDUM VOTE TO AMEND THE PLAN OF REGIONALIZATION FOR THE DISTRICT AND TO AUTHORIZE THE PREPARATION OF EXPLANATORY TEXT.

BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1. That the Regional School District 13 Board of Education hereby approves the following referendum question which shall be submitted to electors of the Towns of Durham and Middlefield: QUESTION: “SHALL THE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 13 PLAN OF REGIONALIZATION BE AMENDED TO AUTHORIZE THE REGION 13 BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ADOPT A THREE-SCHOOL MODEL WITH PRE-K-GRADE 5 AT MEMORIAL SCHOOL IN MIDDLEFIELD, GRADES 6-8 AT STRONG MIDDLE SCHOOL IN DURHAM AND GRADES 9-12 AT COGINCHAUG REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN DURHAM AND TO CLOSE FREDERICK F. BREWSTER SCHOOL IN DURHAM AND JOHN LYMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN MIDDLEFIELD UPON THE TRANSITION TO THE THREE-SCHOOL MODEL?”

The response would be YES or NO. Voters approving the question shall vote “Yes” and those opposing the question shall vote “No.”

Section 2. That the Secretary of the Board of Education is authorized to prepare, print and disseminate a concise explanatory text concerning the referendum question above. Such explanatory text is subject to the approval of the Board of Education's attorney. Subject to the approval of the Board of Education's attorney, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to prepare and print explanatory materials regarding the proposed amendments to the Plan of Regionalization. The explanatory text and explanatory materials shall not advocate either the approval or disapproval of the referendum question above and shall be prepared in accordance with Section 9-369b of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Section 3. The following polling places shall be utilized for purposes of the referendum vote on the voting tabulators:

Durham Community Center
144 Pickett Lane
Durham, Connecticut 06422

Middlefield Community Center
405 Main Street
Middlefield, Connecticut 06455

Section 4. Warnings of the referendum vote shall be published in newspapers having a general circulation within the Towns of Durham and Middlefield, respectively, not less than fifteen (15) days before the date of said referendum, and not more than five (5) days before the date of said referendum, which warnings shall be in substantially the following forms:

WARNING
REFERENDUM VOTE
Regional School District No. 13
Town of Durham
June 11, 2024

A referendum vote of the electors of the Town of Durham, Connecticut will be held in the Town of Durham at the following place:

Durham Community Center
144 Pickett Lane
Durham, Connecticut 06422

and simultaneously in Middlefield, Connecticut on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. pursuant to Section 10-47c of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, as amended, upon a resolution adopted by the Regional School District No. 13 Board of Education at a meeting held on May 1, 2024.

The resolution will be placed on the ballot labels as the following question:

“SHALL THE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 13 PLAN OF REGIONALIZATION BE AMENDED TO AUTHORIZE THE REGION 13 BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ADOPT A THREE-SCHOOL MODEL WITH PRE-K-GRADE 5 AT MEMORIAL SCHOOL IN MIDDLEFIELD, GRADES 6-8 AT STRONG MIDDLE SCHOOL IN DURHAM AND GRADES 9-12 AT COGINCHAUG REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN DURHAM AND TO CLOSE FREDERICK F. BREWSTER SCHOOL IN

DURHAM AND JOHN LYMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN MIDDLEFIELD UPON THE TRANSITION TO THE THREE-SCHOOL MODEL?"

YES or NO. Voters approving the question shall vote "Yes" and those opposing the question shall vote "No."

A copy of the full text of the amendment to the District's Plan of Regionalization is on file and available for public inspection at the Town Clerk's Office. Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk's office.

Dated in Durham, Connecticut this ___ day of _____, 2024.

Nicole Charest
Durham Town Clerk

WARNING
REFERENDUM VOTE
Regional School District No. 13
Town of Middlefield
June 11, 2024

A referendum vote of the electors of the Town of Middlefield, Connecticut will be held in the Town of Middlefield at the following place:

Middlefield Community Center
405 Main Street
Middlefield, Connecticut 06455

and simultaneously in Durham, Connecticut on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. pursuant to Section 10-47c of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, as amended, upon a resolution adopted by the Regional School District No. 13 Board of Education at a meeting held on May 1, 2024.

The resolution will be placed on the ballot labels as the following question:

"SHALL THE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 13 PLAN OF REGIONALIZATION BE AMENDED TO AUTHORIZE THE REGION 13 BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ADOPT A THREE-SCHOOL MODEL WITH PRE-K-GRADE 5 AT MEMORIAL SCHOOL IN MIDDLEFIELD, GRADES 6-8 AT STRONG MIDDLE SCHOOL IN DURHAM AND GRADES 9-12 AT COGINCHAUG REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN DURHAM AND TO CLOSE FREDERICK F. BREWSTER SCHOOL IN DURHAM AND JOHN LYMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN MIDDLEFIELD UPON THE TRANSITION TO THE THREE-SCHOOL MODEL?"

YES or NO.

Voters approving the question shall vote "Yes" and those opposing the question shall vote "No."

A copy of the full text of the amendment to the District's Plan of Regionalization is on file and available for public inspection at the Town Clerk's Office. Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk's office.

Dated in Middlefield, Connecticut this ____ day of _____, 2024.

Tonya Hogan
Middlefield Town Clerk

Mrs. Petrella made a motion, seconded by Dr. Darcy, to approve the question for a referendum vote to amend the Plan of regionalization for the district and to authorize preparation of the explanatory text.

In favor of approving the question for a referendum vote to amend the Plan of regionalization for the district and to authorize preparation of the explanatory text: Mrs. Caramanello, Mrs. Dahlheimer, Dr. Darcy, Mr. Mennone, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, and Mr. Roraback. Motion carried, with Ms. Betty abstaining.

Adjournment

Dr. Darcy made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mennone, to adjourn the special meeting of the Board of Education.

In favor of adjourning the special meeting of the Board of Education: Ms. Betty, Mrs. Caramanello, Mrs. Dahlheimer, Dr. Darcy, Mr. Mennone, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella and Mr. Roraback. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debi Waz

Debi Waz
Alwaz First