

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 16
Board of Education Meeting
November 18, 2015

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

		<u>Weighted Vote Per Member</u>
<i>Beacon Falls...</i>	Christine Arnold	.7
	Sheryl Feducia	.7
	David Rybinski	.7
<i>Prospect...</i>	Daisy Laone	1.3
	Nazih Noujaim	1.3
	Roxann Vaillancourt	1.3
	Robert Hiscox	1.3

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Education meeting was called to order by Robert Hiscox at 7:07 p.m.in the Media Center at Long River Middle School, Prospect, CT.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

III. RECORD OF MEMBERS PRESENT

A roll was taken and a quorum was present.

Chairman Robert Hiscox called for a moment of silence in memory of the victims of the terrorist attacks in Paris, France.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of October 28, 2015, Board of Education Meeting (Ex. I)

A MOTION was made by Sheryl Feducia and SECONDED by Dave Rybinski to approve the minutes of October 28, 2015 Board of Education Meeting (Ex. I)

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 7.3)

15-270

V. TOWN OFFICIAL COMMENT

First Selectman Christopher Bielik, Town of Beacon Falls, spoke and handed out a list of questions regarding the sale and purchase of Community School. The Superintendent's office will respond to the questions.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Douglas Merriman, resident of Prospect and a member of the Prospect Town Council, showed the BOE a poster from 2001 listing all the Woodland Regional High School sports schedules from that year. Included on the poster were ads from local businesses. This poster was generated as a fundraiser back in 2001, and Mr. Merriman thought it would be a good idea to start doing that again.

- X. EXEMPLARY PEOPLE AND PROGRAMS** *(taken out of order by Chair Hiscox)*
Recently retired Director of Special Education, Dr. Lynn Cox, was present at tonight's meeting, and the Board gave recognition to her for all her years of service to Region 16's students with special needs. The Board presented Dr. Cox with flowers and a little gift for her retirement. Dr. Cox commented on how difficult a decision it was to make to retire, as she had made so many good friends over the years in her colleagues and students' parents. She thanked the Board for all their support.

A MOTION was made by Sheryl Feducia and SECONDED by David Rybinski to add to the agenda to act on the disposal of the Region's 2002 Chevy truck.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 7.3)

15-271

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Thank you note from Attorney Jessica Ritter of Shipman and Goodwin.
2. Email from parent re United Day School and emergency early dismissal.

VIII. TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Feducia read the treasurer's report as follows:

Balance in General Fund as of 11/18/15:	\$7,551,619.77
Tonight's invoices total:	\$1,115,496.03
General Fund:	\$788,253.05
Federal and State Grants:	\$4,779.15
Adult Ed, Other Grants, Athletic Fund:	\$88.37
School Construction Payments:	\$322,375.46
Balance of School Construction Project:	\$4,016,610.20

Mr. Yamin asked about the Algonquin School and Community School Student Activity Accounts listed on the summary page. Ms. Mangini reported these accounts will be closed and a new Prospect Elementary School Student Activity Account will be opened.

IX. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT (Anna Witkowski, Donovan White)

The student reps were not present at tonight's meeting but submitted a report, the highlights of which follow. *(A detailed report is on file in the BOE office)*

Some Math teachers and the Curriculum Director attended a workshop at ACES on the redesigned SAT. Much of the information gleaned will be used to drive decisions about curriculum and instruction. All Algebra 2 and Geometry teachers are working on rolling out the state model curricula, emphasizing the newly redesigned SAT. Math Team's next math competition is at Brookfield High School on 12/5. Ms. Monika Fryc-Gabrys is advising/coaching this group. The Math Honor Society students will once again be offering online Study Buddy support for all WRHS students.

Former NBA basketball player, Chris Herren, will come to WRHS on Friday to tell his personal story of his struggle with substance abuse. Mr. Herren tours the country speaking at colleges and high schools advocating sobriety.

The Guidance Dept. is hosting a Financial Aid Night on Tuesday, December 1st at WRHS. Parents and students are invited to hear presentations.

Students are revving up for Spirit Week and wore purple to school one day last week honoring Epilepsy Awareness Day. Tickets for Homecoming are on sale. Next week: Disney Dress-Up Day and an all school service day to support the Prospect VFW.

XI. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. Superintendent's Update

1. Public Comment responses from 10/18/15 BOE meeting.

Mr. Yamin stated that the BOE follows Roberts Rules of Order when conducting business at a Board meeting. He explained why the Board does not formally respond to comments during the "Public Comment" section of a meeting and quoted Region 16 policy 9325, addressing Board responses to public comments. The public can sign up to speak at a meeting; and by leaving their contact information, a response can be given within a week to any questions or concerns. Also, Mr. Yamin relayed his door is open for anyone who does not feel comfortable speaking at a meeting. In response to a letter received at a previous BOE meeting from Mr. Ploss, Mr. Yamin spoke about per pupil expenditures, SBAC rankings, and SAT scores compared to other scores in our DRG.

2. Financial update/transfer for 2015-16 school year.

Mr. Yamin provided the Board with a document labeled Maintenance and Repair Work. The document detailed the following: (1) curtains on stages at Laurel Ledge and Woodland requiring replacement, (2) two bathrooms at Laurel Ledge needing to be upgraded, and (3) LRMS bathroom repairs and upgrades needed, as they pose a health/safety concern. A Facilities Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 9th at 6:00 p.m. at District Office to discuss getting bids on these renovations.

Mrs. Mangini provided the Board with the Financial Status Report dated October 2015 and reviewed the details. She identified there will be a projected balance at the end of the year. Based on that projected year-end balance, Mr. Yamin and Mrs. Mangini outlined the request for transfer of funds from these balances to various accounts for major expenditures such as: Board of Ed furniture, school bathroom renovations, replacement of stage curtains, and District Office improvements.

3. December 16th Committee Selection for BOE.

Mr. Hiscox referred to the memo that the Board received regarding serving on Standing Committees. A reorganization meeting will be held in December to elect new officers. The Chairperson will assign BOE members to the Standing Committees based on their choices listed in the memo. Mr. Hiscox asked that all members return the forms with committee selections by the December 16th meeting.

B. Action Items

1. First reading on new policy/regulation #5122.3 *Assignment of Home-Schooled Students to Classes*.

A MOTION was made by Sheryl Feducia and SECONDED by Nazih Noujaim to approve the first reading on new policy/regulation #5122.3 *Assignment of Home-Schooled Students to Classes* with one change on regulation page (c): eligibility to be valedictorian/salutatorian requires enrollment in Region 16 for at least three years, instead of two.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 7.3)

15-272

2. First reading of revised policy #5141.5 *Suicide Prevention*.

A MOTION was made by Sheryl Feducia and SECONDED by Nazih Noujaim to approve the first reading of revised policy #5141.5 *Suicide Prevention*.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 7.3)

15-273

3. Act on approval of 2016-2017 school calendar.

Mr. Yamin presented the proposed 2016-2017 school year calendar. A discussion ensued in which Mr. Noujaim mentioned school being in session on Veterans Day to celebrate our veterans. Mr. Hiscox suggested that the matter be investigated further and that the motion be tabled.

4. Act to approve transfer of line item appropriation.

A MOTION was made by Sheryl Feducia and SECONDED by David Rybinski to approve the transfer of budgeted funds in the amount of \$390,350 to various accounts for major expenditures as presented by the Director of Finance and Business Operations.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 7.3)

15-274

C. Director of Finance and Business Operations Report

Mrs. Mangini shared the 2016-2017 heating oil/gasoline/diesel bid results with the Board. She further noted that the annual audit report is in progress.

D. Old Business

E. New Business

Mr. Rybinski brought up an issue with outside lights being kept on all night at PES and Community School. Mr. Yamin stated that he will look into this and report at the next meeting.

F. Items to be discussed at future BOE meetings.

G. Information Items (with possible action)

1. Update budget analysis on building projects.

The construction at LLES and PES are complete except for a few minor items. Approximately \$1M was spent on the removal of asbestos and PCBs including the removal of contaminated dirt from the Algonquin site. This left a \$40K shortfall in the building projects. A full report will be given at the next meeting.

2. Chevy Truck with plow

A MOTION was made by David Rybinski and SECONDED by Sheryl Feducia to relinquish the title of the 2002 Chevy truck with plow and sander to MJL Realty & Investments no later than 11/30/15 in exchange for three new Briggs and Stratton 22" electric start snow blowers for the Region.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 7.3)

15-275

- H. Enrollment** (Ex. II)
Included in the packet.

XII. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

1. Personnel and Negotiations Committee
Next negotiation meeting for the teachers' contract is 12/2/2015 at LRMS.
2. Facilities and Transportation Committee
Next meeting is December 9th at 6:00 p.m. at the District office.
3. Curriculum Committee
Appoint Daisy Laone to Curriculum Committee to replace Donna Cullen.
Next meeting is December 16th, 6:15 p.m., WRHS.
4. Policy Committee
Meeting was held earlier tonight.
5. Public Communications
Update Budget Calendar with current info. - upload to the Region 16 website.
6. Technology Committee
Meeting was held before tonight's BOE meeting.
7. Recognition Committee
8. Liaisons
 - a. Schools :
WRHS' performance of the *Sound of Music* will be held on December 11 and 12.
The Winter Band Concert is schedule for December 21st. The annual Fine Arts Night was held on November 19th at the high school.
 - b. Wellness Committee
 - c. Professional Development Committee
 - d. 2COM
Region 16 schools to host a yearly event/on-going event to build/foster collaborative community.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Sheryl Feducia and SECONDED by David Rybinski to adjourn the November 18, 2015, Board of Education meeting at 8:21 p.m.
ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 7.3) **15-276**

Nazih Noujaim,

Board Secretary

*These minutes are subject to Board approval,
Laura Marvin, Substitute Board Clerk*