

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 16
Board of Education Meeting
January 27, 2016

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Yamin, Superintendent of Schools
Pamela Mangini, Dir. of Finance and Business Operations
Kurt Ogren, Principal WRHS
Regina Murzak, Principal LLES
Rima McGeehan, Principal PES
Jeffrey Haddad, Assistant Principal PES
Barbara Peck, Curriculum Director
Michael Ceresa, Director of Facilities and Maintenance

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Education meeting was called to order by Sheryl Feducia at 7:01 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.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of January 13, 2016, Board of Education Meeting (Ex. I)

A MOTION was made by Nazih Noujaim and SECONDED by Daisy Laone to approve the minutes of January 13, 2016 Board of Education Meeting (Ex. I)

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 7.3)

16-009

V. TOWN OFFICIAL COMMENT

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dino Verrelli, resident of Beacon Falls, addressed the Board regarding his dissatisfaction with what has been done in the Region. Mr. Verrelli voiced his concern for the surplus with the current budget. Mr. Verrelli expressed his opinion that spending is increasing while performance is decreasing.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

VIII. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Noujaim read the treasurer's report as follows:

Balance in General Fund as of 1/27/16:	\$7,681,201.44
Tonight's invoices total:	\$791,013.08
General Fund:	\$600,397.72
Federal and State Grants:	\$2,400.00
Adult Ed, Other Grants, Athletic Fund:	\$0.00
School Construction Payments:	\$188,215.36
Balance of School Construction Project:	\$2,567,836.37

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

Mr. White shared the report with the Board highlighting some important information regarding the Departments at WRHS, Clubs, and Student Council.

X. EXEMPLARY PEOPLE AND PROGRAMS

A congratulatory letter was read by Mrs. Feducia regarding the success of the girls' indoor track team.

XI. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. Superintendent's Update

Before this evening's presenters began Mr. Yamin strongly advocated for more people to share their opinions regarding the budget as he would like to take all opinions into consideration.

Item 4 from the Superintendent's Update to "Discuss transfer of 1% of budgeted funds to a capital non-recurring fund" was moved to the Report of Committees Facilities section of the agenda.

1. Full-day Kindergarten update. (B. Peck)

Mrs. Peck provided a PowerPoint presentations regarding the Full-day Kindergarten update thus far. Mrs. Peck highlighted the skills of the 21st Century: Learning, Literacy and Life Skills. The presentation included Region 16 students class of 2028. Excellent growth in phonics and reading was reported. Kindergarten teachers were acknowledged for their hard work. Schedules are being monitored for areas of improvement. Teachers, parents, and administration all had positive feedback.

2. Special Education Parent Survey. (S. McNulty)

Ms. McNulty presented regarding the results of the parent survey on special education. It was reported that there was a 25% response rate, which was above average as compared to other districts. The report that Ms. McNulty shared focused on specifics regarding strengths and areas of concern. Areas of concern will be handled through upcoming professional developments. This plan was stated to run over the course of the next three years for continued improvement and satisfaction.

3. Pump House and sprinkler system update. (M. Ceresa)
Mr. Ceresa reviewed the specifics on the full report provided to the Board. He stated that everything is being inspected by professionals to avoid any future problems. Cautionary methods are being taken and an audit report will be available once everything has been completed. Ms. Cretella expressed concern regarding check valves, and Mr. Ceresa stated that those will be looked into to see if they are able to be permitted.
4. Transfer of funds to capital non-recurring fund was moved to “Report of Committees”.
5. Student activity account update. (P. Mangini)
Mrs. Mangini provided the Board with a Report which detailed the balances from FY 12 through FY 16 Student Activity Funds. The balances will be discussed and reviewed at a meeting in May. Mrs. Mangini also stated that discussions have already begun regarding ideas for how to use these funds. She assured the Board that she will stay on top of it, and it will be revisited.
6. Region 16 dependent eligibility audit. (P. Mangini)
Mrs. Mangini reported that the audit resulted in a savings and it will continue to be monitored every 4-5 years.

B. Action Items

1. Act request to modify 3/2/16 as an early dismissal day for students at WRHS (only).
This request would result in a half day for high school students and a full day for teachers. The request is being made due to the long hours of testing being given that day.

A MOTION was made by Nazih Noujaim and SECONDED by Daisy Laone to modify 3/2/16 as an early dismissal day for students only at WRHS.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 7.3)

16-010

2. Act to modify school calendar for 2016-2017 school year to reflect 181 school days for students.

A MOTION was made by Nazih Noujaim and SECONDED by Daisy Laone to modify the school calendar for 2016-2017 school year, as presented.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 7.3)

16-011

C. Director of Finance and Business Operations Report

Mrs. Mangini reported that it has been a busy time of year as budget season approaches. Each Board member was provided with a copy of the official statement for the \$11,000,000 general obligation bonds that will be settled tomorrow morning. Mrs. Mangini met with representatives from FEMA to finalize the claim for the 2013 blizzard. The first reimbursement request to the State for the security grant was submitted. Further reimbursement requests are being worked on. Lastly, the report from the State Child Nutrition Program Administrative review went great. Few minor corrective actions have already begun to be addressed. Vicki Biello, Director of School Nutrition, will be attending a Board meeting in February to discuss the program further.

D. Old Business

E. New Business

1. Discuss leave requests of certified staff members.
This was moved to Executive Session.
2. Legal Letter opinion
Removed from the agenda, no action needed.

F. Items to be discussed at future BOE meetings.

1. Ms. Cretella brought up the discrepancy in the honor roll criteria between the middle and high school on grade per subject.
2. The Board requested to see a report with Field Trips offered in the Region.

G. Information Items (with possible action)

The budget survey and survey for the upcoming Principal search are hoped to help increase communication within the Region.

H. Enrollment (Ex. II)

Included in the BOE packets.

XII. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

1. Personnel and Negotiations Committee
2. Facilities and Transportation Committee
Mr. Hiscox spoke about the visit to all four school buildings. He reported on a list of items for ongoing work to the Board. This draft report indicated some big ticket items such as the gymnasium floor and bleachers at WRHS, as well as some needed minor items. It was suggested that time be taken to review the transfer of 1% of budgeted funds to a capital non-recurring fund. This can be discussed at the next meeting.
3. Curriculum Committee
Met this evening and had a successful gathering. An update regarding the TAG program was given. A packet was provided to the Board and it was stated that this will be discussed during budget as a .6 FTE teacher is being requested for the program.
4. Policy Committee
May 11th at 6:00 (WRHS)
5. Public Communications
6. Technology Committee
Update March 23rd at 6:15 (LRMS)
7. Recognition Committee
Girls' Basketball coaches and captains February 10th.
8. Liaisons
Board retreat is being planned for March 29th at the new District Office.
 - a. Schools
 - b. Wellness Committee
Meeting in April or May
 - c. Professional Development Committee
Met today and meets regularly the minutes were included in the Board packet.
 - d. 2COM
March 2nd Elementary schools, more information to follow.

A MOTION was made by Nazih Noujaim and SECONDED by Roxann Vaillancourt to move to Executive Session to discuss personnel issues, to include the Superintendent at 9:00 p.m. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 7.3) **16-012**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:25 p.m.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Nazih Noujaim and SECONDED by Daisy Laone to adjourn the January 27, 2016, Board of Education meeting at 9:30 p.m.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 7.3) **16-013**

Christine Arnold,

Board Secretary

*These minutes are subject to Board approval,
Kelly Blum, Board Clerk*