

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
DEEP RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
MARCH 17, 2016 7:00PM**

The regular meeting of the Deep River Board of Education was held on Thursday, March 17, 2016. In attendance were Miriam Morrissey, Nelle Andrews, Tracy Dickson, Imran Munawar, Tadhra Ciaglo, James Talbot, Paula Weglarz and Michelle Grow. Also in attendance were Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent, Kristina Martineau, Assistant Superintendent, Christian Strickland, Principal and Kelley Frazier, Board Clerk. Absent: Hadley Kornacki

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Grow called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Upon a motion made by James Talbot and seconded by Miriam Morrissey the Deep River Board of Education **VOTED** unanimously to approve the minutes from the January 21, 2016, February 2, 2016, February 23, 2016 meetings and the Accounts Payable report.

Ms. Grow answered questions on the Accounts Payable report.

**STUDENT REPORT**

Mr. Strickland introduced Jake Castellano and Ava Schmelzer, six grade students who presented the update of events happening at Deep River Elementary. Ms. Grow thanked the students for their presentation.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

One resident said that the science fair was great.

**OTHER ITEMS:**

**Principal's Update**

Mr. Strickland gave an additional update of events at DRES. He discussed the winners of the Invention Convention. He also discussed the Science Fair winners per grade. He said that he has 20 volunteers who are judges from the community. CMT's are complete. The SBAC testing begins in April. Professional development is focusing on the intervention block for grades 3-6 and K-1 focused on the implementation of Foundations. He is looking at a positive behavior reinforcement system. The staff meeting in April will review our safety procedures. Report cards are out on Monday. Parent Teacher Conferences are next week. Day of the Arts is March 28<sup>th</sup>, PTO book fair is on March 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Kindergarten orientation is coming up. PTO Shred It Event will be April 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Board noted that the Science Fair and the Invention Convention were great. Participation was better this year than last.

**Financial Status Report – Mr. Garth Sawyer**

Mr. Sawyer was not present. Dr. Levy gave a brief update of the financial status for Deep River Elementary School for the 2015-2016 school year. We had previously projected a deficit but now we have a surplus due to heating oil cost savings due to the mild winter. Currently the school budget is projecting a small surplus. We are fortunate to have savings in other areas in order to cover the unanticipated special education costs. We will remain vigilant of any unforeseen circumstances and we will keep the Board informed of any developments as they arise.

#### **Cafeteria Report – Mr. Sawyer**

Mr. Sawyer gave an update on the status of the cafeteria budget. There are no changes from the actuals and the projections for this year.

#### **Budget Transfers for 2015-2016**

Upon a motion made by James Talbott and seconded by Miriam Morrissey the Deep River Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the Budget Transfers for 2015-2016 as recommended by Dr. Levy.

#### **Committee Reports**

Finance will be held on March 29, 2016.

Curriculum will be held on March 21, 2016.

Policy will be held on March 21, 2016.

#### **OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **Supervision District Committee Update**

We have been focused on the budget. Dr. Levy discussed the savings which occurred in the Supervision District budget.

##### **LEARN**

No Report.

##### **Assistant Superintendent's Report**

Ms. Martineau stated that we are in assessment season. We will be testing using the 2004 CMT and CAPT science standards for the next three years. We will also be investigating the math and science resources and how we may move forward. We are starting a committee to look at Math programs and resources.

##### **District Update – Information and Communication**

Niche.com has rated Region 4 number 18 out of the top 100 schools in Connecticut. We have a 97.8 percent graduation rate. Kids that go through our district K-12 have a 100 percent graduation rate. In 2008 it was 82%. This is a result of the collaboration of the PreK-12 program.

##### **Discussion Regarding Any Pending Policies – Standing Item**

None to discuss.

**Discussion and VOTE to Adopt proposed 2016-17 Deep River Elementary School Budget to be presented to the Town.**

Dr. Levy discussed the budget. We did remove the Math Coach from the budget. We also incurred savings in having a teacher out on leave replaced by a RIF teacher. The current budget has a 1.45% increase. Ms. Grow thanked the Board for their hard work on the budget. It is a collaboration to make the best decisions for the students.

On a motion made by Miriam Morrissey and seconded by Tracy Dickson, the Deep River Elementary School Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the 2016-2017 budget of \$5,513,423 (Five million, five hundred thirteen thousand, four hundred and twenty three dollars) which is an increase of \$78,923 or a 1.45% increase and to recommend this be brought to the Deep River Board of Finance.

This budget will be presented to the Deep River Board of Finance on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Talking Points for Budget**

Dr. Levy is working to develop information which the public needs to know regarding our schools. The PTO may want to get this information to the public.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Comment.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION –PERSONNEL**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Deep River Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to go into Executive Session at 7:55pm. Dr. Levy and Ms. Martineau were invited to attend the Executive Session.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:00pm.

Upon a motion made by Miriam Morrissey and seconded by James Talbot the Deep River Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the Non-Renewal Notice as presented by Dr. Levy.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Next Joint BOE meeting April 7, 2016
- Deep River BOE next regular meeting (May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 @ 700pm)

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 8:01pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Secretary

