

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
DEEP RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MAY 19, 2016 7:00PM**

The regular meeting of the Deep River Board of Education was held on Thursday, May 19, 2016. In attendance were Miriam Morrissey, Nelle Andrews, Imran Munawar, Tatria Ciaglo, James Talbot, Hadley Kornacki(7:07pm Arrival), 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: Tracy Dickson

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Grow called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Mr. Munawar discussed his concern about voting on the Accounts Payable report when he has no knowledge of whether the expenditures are accurate. He suggested having an explanation of the line item after a certain threshold. Ms. Grow will discuss the procedure with Mr. Sawyer.

Upon a motion made by Miriam Morrissey and seconded by Tatria Ciaglo the Deep River Board of Education **VOTED** unanimously to approve the minutes from the March 17, 2016 meeting.

Upon a motion made by James Talbott and seconded by Miriam Morrissey the Deep River Board of Education **VOTED** unanimously to approve the Accounts Payable report.

STUDENT REPORT

Mr. Strickland introduced Jack Whittaker, Madison Sheehan and Leah Frantz, sixth grade students who presented the update of events happening at Deep River Elementary. Ms. Grow thanked the students for their presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Levy thanked Mr. and Mrs. Whittaker for speaking in support of the DRES budget at the budget hearing.

OTHER ITEMS:

Principal's Update

Mr. Strickland gave an additional update of events at DRES. SBAC and MAP testing have concluded. The Tip a Teacher event was a huge success. Proceeds for this event went to the Make a Wish Foundation. There was fire safety program for grades K-4. We have formed an exploratory committee to create a STEM day at DRES. This would be in December. We have had multiple concerts. The Marching band will be in the Memorial Day celebration. Open house was held for the Kindergarten students. Teachers are completing their work on individual goals. Professional development is coming to a close. There are many field trips planned before the end of the year. The PTO has sponsored the book fair as well as the Shred It event. We are preparing for the Sixth grade transition to John Winthrop. They have many celebrations such as the DARE graduation, sixth grade promotion night and team building at Pine Lake Challenge. Mr. Strickland thanked the Board members for their support this year.

Financial Status Report – Mr. Garth Sawyer

Dr. Levy gave a brief update of the financial status for Deep River Elementary School for the 2015-2016 school year. Deep River is currently projecting to narrowly come within budget. We

were 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

Dr. Levy gave an update on the status of the cafeteria budget. We are currently expecting a \$17,334 subsidy.

Committee Reports

Finance will be held on September 27, 2016.

Curriculum will be held on September 19, 2016.

Policy will be held on September 19, 2016.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Supervision District Committee Update

Chester has hired a new Principal who will start in July 2017.

Facilities

A boiler pipe is being repaired. Phase II of the roofing project will begin. The capital projects include painting and security which includes upgrades to the fire alarm, the intercom system and the lock down system.

LEARN

The LEARN budget has been passed. The meeting included a visit to the Connecticut River Academy which has students from 40 towns. They are focusing on STEM.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Ms. Martineau noted that work will be done to align standards for the science curriculum over the summer. She met with the Math Resource Committee to decide who will be part of the pilot program. We hope to have a recommendation of the new resources to use. A timeline for implementation and feedback from teachers will be decided as well as the assessments data needed. This will not have a significant impact on the budget.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

District Update – Information and Communication

Dr. Levy discussed reductions from the state for our budget. This impacts our budgets tremendously. Things are very tight. A tuition policy is being worked on to allow students to come to our district. Region 4 and Essex budgets have passed. Deep River's vote has been changed to May 23rd at 7:30pm. Chester will vote on May 31st.

Every school will use one to one technology. Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 will have Chromebooks. Ethics and appropriateness will be discussed with students. We are moving forward looking at an International Baccalaureate program. The NEASC process will take place in November.

Dr. Levy discussed the process for the outplacement of students in our district. These numbers change daily. She does not want to give misinformation. Our district is very small and it is important that we maintain confidentiality to protect the children. She reminded Board members how important it is to not discuss information that is confidential. She stated that when it comes to Special Education, no decision is made by only one person. It is a consensus of many. Placing a child out of district is a difficult decision. The educational experiences of all of our children are equally important. We are making adjustments to meet the needs of all students.

We have a Joint Board meeting on June 2nd. Graduation is June 15th.

This is Mr. Talbott's last meeting and Ms. Grow thanked him for his service.

Discussion Regarding Any Pending Policies – Standing Item

Policies #5118, #4134, #4138/4238, #4147/44247, #4152.6/4252.6 and #4212.42 were briefly discussed and will be voted on at the next Joint Board of Education Meeting. Dr. Levy asked for board members to email any concerns directly to her.

Discussion and possible Vote to Renew the Agreement Concerning the Establishment and Operation of an Interim Collaborative Preschool Program dated February 13, 2008.

The criteria is very specific for the peer program.

Upon a motion made by Miriam Morrissey and seconded by Jim Talbott the Deep River Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to renew the Agreement Concerning the Establishment and Operation of an Interim Collaborative Preschool Program dated February 13, 2008 for renewal for a one year increment upon agreement (vote) of all signing parties (Boards of Education for Chester, Deep River, Essex and the Regional Supervision District Committee) no later than June 30, 2016.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comment.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Joint BOE next regular meeting (October 6, 2016 @ 700pm)
- Deep River next regular meeting (Sept. 15, 2016 @ 7:00pm)

ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Secretary