

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
DEEP RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
January 19, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Deep River Board of Education was held on Thursday, January 19, 2017. In attendance were Miriam Morrissey, Nelle Andrews, Tracy Dickson, Imran Munawar, Tatria Ciaglo, Paula Weglarz and Michelle Grow. Also in attendance were Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent, Kristina Martineau, Assistant Superintendent, Christian Strickland, Principal, Garth Sawyer, Business Manager and Kelley Frazier, Board Clerk. Absent: Hadley Kornacki and Jim Olson

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Grow at 7:01p.m.

**STUDENT REPORT**

Mr. Strickland introduced Noah Muggleston and Audrey Board who presented the student report of events happening at Deep River Elementary.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon a motion duly made by Tracy Dickson and seconded by Miriam Morrissey the Deep River Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of November 17, 2016 and the Accounts Payable report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Comment.

**OTHER ITEMS:**

**Community and Board Input on 2017-18 Budget**

No additional comments. The next budget workshop is on February 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm.

**Principal's Update**

Mr. Strickland gave a brief update. The STEM day was very powerful. There were 18 presenters. It was very engaging. The Look for the Good project is going on. It allows students to focus on what they are grateful for. The school has hired a new language pathologist. Preparations for the third annual science fair is underway. Nine students will go to the Coast Guard Academy to participate in Math Counts. All teachers will be meeting with Mr. Strickland for mid- year goals.

Mr. Strickland gave a brief presentation on the SBAC action plan. He also presented a timeline to meet these goals.

## **REPORTS:**

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

Mr. Sawyer gave a brief update on the financial status for Deep River Elementary School. Additional savings in heating costs may be realized. Currently the Deep River Elementary budget is projecting a deficit due to unanticipated special education needs which is partially mitigated by some staffing changes that had happened over the summer. 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. Sales for free and reduced lunches have increased while sales for full priced lunches have decreased.

### **Committee Reports**

Finance will be held on January 31, 2017.

Curriculum will be held on January 23, 2017.

Policy will be held on January 23, 2017.

## **OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Supervision District Committee Update**

The budget has been approved by the Committee and is now going to public hearing. Currently the increase is .46%. Additional staff in the proposed budget is for a behavioral specialist and a dyslexic specialist.

### **DRES FACILITIES**

No Update.

### **LEARN**

No Update.

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

Ms. Martineau noted the next generation science standards have been released. Testing will begin in 2019. CMT will be taken this year and next year. Teachers are excited to move forward with Bridges.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

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

Budgets are currently being worked on. Niche released a report of the top schools in Connecticut. Valley Regional High School has been rated number 23. This is a very prestigious award. The high school continues to pursue the International Baccalaureate (I/B) program. This is anticipated to be implemented in 2-3 years. Scheduling is also being reviewed. A modified block may be implemented for the next school year. This is moving to a traditional seven period schedule which is what the I/B program requires. Our collaboration effort with a sister school in China is moving forward. We are hopeful to have 3-4 Chinese students attend Valley Regional next year for one year. There will also be a two week summer program. Host families are needed. Our district and CABA

is hosting a Legislative breakfast on January 25<sup>th</sup> at John Winthrop Middle School at 7:30am. This will give school board members and administrators from our school and surrounding schools an opportunity to discuss educational needs. All board members are encouraged to attend. Strategic Planning is focusing on developing a plan for our district for the next 5-10 years. This will be shared in the future. Region 4 was able to return surplus funds to each of our towns from last year's budget.

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

No policies to discuss.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Miriam Morrissey noted that Feb 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> is the Parks and Recreation musical. Students are working very hard.

9.1 Next Joint BOE meeting is February 23, 2017

9.2 Essex Budget Workshops, Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, Feb 21<sup>st</sup>, Mar 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 (Central Office)

9.3 Next Deep River BOE next regular meeting March 16, 2017 at 7:00pm.

9.4 Vote on non-renewals (Mar)

9.5 BOE and Community Input for 2017-18 budget (on-going)

9.6 Presentation of Major budget drivers for 2018-19(TBD)

9.7 BOE Self-evaluation (TBD)

**ADJOURNMENT**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – BOARD SELF EVALUATION**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Deep River Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to go into Executive Session at 8:14pm. Dr. Levy was invited to attend the Executive Session.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:58pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Secretary