

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

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon a motion duly made by Tracy Dickson and seconded by Paula Weglarz the Deep River Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of May 18, 2017 and the Accounts Payable report. Abstentions: Nelle Andrews

**STUDENT REPORT**

No student report given.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Comment

**Principal's Update**

Mr. Strickland introduced new teaching staff at Deep River Elementary School.

Mr. Strickland gave a brief update. He noted steps forward at the end of the last school year. He noted that progress was made with the Smarter Balanced Assessment, implementation of 1:1 Goggle ChromeBooks and the Development of the district Strategic Plan and the identification of a new math curriculum. This summer we had a very successful Celebrate Learning program as well as the Park and Recreation program located at DRES. The Courtyard slate was repaired. Professional Development days were spent on mandated training. Grades 5 worked on rolling out the Bridges math program and Grade Six, 7 and 8 worked on a seamless transition. School information night was well attended. This year the focus will be on critical and creative problem solving. Focus will be on the Strategic Plan. Individual teachers have their professional goals which will also be centered on critical and creative problem solving. Mr. Strickland explained what the math coach responsibilities are.

## **REPORTS:**

### **Financial Status Report – Ms. Allen**

Ms. Allen gave a brief update on the unaudited version of the reporting for 2016-17. There is a surplus of approximately \$61,000. Many expense categories contributed to this surplus. Ms. Grow asked various regarding salary questions which Ms. Allen answered.

Things are going well for the beginning of this school year. We will remain vigilant of any unforeseen circumstances and we will keep the Board informed of any developments as they arise. The reporting format was well done.

### **Cafeteria Report – Ms. Allen**

Report reviewed by members.

## **Committee Reports**

**Finance** - Next meeting is September 26th.

**Curriculum** – K-12 content area groups were discussed as well as next generation Science.

**Policy** – Discussions were held on the Shipman and Goodman policy regarding restraint. This will be discussed at the next Joint Board meeting.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Cafeteria**

The new Cafeteria Ad Hoc Committee had its initial meeting. The committee will spend time in each cafeteria when the kids are there to discuss efficiencies.

## **OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Supervision District Committee Update**

The next meeting is in October.

### **LEARN**

No Update.

### **DRES Facilities**

No meeting scheduled at this time.

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

Ms. Martineau gave a brief update. There was Professional Development done in August regarding the math program using Bridges. The focus was on how to roll it out to staff. The teachers who piloted the program will now be grade level leaders to support the work. As teachers become more comfortable, the next step will be to discuss supporting the communication end with parents. K-12 curriculum groups will focus on critical and creative problem solving. K6 and 7-12 will be broken into grade level bands. This will all us to make sure it is system aligned. The three math coaches are working closely together. Next generation Science 6-12 professional development days focused on making sure things are aligned and planned out in scope and sequence.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **District Update - Information and Communication**

It has been a great opening across all schools in the district. The administrative changes have been very positive. It is the district goal to allow teachers opportunities to grow in our district. The Math Coach positions have allowed this to happen. Dr. Levy thanked the Board for allowing teachers to move into growth positions. 30 students came from China for two weeks. It was a wonderful exchange. The Niche Report has named Region 4 number 20 in the state for schools. The new schedule for the high school has instituted extra time for lunch. It allows kids to take more courses and additional flexibility. The Strategic Planning Process was worked on this summer. Chester Board of Education had their workshop last week with Mr. Costa. The other Boards will meet on November 29<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup>. Essex and Deep River will be combined. Region 4 will also meet on a separate evening. Dr. Levy asked all Board members to respond to Jen Bryan regarding the day which would be best.

Federal budgets has reduced Level I and II funding. Due to not having a finalized budget it is a difficult time for our state and school. Reductions in funding to schools have been very difficult. Changes are being suggested in how decisions will be made for our towns and schools. One suggestion is to give the towns the ability to make decisions on budgets and administrative positions of the schools. Dr. Levy is attending a CAPS meeting yesterday. The ramifications for education is very concerning.

Dr. Levy thanked Ms. Grow for her work and leadership on the Deep River Board of Education.

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

No discussion needed.

### **Jonathan Costa Workshop**

Discussed previously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Comment.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Next Joint BOE meeting October 5, 2017
- Next DRES BOE Meeting is November 16, 2017 September 14, 2017 @ 7:00pm
- Election of Board Officers (Nov. or after seating of new members)
- BOE and Community Input for 2018-19 Budget(on-going)
- Presentation of Major Budget Drivers for 2018-19(TBD)
- BOE Self-evaluation (TBD)

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 8:12p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Secretary