

Region One Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Monday, February 5, 2018

A regular meeting of the Region One Board of Education was held on Monday, February 5, 2018 in the library at HVRHS. A quorum was in attendance: Pat Mechare, Canaan; John Sanders, Cornwall; Jonathan Moore, Kent; Doug Humes, North Canaan; Jennifer Weigel, Salisbury; and Bob Whelan, Sharon.

Also in attendance were: Superintendent, Pam Vogel; Assistant Superintendent, Lisa Carter; Business Manager Sam Herrick; HVRHS Principal, José Martinez; HVRHS Assistant Principal, Ian Strever; Director of Pupil Services, Carl Gross; Supervisor of Special Education, Martha Schwaikert; faculty/staff; press and public.

Chair Whelan welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.

Nick Pohl, Housatonic Youth Services Bureau (HYSB) Executive Director, presented to the Board on programs, services, events, and the financials of HYSB. HYSB is a community supported organization that focuses on student-centered learning, specifically the social and emotional wellbeing of children.

Student representatives Dean Saccardi and Carianne Callinan reported that there were no big events during the month of February, but that there is an upcoming badminton fundraiser tournament this Friday, March 9th. There will also be a sushi making event on April 7th.

Public comment was heard from Denise Cohn of Falls Village. She questioned the comments that were made by administrators during the Administrator meeting that were printed in the Superintendent's report. She stated that the culture needed to be changed prior to changing the grading system and requested that no more changes be made until issues are resolved in what is in place.

Nominations for "*Those who Contribute to HVRHS*" were heard:

- Chair Whelan nominated **Rachel Matsudaira**, stating that her efforts are selfless and that she recently stepped up to the plate for an incident that occurred in VoAg.
- Ms. Weigel nominated **John Lizzi** for preparing students for "what comes next." She stated that he has also re-formed the debate team, was a main player in the formation of the NYP, and is very involved in the civic life program.
- Ms. Weigel also nominated **Mia Tittman**, a student, for her article that was published in the Lakeville Journal. She exemplified bravery in taking a stand in such a controversial issue, and is a great model for us all.
- Mr. Sanders nominated **Phil Hart** for his many years of service to the Regional Board and the local Cornwall Board, his continued service to the Arboretum and Landscaping Committee, and his service to Cornwall Consolidated School.

Chair Whelan accepted all nominations and will invite those nominated to the next meeting to be recognized.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weigel, seconded by Mr. Humes, to approve all items listed under the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

- a. Minutes:
 - i. 2/5/18 Regular Meeting
 - ii. 2/22/2018 Special Meeting
 - iii. 2/22/2018 Special Meeting
- b. Committee Reports
 - i. ABC Committee—Minutes 2/28/2018

- ii. Policy Committee—Minutes 2/28/2018
- iii. Budget Committee—Minutes 2/13/2018 and Minutes 2/26/2018
- iv. Data/Benchmark Committee—Minutes 2/26/2018
- c. NEAS&C Correspondence

Discussion was held regarding new course opportunities available for 2018-2019. New course offerings include:

- Business
 - Introduction to Accounting
 - Marketing in a Global Economy
- English
 - Grade 11 AP English Language and Composition
 - English 12H
 - Grade 12 Exploration and Discovery: Guided Research (Offered in fall and spring)
- Mathematics
 - Statistics and Probability
 - The Mathematics of Money
- Social Studies
 - ECE Introduction to American Politics—Advanced
 - ECE Introduction to American Politics H
 - Environmental History
- Combined English and Social Studies Credits
 - Perspectives on Democracy: Citizenship and Activism

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weigel, seconded by Ms. Mechare, to approve the list of proposed new courses as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Policy 9325: Meeting Conduct Policy was presented for a first reading. No questions were asked.

A second reading of the Assistant Superintendent and Business Manager job descriptions were discussed. Some adjustments to each will be made and then brought back to the Board for a third reading.

Mr. Sanders discussed ideas of the committee for recognition of former Superintendent Patricia Chamberlain. He stated that they were not ready to present a formal proposal yet, but that they do have a series of ideas that they are discussing.

A very brief discussion was held regarding possible dates for the Board of Education Retreat. Superintendent Vogel will contact Nick Caruso of CAFE for some date/time options and will send out a poll to all Board members to coordinate.

Administrative Reports

- a. HVRHS Principal
- b. HVRHS Assistant Principal
- c. Athletic Director
- d. Business Manager
- e. Pupil Services—No Report
- f. Assistant Superintendent
- g. Superintendent

A budget hearing date was set for Thursday, April 5th, at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment was heard from Mark Burdick. He stated to Mr. Sanders that there may be some boards available from the old white oak tree that could be used for a plaque for Patricia Chamberlain.

Public comment was heard from Jennifer McCarthy of Sharon. She stated that her daughter is an IEP student who received an NYP because a teacher was not prepared to administer her a test. Due to this NYP, she missed achieving honor roll. She feels that the NYP system is failing her IEP student.

Public comment was heard from Lynn Harrington of Kent. She asked Dr. Martinez when parents who volunteered to speak with NEASC would be notified. Dr. Martinez responded that the invitations were already sent out and that there were many volunteers.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Ms. Weigel, to move into executive session for the purpose of discussion and possible action on Certified Contract Negotiations, inviting in Superintendent Vogel and Business Manager Sam Herrick. Motion carried unanimously.

A brief recess was held at 9:29 p.m.

Executive Session began at 9:32 p.m.

The Board exited the executive session at 9:45 p.m.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weigel, seconded by Ms. Mechare, to ratify the certified teacher contract. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weigel, seconded by Ms. Mechare, to move into executive session for the purpose of discussion and possible action on modification of student expulsion, inviting in Superintendent Vogel, Supervisor of Special Education Martha Schwaikert, the student and father. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board exited the executive session at 10:15 p.m.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Sanders, seconded by Ms. Weigel, to modify the student's expulsion from another school district, and accept him into the ALPSS program at HVRHS. The Board asks that the student report back to the Board after thirty days of attending HVRHS. Motion carried unanimously.

The third executive session was not held.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weigel, seconded by Mr. Sanders, to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Bunce

Tina Bunce
Board Clerk