

**Region One Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, May 7, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Region One Board of Education was held on Monday, May 7, 2018 in the library at HVRHS. A quorum was in attendance: A quorum was present: Chair Bob Whelan, Sharon; Pat Mechare, Canaan; John Sanders, Cornwall; Stephanie Raftery, Kent; Doug Humes, North Canaan; and Jennifer Weigel, Salisbury.

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

Chair Whelan welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weigel, seconded by Ms. Mechare, to add Budget Discussion and Discussion of Underground Storage Tank, both by Sam Herrick, after the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

John Lizzi and Victor Flores presented to the Board and the audience on their recent trip to China. Mr. Flores discussed the history of the relationship and exchanges done through Shandong Experimental including the China trip last year and hosting students this year from China. The relationship will potentially continue to build between HVRHS, Litchfield, and China in the future.

An ASCD Presentation was made by Jonathan Bruno, Beth Dineen, Jackie Fenn, and Christine Martin in which they divided the Board and audience up into four groups to rotate through stations to hear each of them reflect on their experiences at the ASCD Conference in March.

A brief recess was taken in the meeting to move back into the Annual District Meeting.

Student representatives Dean Saccardi and Carianne Callinan reported on the success of the recent first annual sushi making event. They also reported on the recent 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Mr. Housatonic event that resulted in a first ever tie for first place.

No Public Comment was heard.

Karen Davenport, Kim McLeod, Liam O'Reilly, Lori Belter, and Sam Herrick were honored by the Board for "*Those who Contribute to HVRHS.*"

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

- Ms. Weigel nominated **Tom Krupa**, for being a great model citizen to students. He is a recognized strength to HVRHS.

Chair Whelan accepted the nomination and will invite Mr. Krupa 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. These items included:

- a. Minutes:
  - i. 4/2/18 Regular Meeting
  - ii. 4/2/18 Special Meeting
  - iii. 4/5/18 Public Hearing
  - iv. 4/5/18 Special Meeting
  - v. 4/11/18 Special Meeting
  - vi. 4/26/18 Special Meeting
- b. Committee Reports
  - i. Ag-Ed Advisory—Minutes 3/26/2018
  - ii. ABC Committee—Minutes 4/25/2018
  - iii. Policy Committee—Minutes 4/26/2018
- c. Field Trip Request
- d. Robotics Field Trip Request
- e. Faculty Students Requests to Attend HVRHS: Fenn; Sheehan

Discussion was held regarding the 2018-2019 budget. Mr. Herrick reviewed the history of the budget process, stating that the goal at the start of the process was to obtain a 0% budget increase. He stated that the goal is and has always been to give the best information for transparency.

Discussion was held regarding the underground storage tank and changing the scope of the work. Changes to the work plan include a reduction from a 10,000 to an 8,000 gallon tank and changing from an underground tank to above ground. These changes result in a savings of about \$11,000.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Humes, seconded by Ms. Weigel, to accept the estimate, budget, specifications, and drawings for the storage tank scope of work change proposal. Motion carried unanimously.

The Next Generation Accountability Reports will be discussed by Principal Martinez at the June Board meeting.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weigel, seconded by Ms. Mechare, to implement the Healthy Food Option. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weigel, seconded by Ms. Mechare, to allow the food exemptions. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weigel, seconded by Mr. Sanders, to accept the four Board Goals as presented as the goals for the Region One Board of Education. Ms. Mechare asked that the public and the Board be informed on checking in on the implementation of the goals. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held regarding the Region One Board Topics presented. The list presented was created in the recent Board Retreat with the purpose of bringing focus to meetings and to develop a schedule/plan for future meetings that could be communicated in advance. The list is a working draft of proposed topics for planning future meetings.

A discussion was held regarding the Superintendent Job Description. Ms. Mechare asked that legal counsel be sought in regard to the Superintendent “implementing” the annual budget. Ms. Raftery discussed the conversation held at the recent Kent meeting. Ms. Mechare also questioned “who decides what is appropriate?” under Community/Board of Education Relations. Chair Whelan will bring these concerns to the ABC Committee for discussion and review.

A discussion was held regarding the Assistant Principal Position. The position is currently posted and will close on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Applications will be reviewed the week of the 28<sup>th</sup> and narrowed down so that candidates would be invited to visit HVRHS the week of June 6<sup>th</sup>. A final decision will be made by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Strever suggested a committee comprised of 3 Faculty members, 2 Board of Education members, 3 parents, 2 staff/student members, and himself, Lisa Carter, and Pam Vogel.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weigel, seconded by Mr. Sanders, to approve the establishment of the group suggested by Mr. Strever as the search committee and the timeline as presented to complete by June 15, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Mechare, seconded by Ms. Weigel, to approve the IDEA Grant application in the amount of \$684,548 for IDEA sections 611 and 619 (Preschool). Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held regarding the first reading of the 0000 Series Policies. Ms. Raftery agreed to join the Policy Committee.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Mechare, seconded by Ms. Weigel, to approve the Facilities Manager job description as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 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

Public Comment was heard from Denise Cohn of Falls Village. She stated that she is glad that grading policies are being looked at, and asked that students and parents be included in the process, as this is greatly affecting their lives. Ms. Cohn also stated that the data for A’s, B’s, and C’s need to be presented and compared to previous years, as all that are currently discussed are the NYP’s.

Public Comment was heard from Lynn Harrington of Kent. She pointed out the difference of \$1.00 in the proposed budget on page 6 due to an addition error.

Public comment was heard from Sam Herrick. He stated that each time the budget is voted down the cost is approximately \$7,000 per Referendum. Mr. Humes added that it is actually more because many of the town halls pay their employees to have the day off on the day of the Referendum.

Public comment was heard from Lynn Harrington of Kent. She stated that she hopes that the budget gets voted down to get a message across to Board members. As a taxpayer, she is willing to put her tax money towards another referendum.

Public comment was heard from Jessica Stedman of North Canaan. She stated that she is bothered by the attorney calling people names, specifically "trouble makers." She stated some concerns she had regarding the Board Chair's statements on Social Media. She stated that both of her kids are A students but are struggling because of NYP's. She does not appreciate her concern for her kids being mocked in a public forum. Audience members were in agreement with her statement.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weigel, seconded by Mr. Sanders, to move to executive session after a brief recess for the purpose of discussion of AFSCME Non-Certified and Non-Union Employee contracts, inviting in Sam Herrick and Pam Vogel. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session began at 10:05 p.m.

The Board exited the executive session at 10:23 p.m.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weigel, seconded by Mr. Sanders, to approve the Non-Certified Contract. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Sanders, seconded by Ms. Weigel, to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

*Tina Bunce*

Tina Bunce  
Board Clerk