

**Regional School District No. 7**  
**Board of Education Minutes**  
**May 24, 2005**

**Amended and approved**  
**6/14/05**

PRESENT: Mr. Thomson, Mr. Egbertson, Mr. Jerram, Mrs. Lafave, Mrs. Sweeney, Mrs. Yard, Mrs. Kenneson, Middle School Principal Osypuk, High School Principal Conner, Superintendent Dr. Roberta S. Ohotnicky, Director of Finance and Operations Newbury, Student Representative Amy Cimmino. Visitor: Shelley Lloyd.

Chairman Thomson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2005 regular meeting of the Board of Education as amended.

APPROVE  
MINUTES  
5/10/05

Student Representative Amy Cimmino reported that the High School Band will be marching in Norfolk and Winsted on Monday May 30<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day. The Senior Prom is Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> and will be held at the Aqua Turf in Southington, CT. The seniors will attend their picnic on Tuesday May 31<sup>st</sup> at High Meadows.

STD.  
REP.  
RPT.

Middle School Principal Osypuk reported on the following for the Middle School: 1.) The 7<sup>th</sup> grade students are going to Tuxedo, NY to attend an all day Renaissance Faire as part of our Medieval Times unit 2.) Tuesday May 31<sup>st</sup> our eighth graders are going to Washington D.C. for four days. 3.) The “Super Dance” will be held on Friday June 10<sup>th</sup>. This year’s charity will be the American Red Cross.4.) The seventh grade Awards Ceremony will be held on Thursday June 16<sup>th</sup>. This event will take place in the school auditorium at 10 a.m. 5.) The Promotion Ceremony will take place on June 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the school gymnasium.

MS  
RPT.

High School Principal Mr. Conner reported that the ground breaking ceremony for the “Ray of Light Garden” took place last Saturday at 9:00 a.m. Planting will begin soon and will be done in various waves. The National Honor Society members are planning a memorial garden for the Winchester Housing authority residents. Planting for the “Chestnut Grove Memorial Garden” is already underway. Mr. Conner reported that Northwestern student Mora Valenti has been chosen from twenty harpists around the world to attend Julliard School of Music in the fall. The “Hard Truth” program was held for juniors and seniors. Three panelists participated in the program and told of their experiences with the consequences of drinking and driving. The message to students was to make a pledge to not drink and drive. Mr. Steve Barry will address the students on the perils of driving while intoxicated. The High School academics award program will be held on June 2, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. Principal Conner also reported that we are currently interviewing candidates for the Language and Guidance positions.

HS  
RPT.

Molly Sexton Read has submitted a drawing of the proposed school sign for the Board members to review. Dr. Ohotnicky reported that Dr. MaryAnn Hansen, State Consultant will be visiting Northwestern to discuss World language possibilities. Dr. Ohotnicky has requested that the State consultant consider Northwestern Regional for two Chinese teachers Dr. Ohotnicky reported that \$20,000.00 has been granted through the Italian grant. The Agricultural Education awards ceremony was recently held with Gail Snow as the guest speaker.

UPDATES

Director of Finance and Operations Mr. Newbury reported that we will be purchasing electricity. Five companies have submitted their bids and the contracts have been gone over by our attorneys Shipman and Goodwin and we will be using a five year contract. Chairman Thomson distributed an outline to be used as a basis for informal discussion concerning the upcoming Board evaluation process on June 28<sup>th</sup>.

MOTION by Mr. Egbertson, seconded by Mr. Jerram, to authorize Dr. Roberta S. Ohotnicky or her designee to make end of the year adjustments within the 2004-05 budget limits. YEAR  
END ADJ.  
Aye: Mr. Thomson, Mr. Egbertson, Mr. Jerram, Mrs. Yard, Mrs. Sweeney, Mrs. Lafave, Mrs. Kenneson.

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mrs. Yard, to authorize borrowing up to \$200,000.00 from Fleet/Bank of America in anticipation of receipts. Aye: Mr. Thomson, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Egbertson, Mrs. Yard, Mrs. Lafave, Mrs. Sweeney, Mrs. Kenneson AUTHORIZED TO BORROW

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mr. Egbertson, to authorize the Superintendent to fill vacancies already approved by the Board of Education. Aye: Mr. Thomson, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Egbertson, Mrs. Lafave, Mrs. Yard, Mrs. Sweeney, Mrs. Kenneson. AUTHORIZED SUPER-INTENDENT

Dr. Ohotnicky recommended hiring the firm of Robert E. King & Co. PC for the fiscal year 2004-05. AUDIT FIRM  
MOTION by Mr. Egbertson, seconded by Mrs. Lafave, and passed unanimously, to reappoint the auditing firm of Robert E. King & Co. PC for the 2004-05 fiscal year.

MOTION by Mr. Egbertson, seconded by Mrs. Yard, and passed unanimously, to accept the following resolution for the purpose of establishing a scholarship fund, based upon the gift of Adele F. Winn, with A. G. Edwards and Sons, Inc. The account will be known as the Adele F. Winn Memorial Scholarship Fund. FIDUCIARY ACCTS.

Chairman Thomson led a brief discussion about defining the roles and responsibilities of the Communication Committee. Mrs. Yard stated that she will research these areas and bring back to the Board her findings at the next Board meeting on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

A letter was received from Special Education teacher Mary Bowen announcing her resignation effective June 17, 2005. CORRESPONDENCE

MOTION by Mrs. Sweeney, seconded by Mr. Jerram, and passed unanimously, to accept Ms. Bowen's resignation.

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A letter was received from Jennifer Hurley-Coughlin, requesting a maternity leave.

MOTION by Mrs. Sweeney, seconded by Mr. Egbertson, and passed unanimously, to grant the 1 maternity leave consistent with the teacher's contract and the "Family and Medical Leave Act."

A letter was received from Diana Holcomb announcing her retirement effective this school year 2004-05.

MOTION by Mrs. Kenneson, seconded by Mrs. Sweeney, and passed unanimously, with thanks to accept Mrs. Holcomb's resignation.

MOTION by Mr. Egbertson, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously, to go into EXEC. Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Egbertson, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously, to come out of Executive Session at 8:57 p.m.

MOTION by Mrs. Lafave, seconded by Mr. Jerram, to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Re Johnson  
Clerk