

Regional School District No. 7  
Board of Education Minutes  
August 24, 2004

PRESENT: Mr. Thomson, Mr. Egbertson, Mrs. Lafave, Mrs. Yard, Mrs. Sweeney, Mrs. Lepkowski, Director of Finance and Operations Newbury, Middle School Principal Osypuk, Superintendent Dr. Roberta S. Ohotnicky. Visitors: Mr. Andy Gomez, Mrs. Shelly Lloyd, Mr. Neil Tolhurst.

Chairman Thomson called the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

CALL TO  
ORDER

Mr. Gomez voiced his concerns about the upcoming contract and the fact that the Athletic Director, because of the contract language, does not have the option to appoint the most qualified applicant.

PUBLIC

Mr. Neil Tolhurst of New Hartford remarked how he felt that the budget that was sent back to the public with no changes made to it was not well received by the voters. The amended budget that followed was well received by the public due to the reductions that were made by Board members.

MOTION by Mr. Egbertson, seconded by Mrs. Sweeney, to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2004 regular meeting of the Board of Education. Aye: Mr. Egbertson, Mrs. Sweeney, Mrs. Yard, Mr. Thomson, Mrs. Lafave. Abstention: Mrs. Lepkowski.

APPROVE  
MINUTES  
7/13/04

Student Representative Amy Cimmino reported on the following for the High School: 1.) Band Camp started on Monday August 24<sup>th</sup> and will continue until August 31<sup>st</sup>. 2.) The "Walk for Diabetes" will be held on September 19<sup>th</sup>. 3.) Student Matt Gasbo organized phone cards to be sent to our troops overseas. 4.) The High School girls' lavatory has been completely renovated.

STUDENT  
REP.  
RPT.

Middle School Principal Osypuk reported that he anticipated a smooth opening of school due in part to our dedicated staff. The Middle School will be beginning the year on an extremely positive note with the highest CMT scores in the history of the Middle School. Summer work was limited due to the lateness of the budget. This summer teachers John Hawkins and Casey DiBella organized a CMT improvement program entitled "Summer Academy" for eleven students using a software program called Blue Ribbon Software that provides direct correlation to the Connecticut Mastery Test. Christina Sears will be an administrative intern at the Middle School this year. Ms Sears is currently teaching Social Studies in Canton school system.

MS  
RPT.

Mr. Osypuk also pointed out the following important dates: 1.) New student orientation will be held on August 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the gym. 2.) The Open House/Book Fair will be held September 9<sup>th</sup> in the auditorium. 3.) Breakfast with the Principal will be October 4, 8, 14, and 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 in the café. 4.) Grandparents Day will be held on April 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. 5.) Parents Day will be held on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Ohotnicky distributed the latest High School newsletter to the Board members. She commented that she had recently gone to the Warner Theater to see the "Music Man" and was pleasantly surprised to see our own Regional 7 student, B.O.E. Representative Amy Cimmino, in the play. Dr. Ohotnicky gave the Board members an updated list of all the newly hired teachers and their credentials. (See attached listing). She recently attended the Superintendents opening meeting hosted by State Education Commissioner Betty Sternberg where the topic of introducing laptops to students in the 9 <sup>th</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> grades by the year 2006 was discussed. Dr Ohotnicky also reported that new legislation in place will allow retired teachers to teach for two years in urban, priority schools.	SUPER- INTEN- DENT
The CABA/CAPPS conference will be held on November 12-13, 2004 at the Mystic Marriot Hotel. Dr Ohotnicky reminded Board members that hotel reservations need to be made by October 6, 2004.	CABA CAPPS CONV.
The Board members discussed the upcoming negotiation process and it was decided that 2 elected officials from each of the four towns would be asked to participate in a session to be held on September 14 <sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. with the regular Board of Education meeting immediately following.	NEG. PROCESS
Mr. Jerram, Mrs. Lafave, Mr. Egbertson, and Mr. Thomson were appointed to serve on the negotiation committee.	COMM. APPOINT.
The Board members discussed the selection of an outside Professional to conduct the review and analysis of the administrative organization. The Board members were given three highly qualified individuals to choose from.	REVIEW ADMIN.
MOTION by Mr. Egbertson, seconded by Mrs. Lafave, and passed unanimously, to appoint Mr. Tom Jokubaitis to conduct the review.	
A letter of resignation was received from Mrs. McKeon, Colebrook Representative to the Board.	CORRES- PONDENCE
MOTION by Mr. Egbertson, seconded by Mrs. Yard, and passed unanimously, to accept with regret Mrs. McKeon's letter of resignation.	
Mrs. Shelly Lloyd requested that the School's web-site be updated as parents access the web for all types of different information involving the school. Mrs. Lloyd also asked if it was at all possible to renovate the restroom located near the gymnasium.	PUBLIC
Mrs. Lafave informed the Board members that a "Skills of Leadership" workshop will be held at the Marriott Hotel in Rocky Hill, Ct from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. Mr. Phillip Boyle will be the main speaker.	
MOTION by Mr. Egbertson, seconded by Mrs. Yard, and passed unanimously, to go into Executive Session at 10:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing negotiations and personnel.	EXEC. SESSION

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Present in Executive Session: Mr. Thomson, Mr. Egbertson, Mrs. Lafave, Mrs. Yard, Mrs. Sweeney, Superintendent Dr. Roberta S. Ohotnicky, Director of Finance and Operations Mr. Newbury.

MOTION by Mr. Egbertson, seconded by Mrs. Yard, and passed unanimously, to come out of Executive Session at 10:15 p.m.

MOTION by Mr. Egbertson, seconded by Mrs. Yard, and passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Re Johnson,  
Clerk