

**Regional School District No. 7
Board of Education Minutes
August 26, 2009
Newbury Library Media Center**

Present:

Mark Lanctot	Barkhamsted
Molly Sexton Read	Barkhamsted
Janice Dorazio	Colebrook
Theresa Kenneson	Colebrook
Don Tarrant	Norfolk
Candy Perez	Middle School Principal
Wayne Conner	High School Principal
Clint Montgomery	Superintendent of Schools
Roger Newbury	Director of Finance and Operations

Absent:

Tara Yard	Norfolk
Daniel Jerram	New Hartford
John Griffey	New Hartford

<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>
Ms. Sexton Read called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.	CALL TO ORDER
Several parents addressed the BOE regarding their concerns over the decision to remove the ninth grade basketball program from the budget for the coming year. After considerable discussion the BOE recommended that the parents approach the Booster Club for financial assistance for this program. Ms. Sexton-Read indicated that this group functions outside of the jurisdiction of the BOE financially and may have resources available. It was suggested that Mr. Montgomery discuss this issue with the Athletic Director and with the district attorney for additional clarification.	PUBLIC PORTION
MOTION by Mr. Tarrant, seconded by Mrs. Dorazio, and passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of July 8, 2009 as presented.	MINUTES July 8, 2009
<p>Ms. Perez provided a report on the CMT results for the most recent testing cycle. She distributed materials with provided comparisons with previous years' results and other similar districts.</p> <p>Ms. Perez also reported on the recent re-emergence of the Professional Development Committee with representation from both administration and the instructional staff.</p> <p>Ms. Perez also reported on the recent activities associated with seventh grade students' orientation to the middle school.</p> <p>Mr. Conner also provided a report on the CAPT results. He compared the results with last year which represented an extremely strong class academically. He also provided data to BOE members on the results in comparison with previous years and with neighboring and similar districts. He indicated that the Science Department has developed an action plan to address areas of weakness.</p> <p>Mr. Conner also informed the BOE of the coming high school open house which is set for September 17th.</p> <p>Mr. Conner stated that Mr. Rodenberg planned (with administrative support) to repeat the European summer trip that was successfully carried out last year. After some discussion it was agreed that Mr. Rodenberg would be asked to attend an upcoming BOE meeting to briefly discuss the trip.</p>	REPORTS PRINCIPALS
<p>Mr. Montgomery provided information on the following topics:</p> <p>1. H1N1 Flu:</p>	REPORTS

<p>Mr. Montgomery provided an update on the activities and interventions planned to prevent, mitigate and respond to the Influenza season. He reported on the various committees that had been established to prepare for various medical, instructional and scheduling issues and also various means of communicating with parents and students. He indicated that the superintendents from the region held a meeting this morning to discuss a coordinated approach toward communicating information and establishing procedures related to the H1N1 Swine flu season. A second meeting has been arranged with the various representatives from the districts as well as the medical advisor and the Farmington and Torrington Health Districts to consider the development of a coordinated plan around this issue. Mr. Montgomery read the letter that will be sent to parents and staff (through the Alert Now system) with basic information about the influenza. Suggestions were made about possible modifications</p> <p>2. groSolar: Mr. Montgomery stated that the overseeing agency for the solar project has provided a Notice to Proceed to both groSolar and the roofing company. He discussed the current time line and the impact of the various stages of the project. Currently, the solar project is closely tied to the upgrade to the building roof.</p> <p>3. Graduation: Mr. Montgomery stated that he has been in contact with the Warner Theater and the coordinator of graduation in order to choose possible dates for graduation. It will be necessary some time in the fall for the BOE to decide if they wish to continue to hold the graduation at the Warner Theater. Some contacts have been made to potential speakers and there will be discussions with the student leadership.</p> <p>4. Hiring Report: Mr. Montgomery stated that Ms. Audra Leach has been hired as a part time Science Teacher through a grant from Howmet Alcoa. She will work for two periods a day and will focus on science classes with content related to shared NWR7/Alcoa goals, including renewable energy, sustainability and ecology.</p> <p>5. Mr. Montgomery also provided an update on the wind turbine project that is being designed by Optiwind. He indicated that a hearing is being held on September 10th in Barkhamsted to discuss a minor change in the zoning regulations. A later full public hearing will be arranged in October.</p>	<p>SUPERINTENDENT</p>
<p>Mr. Newbury reported that there was a successful and fruitful meeting with the transportation agencies. He also reported on the opening of school in terms of the readiness of the school's physical plant. He reported that both the inside and outside of the building will be ready for school opening.</p> <p>Mr. Newbury also stated that the business office is currently working on the ED001, the most important and time consuming financial state report of the year.</p> <p>Lastly, he reported that the gym floor repainting and resurfacing has been completed successfully.</p>	<p>REPORTS DIRECTOR OF FINANCE</p>
<p>Ms. Sexton Read informed the BOE that Don Stein, the First Selectman from Barkhamsted, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Newbury and she held a recent meeting with the new owner of the Holcomb Farm Land (Jeff Scott). She indicated that, although it was an informal meeting, it was fruitful in terms of getting to know each other and to discuss mutual interests in the use of the land. It was suggested that the four selectmen be contacted to discuss the feasibility and interest in holding a meeting to discuss the towns' interest in NWR7 continuing to explore interest in the purchase and use of the land.</p> <p>There was also a brief discussion regarding possible enrollment figures for the current year. Mr. Montgomery indicated, in response to questions, that although the figures will not be reliable until the next BOE meeting, it appears that the district enrollment is higher than previous projections.</p>	<p>OLD BUSINESS UPDATES</p>
<p>Mr. Montgomery discussed the various policies presented to the BOE for a first reading. He</p>	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p>

<p>indicated that the most important policy, the Pandemic Policy, was sent out earlier than usual to BOE members so they would have additional time in order to consider voting on the policy that same night so that it would be ready for the opening of school.</p> <p>The BOE reviewed the Pandemic Policy and agreed that after discussion of the policy, they were ready to vote on the policy after the first reading.</p> <p>MOTION by Mr. Tarrant, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously, to approve Policy #6114.8 – Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness (Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies).</p> <p>The BOE agreed to table the remainder of the policies for a second reading and discussion at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Approve Policy #6114.8 – Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness</p>
<p>None</p>	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p>
<p>There were questions from the reporters in the audience regarding some issues discussed during the meeting, including the Pandemic Policy and the Holcomb Farm land.</p>	<p>OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Dorazio, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously, to go into Executive Session at 8:37 p.m. for the purpose of negotiations. Present in Executive Session: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram (by telephone at 9:05 p.m.), Mrs. Dorazio, Mrs. Kenneson, Mr. Tarrant, Mr. Lanctot, Superintendent Montgomery and Director of Finance and Operations Newbury.</p> <p>MOTION by Mrs. Dorazio, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously, to come out of Executive Session at 9:25 p.m.</p>	<p>EXECUTIVE SESSION Negotiations</p>
<p>MOTION by Mr. Tarrant, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, to accept the custodial contract as presented. Aye: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Tarrant, Mrs. Kenneson, Mr. Lanctot, Mrs. Dorazio. Nay: Mr. Jerram. Abstention: None. Motion passed.</p>	<p>RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION</p>
<p>MOTION by Mr. Tarrant, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 p.m.</p>	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>

Respectfully Submitted,



Clint Montgomery, Superintendent