

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 7
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
October 12, 2011

Approved
11/9/11

PRESENT: Ms. Sexton Read, Mrs. Dorazio, Mrs. Kenneson, Mrs. Bell, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Middle School Principal Perez, High School Principal Chichester, Superintendent Palmer, Director of Finance and Operations Newbury.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Sexton Read at 6:05 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

MOTION by Mr. Gauthier, seconded by Mr. Jerram, to approve the minutes of September 14, 2011. AYE: Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Sexton Read, Mrs. Kenneson, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Dorazio. NAY: None. Motion passed.

MINUTES
9/14/11

Middle School Principal Perez reported the Open House was well attended. Parent Conferences will be held November 7 and 8, 2011. Plans are underway for the Middle school students to celebrate Veterans' Day at Dunkin Donuts in Winsted. Professional development days were spent attending a Bullying Conference, a technology in-service given by Education Connection on Writing which will be part of the Common Core 2014. Mr. Jerram requested information about the Middle School Summer Program. Principal Perez explained this past summer consisted of the Summer Academy; it ran one week prior to the beginning of the new school year with instruction to students involving goal setting, completing work, motivation, and skills. Further evaluation will take place to follow up on those students' progress thus far.

MS PRINCIPAL
REPORT

Dr. Palmer announced that Ms. Perez has received the Connecticut Pathfinder Award for 2011 selected by the Connecticut Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. This award is presented to an educator who has opened pathways and made inroads in athletics for hundreds of Connecticut young women. Dr. Palmer stated that Ms. Perez has given many years of service assisting young women in sports in the community.

PEREZ
CTAHPERD
CT. PATH-
FINDER
AWARD

High School Principal Chichester reported the start of Northwestern's First Robotics Team. So far 28 students have signed up. Volunteer adult mentors are being sought to assist the Team along with an engineer from Alcoa. The startup date will be January 7, 2012, and the students will have six weeks to design and construct a robot for competition. The first event will be held in March 2012. High School Professional development days included a Bullying Conference, curriculum and standards mapping, and preparing the final draft of the NEASC report. The report will be presented in January 2012.

HIGH
SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL
REPORT

Superintendent Palmer, along with HS Principal Chichester, announced that Northwestern has received the Silver Medal Award from U.S. News and World Report on America's Best High Schools. This is a national award for High Schools. The award is based on school evaluation services, measureable outcomes, performance, percent of economic disadvantage students, college readiness and AP classes. This is Northwestern's second Silver Award.

U.S. NEWS
& WORLD
REPORT
SILVER
AWARD

Superintendent Palmer updated the Board on the Technology Committee, which is headed up by Ms. Perez. They have been working with Jonathan Costa from Education Connection on Bring Your Own Device to School. They are reviewing technology devices and support. Dr. Palmer is interested in starting a pilot program in the fall of 2012. She will be reporting back to the Board concerning budget constraints, startup costs, maintenance, instruction, teacher development and parents input. Dr. Palmer reported 23 Ag.Ed. students will be attending the National FFA Convention. They start their trip at the end of this week. Two former FFA students, Bridget Holmes and Stephanie Thibault, will be receiving their American Degree, which is the highest degree offered by the FFA. Another Northwestern graduate, Victor Salazar, is competing for a position on the National FFA Officer Team. New officers will be announced at the FFA Convention next week.

SUPT.
REPORT

Director of Finance and Operations, Mr. Newbury, reported no new financial changes this month. Diesel fuel has been purchased through the Consortium for the buses.

DIR. OF
FIN. & OPERATIONS
REPORT

Ms. Sexton Read reported on her meeting with the CIAC concerning the Football Coop. She stated the Coop with Gilbert will continue for the next two years. The CIAC will continue to work with Northwestern. A meeting and discussion will be held in the near future with the New Hartford Youth Football.

FOOTBALL
CO-OP

Superintendent Palmer presented Policy #5131.911- Bullying. Ms. Sexton Read requested the members of the Board review for next meeting and be prepared to discuss the policy. Mr. Gauthier inquired if the Board may have training/education on Bullying. Dr. Palmer will arrange this.

POLICY
5131.911
REVIEW

The First Robotics Team has received a \$35,000 Grant from the Alcoa Foundation. This grant will be funded over the next two years. Mr. Chichester stated Robotics is the rigors of science and technology- "The varsity sport of minds".

ALCOA
ROBOTICS
GRANT

MOTION by Mrs. Dorazio, seconded by Mr. Gauthier, to add the Robotics Club to the school clubs and activities. AYE: Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Sexton Read, Mrs. Kenneson, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Dorazio. NAY: None. Motion passed.

NEW S/A
ROBOTICS
CLUB

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mrs. Dorazio, to go into Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of negotiations. AYE: Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Sexton Read, Mrs. Kenneson, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Dorazio. NAY: None. Motion passed. Present in Executive Session: Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Sexton Read, Mrs. Kenneson, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Dorazio, Superintendent Palmer, Director of Finance and Operations, Mr. Newbury.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mrs. Dorazio, to come out of Executive Session at 7:39 p.m. AYE: Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Sexton Read, Mrs. Kenneson, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Dorazio. NAY: None. Motion passed.

PUBLIC

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MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mrs. Dorazio, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

ADJOURN

AYE: Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Jerram, Ms. Sexton Read, Mrs. Kenneson, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Dorazio.

NAY: None. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaye M. Sweeney, Board Clerk