

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 7
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
December 14, 2011

AMENDED AND
APPROVED 1/11/12

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

PUBLIC: None

PUBLIC

MOTION by Mrs. Kenneson, seconded by Mrs. Bell, to approve the minutes of October 26, 2011. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mrs. Kenneson, Mrs. Bell, Mr. Jerram, and Mr. Gauthier. NAY: None. ABSTENTION: Mr. Lanctot, Mrs. Dorazio. MOTION PASSED.

MINUTES
10/26/11

MOTION by Mrs. Dorazio, seconded by Mr. Gauthier, to approve the minutes of November 9, 2011. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mrs. Kenneson, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Dorazio, Mr. Lanctot, Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Jerram. NAY: None. MOTION PASSED.

MINUTES
11/9/11

High School Principal Chichester wished everyone Happy Holidays. The Advisory Program is starting this Friday, 12/16/2011. Each high school student will have an adult adviser for the complete four years of school. Mr. Chichester stated research shows that students connected with school do better. Seven meetings are planned and scheduled for this school year. This year's topic will concentrate on "Building the Community." Mr. Chichester reported 24 students passed the CAPT tests at an advanced level. The (NGR) Northwestern Robotics Gearhead Team is well underway. Club Officers have been elected: President- Celeste Menard, Vice President- Eli Wooton, Secretary- Lisa Massicotte, Treasurer- Ryan Lasher. Their progress can be followed on their website nrg.4055.org.

HS
PRINCIPAL
REPORT

Middle School Principal Perez reported the middle school activities going on. Thirty-six Turkey Baskets were prepared and given out at Thanksgiving to families in our community. Five Hundred dollars was collected through the Holiday Angels to purchase clothes and gifts for the Youth Community Center. The Guidance department has started visits to the regional elementary schools to speak to the six grades about transitioning to Northwestern's Middle School. Eighth Graders are being prepared for the transition to high school. A K-12 Curriculum Council meeting was held on December 13, 2011. Science and school climate plan were discussed.

MS
PRINCIPAL
REPORT

Ms. Perez is organizing a group of eighth grade boys along with the PTO, to provide them with information about careers, job preparation and the job future. Businesses will be invited to the school to speak to the group. This will start in January 2012. The eighth grade girls attend a seminar in the spring held by the Litchfield Business Women's Club. The same topics are discussed.

Veteran's Day was very successful. Middle school students greeted Veterans at the Dunkin Donut shops in New Hartford and Winsted. Northwestern Staff Veterans were honored at school during the school day.

Dr. Palmer reported that Optiwind donated five hundred dollars to the Northwestern Robotics Club and three of their engineers joined the club as mentors. The wind project at Klug Hill Farm is expected to be completed in January 2013. The UConn Torrington Branch wind site is being prepared and Northwestern is tentatively planned for spring of 2012.

SUPT.
REPORT

Dr. Palmer gave an update on the Technology program. She commended Ms. Perez for her work and dedication. Both attended a meeting at WAMOGO School to discuss their technology program and observe the student management system. Policies are being developed at this time.

TECH-
NOLOGY

Mr. Chichester, Dr. Palmer, and Mr. Newbury met the State Advisory Board for Ag/Ed. They expressed their concern about the present staff being so spread out and their working long hours to keep up with the demands of Ag. Ed. and the students. A fourth staff position was discussed and recommended.

AG. ED.

Dr. Palmer and Paula Morabito, Executive Director of Shared Services, met with Winsted officials to seek approval of a new counseling center for the Highlander Program to be located at 30 Elm Street, Winsted.

HIGH-
LANDER
COUNSELING CENTER

Director of Finance and Operations Newbury reports no transfers requested at this time. The Observatory has been moved to the top of the driveway. The custodians are preparing a room for the Robotics Club on the lower level of the school building. The 2012-2013 school budget proposal is in progress.

DIR. OF
FINANCE
REPORT

Ms. Sexton Read and Dr. Palmer reported on the CABE/CAPPS Convention that was held in Mystic, CT. in November. Workshops attended included "Bring your Own Device" to school and an informational Board member handbook. Ms. Sexton Read requested the Board members consider pursuing the development of a Northwestern Board of Education Member Handbook which would include Board functions, election procedures, conduct, schedule of meetings and terminology. Mr. Gauthier and Mrs. Bell expressed interest in assisting Ms. Sexton Read in the development of the handbook.

UPDATES

Superintendent Palmer presented Policy 5141.4 – Reporting of Child Abuse for first reading.

POLICY
5141.4

A workshop on Bullying will be presented to the Board members in January 2012.

BULLYING
WORKSHOP

Board members have requested that high school department heads resume their updates with the Board as in the past. A schedule will be developed.

HS DEPT.
REPORTS

MOTION by Mrs. Kenneson, seconded by Mr. Gauthier, to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. AYE: Ms. Sexton Read, Mrs. Kenneson, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Dorazio, Mr. Lanctot, Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Jerram. NAY: None. MOTION PASSED.

ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted,
Kaye Sweeney, Board Clerk