

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 16
Board of Education Meeting
June 16, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

		Weighted Vote <u>Per Member</u>
<i>Beacon Falls...</i>	Christine Arnold	.7
	Ben Catanzaro	.7
	Priscilla Cretella	.7
	Erik Dey	.7
<i>Prospect...</i>	Nazih Noujaim	1.3
	Roxann Vaillancourt	1.3

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Yamin, Superintendent of Schools
Tony DiLeone, Dir. of Finance and Business Operations
Mark Parrino, Director of Facilities

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Priscilla Cretella, at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center at LRMS, Prospect, CT.

A. Roll Call

Roll was called and a quorum was present

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Revision/Additions to Agenda Order

A MOTION was made by Nazih Noujain and SECONDED by Christine Arnold to add Action Item 8 to the agenda, Act to award RFP Paving at LRMS to Cocchiola in the amount of \$84,245.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-086

A MOTION was made by Nazih Noujain and SECONDED by Roxann Vaillancourt to add Action Item 9 to the agenda, Act to change job description from Numeracy Support Teacher to Math Specialist.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-087

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of May 12, 2021, Board of Education Meeting (Ex.1)

A MOTION was made by Erik Dey and SECONDED by Ben Catanzaro to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2021, Board of Education Meeting (Ex. I).

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-088

III. COMMENT

A. Town Officials

B. Public Comments

Lia Pankake, resident of Prospect, expressed her concern about Special Education openings. Mr. Yamin responded by stating that the interview process will start June 30. The hope is to hire a Director and to then have the Director be part of the hiring process for the Assistant Director. It is hoped both positions will be filled for the fall.

Maureen Carroll, resident of Beacon Falls, expressed her concern about a teacher not being a good fit for her son. She is looking for a direction to turn to for next steps as it has not been handled to her satisfaction up to this point.

Lauren Hill, resident of Beacon Falls, shared that she is not in support of mandating masks for children returning in the fall.

Christina Merly, resident of Prospect, asked a couple of questions regarding the removal of an Assistant Principal and a Guidance Counselor. Mr. Yamin stated that no Guidance Counselor was removed. Ms. Merly also questioned if masks would be mandatory or not.

Gina Silva, resident of Prospect, shared concerns about her son's educational plan not reflecting his true needs. Ms. Silva is looking for more help to meet his needs and is moving forward with a specialist in hopes this will help meet his needs more appropriately.

Dorinda Butler, resident of Prospect, spoke as a school bus driver who is not in support of masks being mandatory for a variety of different safety related reasons.

Maribeth Sweeney, resident of Prospect, expressed her dissatisfaction. Ms. Sweeney feels that all R16 employees need to do a better job of advocating for the children and be more consistent. She is also asking for masks to be optional for students' return in the fall.

Lindsay Soules Clarbun, resident of Beacon Falls, also wants masks to be optional in the fall. She also asked if there would be a plan for medical exemptions if masks again become mandated. Ms. Clarbun also expressed disappointment for an education opportunity that her daughter missed out on.

Mary Bernegger, spoke of the profound benefit that Orton-Gillingham training provides for the employees of R16.

Mr. Yamin responded to some of the questions stated above during the meeting and assured each public speaker that they will get a response from him so that they feel heard. Ms. Cretella also assured that everyone will be addressed.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Updates to the community from the Superintendent (5/7, 5/13, 5/19, 5/21, 5/27, 6/4).

2. Thank you note from Gugliotti family.

V. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Noujaim read the report as follows:

Balance in General Fund as of 6/16/21:	\$6,296.388.84
Tonight's invoices total:	\$1,121,234.11
General Fund:	\$2,063.470.01
Federal and State Grants:	\$20,311.00
Adult Ed, Other Grants, Athletic Fund:	\$37,453.10
Capital Non Recurring Project	\$0.00

VI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT (Kayleigh Budnick, Gavin Moffat)

Miss Budnick delivered this evening's report and also introduced the new Student Rep to the Board of Education, Charli Hughes, who will replace Gavin Moffat.

VII. EXEMPLARY PEOPLE, PROGRAMS and AWARDS

VIII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. Superintendent's Update

1. ESSR application.

Mr. Yamin stated this is due online by June 23rd and that it will change monthly as new information comes in. A survey was sent out on May 28th for input from the public. This is worth just under \$750,000 for the District.

2. End of year 2020-2021.

SBAC will not affect DRG this year. Graduation rate was at 97%.

3. Opening Plan for 2021-2022.

Will continue to plan as new information becomes available.

B. Action Items

1. Act to accept letter of resignation from Director of Special Education. (S. McNulty)

A MOTION was made by Roxann Vaillancourt and SECONDED by Christine Arnold to accept the letter of resignation from the Director of Special Education, Shelly McNulty, effective June 30, 2021.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-089

2. Act to accept letter of resignation from Asst. Director of Special Education. (S. Steinberg)

A MOTION was made by Erik Dey and SECONDED by Nazih Noujaim to accept the letter of resignation from Asst. Director of Special Education, Sara Steinberg, effective June 18, 2021.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-090

3. Act to accept letters of resignation from teachers. (D. Dembski, M. Charland, C. Esposito)

A MOTION was made by Roxann Vaillancourt and SECONDED by Nazih Noujaim to accept the letter of resignation from Library Media Specialist at Laurel Ledge School, Dana Dembski, effective June 30, 2021.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-091

A MOTION was made by Erik Dey and SECONDED by Nazih Noujaim to accept the letter of resignation from Speech and Language Pathologist at LRMS and WRHS, Michele Charland, effective June 30, 2021.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-092

A MOTION was made by Erik Dey and SECONDED by Nazih Noujaim to accept the letter of resignation from WRHS English teacher, Christina Esposito, effective June 30, 2021.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-093

4. Act to accept the milk bid for the 2021-2022 school year from Wade's Dairy Inc.

A MOTION was made by Roxann Vaillancourt and SECONDED by Nazih Noujaim to accept the milk bid for the 2021-2022 school year from Wade's Dairy Inc.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-094

5. Act to approve the removal of tiles and asbestos in eight classrooms at LRMS at a price of \$43,298.36 by ENCO (Environmental Contracting and Demolition).

A MOTION was made by Ben Catanzaro and SECONDED by Nazih Noujaim to approve the removal of tiles and asbestos in eight classrooms at LRMS at a price of \$43,298.36 by ENCO (Environmental Contracting and Demolition).

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-095

6. Act to transfer funds to capital non-recurring fund for capital projects delayed due to circumstances resulting from the pandemic.

A MOTION was made by Erik Dey and SECONDED by Roxann Vaillancourt to transfer funds totaling \$80,000 to capital non-recurring fund for capital projects delayed due to circumstances resulting from the pandemic.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-096

7. Act to add a Math Specialist and a Reading Interventionist to the 2021-2022 budget to support student learning.

A MOTION was made by Erik Dey and SECONDED by Christine Arnold to add a Math Specialist and a Reading Interventionist to the 2021-2022 budget to support student learning.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-097

8. Act to award RFP Paving at LRMS to Cocchiola in the amount of \$84,245.

A MOTION was made by Roxann Vaillancout and SECONDED by Ben Catanzaro to award RFP Paving at LRMS to Cocchiola in the amount of \$84,245.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-098

9. Act to change job description and title from Numeracy Support Teacher to Math Specialist.

A MOTION was made by Nazih Noujaim and SECONDED by Christine Arnold to change job description and title from Numeracy Support Teacher to Math Specialist.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-099

C. Director of Finance and Business Operations Report

Mr. DiLeone reported on the following; HD Segur has presented the liability and workers compensation insurance renewal, which illustrates a reduction in cost. The contract for lighting upgrades at PES has been finalized with a reduction in net cost. The contract for LLES should be presented shortly. Pool drain repairs at WRHS were unable to be completed prior to the end of this fiscal year due to material delays from the vendor; therefore, the transfer of funds will be moved to the capital non-recurring account to be expensed at a later date. Food Services will close the year at a profit, and this program will continue to serve meals to the R16 summer school students.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

WRHS pool drains.

Will not happen this fiscal year, funding will be extended.

X. NEW BUSINESS

Job description for Personal Learning Advisor.

XI. ITEMS for NEXT BOE AGENDA

Will continue to update for requirements to open in the fall.

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

Hiring Process Guide (revised 5/27/21).

Exit Survey from Kevin Cyr.

WRHS sports activities.

XIII. ENROLLMENT (Ex. II) - June 2021

XIV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Personnel and Negotiations Committee: **Minutes of 5/26/21.**

Set dates for Dir. of SPED position screening. Initial interviews will take place June 30.

B. Facilities and Transportation Committee: **Facilities Report 5/1/21.**

C. Curriculum Committee: **Minutes of 5/12/21**

D. Policy Committee

- E. Public Communications
- F. Technology Committee: **Meeting 6/16/21, 6:30 p.m., LRMS.** Mr. Brennan updated the Board and reported things are in great shape.
- G. Recognition Committee
- H. Liaisons:
 - 1. Schools
 - 2. Wellness Committee
 - 3. Professional Development Committee
 - 4. 2COM
- I. Parent Advisory Council

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Christine Arnold and SECONDED by Nazih Noujaim to adjourn the June 16, 2021 Board of Education Meeting at 7:55 p.m.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.4)

21-100

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: July 21, 2021, District Office, 7:00 p.m.