

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 16**  
**Board of Education Meeting**  
**March 28, 2018**

<b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>	<u>Weighted Vote Per Member</u>
<i>Beacon Falls</i>	
Erik Dey	.7
David Rybinski	.7
Christine Arnold	.7
Priscilla Cretella	.7
 <i>Prospect</i>	
Nazih Noujaim	1.3
Roxann Vaillancourt	1.3
Robert Hiscox	1.3
Daisy Laone	1.3

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Michael P. Yamin, Superintendent  
Pamela Mangini, Dir. of Finance & Business Operations  
Michele Raynor, Curriculum Director  
Matthew Brennan, Director of Technology  
Steve Martoni, Director of Facilities and Maintenance  
Shelly McNulty, Director of Pupil Services

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Education Meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. at District Office, Prospect, CT.

**II. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**III. RECORD OF MEMBERS PRESENT**

The roll was called, a quorum was present.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of March 14, 2018, Special Board of Ed Meeting/Budget Workshop (Ex. I)

A MOTION was made by David Rybinski and SECONDED by Daisy Laone to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2018, Special Board of Education/Budget Workshop meeting. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 8.0) **18-055**

Minutes of March 14, 2018, Board of Education Meeting (Ex. II)

A MOTION was made by David Rybinski and SECONDED by Christine Arnold to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2018, Board of Education meeting.

Some of the following items were taken out of order:

**V. TOWN OFFICIAL COMMENT**

Mayor Robert Chatfield congratulated the three young ladies from DECA for their accomplishments and then addressed the Board stating that he was in support of having armed personnel at the high school.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bob Bradley, resident of Beacon Falls and owner of Beacon Falls Pharmacy, spoke in regards to his establishment not being able to participate in the State’s Partnership 2.0 health insurance plan if the Region should move to that plan. Mr. Bradley spoke of his involvement in the community over the years and asked the Board to consider the ramifications of that possible move.

Ron Laone, resident of Prospect, spoke of his support of having armed personnel in the high school.

Jennifer Wissink, resident of Beacon Falls, spoke of being uncomfortable with the thought of having guns in the school. Ms. Wissink raised some questions relative to her concern.

Janet Roberts, resident of Prospect, expressed her feelings of promoting Recovery Program and Public safety.

Lauren Poulos, resident of Beacon Falls, spoke in support of the superintendent’s vision for the Region. Ms. Poulos is in support of tracking students after high school in order to measure success and keeping low student-to-teacher ratios to assure student success.

Paul Cummings, resident of Beacon Falls, expressed his concern that not all of his questions from the previous meeting were addressed. Mr. Cummings shared some statistics and data regarding the downsides of having armed personnel.

**VII. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Letter to community re budget surplus.
2. Letter from LRMS student re armed security at schools.
3. Letter from parent re part-time security guards at our schools.

**VIII. TREASURER’S REPORT**

Nazih Noujaim read the report as follows:

Balance in General Fund as of 3/28/18:	\$9,406,261.57
Tonight’s invoices total:	\$1,120,400.69
General Fund:	\$1,114,018.25
Federal and State Grants:	\$1,275.00
Adult Ed, Other Grants, Athletic Fund:	\$5,107.44

**IX. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT** (Anna Witkowski, Bayan Galal)  
Ms. Witkowski shared this evening's report.

**X. EXEMPLARY PEOPLE AND PROGRAMS**

1. Three WRHS students who placed 1st in the State DECA Conference: Eliza Smith, Kristen Persico and Shannon Pruzinsky.  
All three young ladies were presented with certificates by the Board.

A MOTION was made by David Rybinski and SECONDED by Nazih Noujaim to add Action Item #6 to the agenda: Act to approve to waive the bid policy and award Powerstation (the lower of two bidders) the LRMS sound system at a cost of \$29,876, due to time constraints. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 8.0) **18-057**

A MOTION was made by David Rybinski and SECONDED by Nazih Noujaim to add Action Item #7 to the agenda: Act to approve the hiring of a consultant to develop a bid specification for replacing the auditorium lighting at WRHS for a cost up to \$3,000. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 8.0) **18-058**

A MOTION was made by David Rybinski and SECONDED by Nazih Noujaim to add Action Item #8 to the agenda: Act to approve Superintendent's new budget proposal for 2018-19 at -0.20% and to move forward to the public hearing. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 8.0) **18-059**

**XI. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT**

**A. Superintendent's Update**

1. Armed security guards at schools. (Prospect & Beacon Falls police)  
LT. Nelson Abarzua (Prospect Police Dept.) spoke in regard to this topic. As a part of the Interdepartmental Safety Committee, he shared helpful information with the Board. The hiring of any armed personnel would be a collective effort to ensure the best choices and would adhere to Connecticut State Statute. LT. Abarzua took some questions to clarify any lingering concerns.
2. Update of March 20<sup>th</sup> healthcare meeting with CT Partnership.  
Information was provided including the fact that after going out to bid with five companies only Cigna came back with a response.
3. New insurance form for out-of-country field trips.  
A brief discussion took place regarding this topic. A policy meeting will be called to review, which could result in revising the motion to allow out-of-country field trips due to liability issues.
4. Five-year capital improvement plan  
No new changes or additions. Ms. Cretella brought up the baseball fence which is being discussed.
5. Closing schools on Sundays.  
Mr. Yamin feels the schools should be closed to school activities. Mr. Rybinski shared his concern that it would greatly impact the basketball team. Parks and Rec would still be allowed to use the schools on Sundays.

The following information was also shared:

Mr. Yamin also shared some sad news that Matt and Marissa Mills' father passed away and expressed his sympathy to the family.

Mr. Yamin shared that a new law had been passed stating that anyone that qualifies for Medicaid is entitled to free and reduced lunch; and as a result, 214 students were added.

Mr. Yamin acknowledged the Food Service Department for their outstanding efforts in covering numerous staff shortages over the past month.

Mr. Yamin shared a parent's satisfaction with the internship program.

Mr. Yamin shared new snow blowers had been purchased for each schools, which was appreciated by our custodial staff.

**B. Action Items**

1. Act to approve Healthy Food Compliance Agreement for 2018-2019.
  - a. Healthy Food Option
  - b. Exemption for Food Items

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by David Rybinski to approve Healthy Food Compliance Agreement for 2018-2019.

This approval is for both: (a) the Healthy Food Option, and (b) the exemption of food items, provided the event conditions are met.

**ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 8.0) **18-060**

2. Act to approve second reading of revised policy **5113.2** – *Truancy*.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by David Rybinski to approve second reading of revised policy **5113.2** – *Truancy*.

**ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 8.0) **18-061**

3. Act to approve second reading of revised policy **5131** - *Conduct and Discipline*.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by David Rybinski to approve second reading of revised policy **5131** - *Conduct and Discipline*.

**ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 8.0) **18-062**

4. Act to approve transfer of funds for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

A MOTION was made by Roxann Vaillancourt and SECONDED by David Rybinski to approve transfer of funds for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, as presented.

**ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 8.0) **18-063**

5. Act to approve offsetting town payments for the 2017-2018 fiscal year through the reallocation of funds.

A MOTION was made by Nazih Noujaim and SECONDED by David Rybinski to approve offsetting town payments for the 2017-2018 fiscal year through the

reallocation of funds.

**ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 8.0)

**18-064**

6. Act to approve to waive the bid policy and award Powerstation (the lower of two bidders) the LRMS sound system at a cost of \$29,876, due to time constraints.

A MOTION was made by Nazih Noujaim and **SECONDED** by David Rybinski to approve waiving the bid policy and award Powerstation (the lower of two bidders) the Long River Middle School sound system at a cost of \$29,876, due to time constraints. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 8.0)

**18-065**

7. Act to approve the hiring of a consultant to develop a bid specification for replacing the auditorium lighting at WRHS for a cost up to \$3,000.

A MOTION was made by Nazih Noujaim and **SECONDED** by David Rybinski to approve the hiring of a consultant to develop a bid specification for replacing the auditorium lighting at WRHS for a cost up to \$3,000.

**ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 8.0)

**18-066**

8. Act to approve Superintendent's new budget proposal for 2018-19 at -0.20% and to move forward to the public hearing.

A MOTION was made by Nazih Noujaim and **SECONDED** by David Rybinski to approve Superintendent's new budget proposal for 18-19 at -0.20% and to move forward to the public hearing.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding some of the specifics.

**MOTION PASSES** (weighted vote totals 6.6)

**18-067**

*Erik Dey and Priscilla Cretella opposed*

C. **Director of Finance and Business Operations Report**

1. Monthly financial summary.

Mrs. Mangini briefly shared the above and stated if there were any questions or concerns to contact her.

D. **Old Business**

1. Bid waiver for Sarracco Mechanical Svcs. for Energy Management System (EMS) at WRHS.

E. **New Business**

F. **Items to be discussed at future BOE meetings**

G. **Information Items**

1. Coming attractions for April 2018.

H. **Enrollment** (Ex. III)

Included in the Board packets.

## **XII. REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

1. Personnel and Negotiations Committee  
There was a grievance from a non-certified staff member. It was denied by the Personnel Committee, and the individual will be notified.
2. Facilities and Transportation Committee: **Joint Mtg. with Technology Committee 3/28/18, 5:30 p.m., District Office**
3. Curriculum Committee: **Meeting 3/28/18, 5:30 p.m., District Office**
4. Policy Committee: **To be scheduled**
5. Public Communications
6. Technology Committee: **Joint Mtg. w/Facilities Comm. 3/28/18, 5:30 p.m., District Office**
7. Recognition Committee
8. Liaisons
  - a. Schools: Mr. Noujaim attended LRMS PTO event.
  - b. Wellness Committee
  - c. Professional Development Committee: **Meetings 4th Monday of each month, District Office, 3:30 p.m.**
  - d. 2COM –
    1. RSD 16 respect initiative.

## **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

A MOTION was made by David Rybinski and SECONDED by Erik Dey to adjourn the March 28, 2018, Board of Education meeting at 9:51 p.m.

**ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 8.0)

**18-068**

Christine Arnold,

Board Secretary

*These minutes are subject to Board approval  
Submitted by Kelly Blum, Board Clerk*