

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 16
Board of Education Meeting
April 5, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

		<u>Weighted Vote Per Member</u>
<i>Beacon Falls...</i>	Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga	.7
	Christine Arnold	.7
	Ben Catanzaro	.7
	Priscilla Cretella	.7
<i>Prospect...</i>	Robert Hiscox	1.3
	Karima Jackson <i>arrived at 7:47 p.m.</i>	1.3
	Roxann Vaillancourt	1.3
	Nazih Noujaim	1.3

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael P. Yamin, Superintendent
 Tony DiLeone, Dir. of Finance and Business Operations
 Michele Raynor, Director of Curriculum

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Robert Hiscox, at 7:18 p.m. in the Auditorium at WRHS, in Beacon Falls, CT.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

Roll was called and a quorum was present.

Mr. Hiscox reintroduced Nazih Noujaim as the newest member of the Board of Education, replacing Robert Dyer.

C. Revision/Additions to Agenda Order

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of March 8, 2023, Board of Education Meeting

A MOTION was made by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga and SECONDED by Roxann Vaillancourt to approve the minutes of March 8, 2023, Board of Education Meeting.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 6.7)

23-049

III. COMMENT

A. Town Officials

Mike Krenesky, Selectman of Beacon Falls, supported Jim Carroll's request from the Budget portion of the meeting and Mr. Hiscox thanked them for their support.

B. Public Comments - Note: Public Comment will be limited to five (5) minutes per speaker with a maximum of 45 minutes per subject. The BOE will not reply to comments made at a meeting.

Dino Verrelli, resident of Beacon Falls, brought to attention a settlement regarding a former employee of the District and his concerns surrounding that.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

- March 7, 2023 letter to Allison M. Wolfe regarding contract
- March 22, 2023 correspondence between Rob Dyer and Michael Coviello
- March 23, 2023 Superintendent update
- March 27, 2023 internal job posting (Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel and Spec. Ed)
- March 29, 2023 Superintendent update
- March 30, 2023 letter of retirement from Mrs. Lorrie Moraniec, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

V. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Burkitt-Lyga read the report as follows:

Balance in General Fund as of 4/5/23	\$5,674,930.18
Tonight's invoices total	\$1,179,338.26
General Fund	\$1,107,646.58
Federal and State Grants	\$38,051.74
Adult Ed, Other Grants, Athletic Fund	\$21,139.94
Capital Non Recurring Project	\$12,500.00

VI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT (Charli Hughes, Kaltrina Ameti)

Miss Ameti shared this evening's report and Mr. Yamin added the success of the recent NJHS induction ceremony.

VII. EXEMPLARY PEOPLE, PROGRAMS and AWARDS

• Carol Magnarella celebrated her 32nd year with Region 16 on March 29, 2023. Mr. Yamin shared thoughtful words about Mrs. Magnarella and her history. She was provided with flowers, a certificate of appreciation as well as a gift. Mrs. Magnarella also shared heartfelt words regarding her many years of service.

VIII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. Superintendent's Update

Mr. Yamin addressed enrollment, provided draft copies of the proposed budget and a Fact Sheet regarding Turf vs. Grass Fields.

1. Discuss graduation and promotion dates for June 2023.

Dates were set as follows:

LRMS June 12, 2023

WRHS June 14, 2023

2. WRHS Spring sports and transportation update.

Mr. Yamin reported that there were still some concerns surrounding transportation.

3. Capital Improvement FAQ sheet for R16 community.

Included in this were comparisons and the debt payment schedule.

B. Director of Finance and Business Operations Report

Mr. DiLeone reported on the following: The expenditure report and budget transfers will be brought before the Board at the April 19, 2023 meeting. This year's wellness initiatives have concluded with great participation from staff. Raffles for smart watches will take place on April 6, 2023. The Alio Linq ERP transition has been postponed for a few months.

Karima Jackson arrived at 7:47 p.m.

C. Action Items

1. Act to hold an Annual District Meeting at Long River Middle School on Monday, May 1, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. to vote on the proposed school budget for 2023-2024 of \$43,041,165 (increase of 3.16%) by a voting method determined by the Board of Education.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Roxann Vaillancourt to hold an Annual District Meeting at Long River Middle School on Monday, May 1, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. to vote on the proposed school budget for 2023-2024 of \$43,041,165 (increase of 3.16%) by a voting method determined by the Board of Education.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 8.0)

23-050

2. Act to approve the voting method on the proposed 2023-2024 school budget at the Annual District Meeting on May 1, 2023, LRMS. (The recommendation by the Board of Education is a referendum to be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Towns of Beacon Falls and Prospect.)

A MOTION was made by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga and SECONDED by Karima Jackson to approve the voting method on the proposed 2023-2024 school budget at the Annual District Meeting on May 1, 2023, LRMS, by referendum to be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Towns of Beacon Falls and Prospect.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 8.0)

23-051

3. Act on Healthy Food Certification (HFC) Statement certifying that all food items sold to students (separately from reimbursable meals) in Region 16, pursuant to C.G.S. 10-215f and not exempted from the CT Nutrition Standards (CNS) published by the CSDE, will comply with the CNS during the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

A MOTION was made by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga and SECONDED by Christine Arnold to certify that, pursuant to C.G.S. 10-215f, that all food items offered for sale to students in Region 16 schools, and not exempted from the CT Nutrition Standards (CNS) published by the CT State Dept. of Education, will comply with the CNS during the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 8.0)

23-052

4. Act to adopt the food and beverage exemptions for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 allowing the sale in Region 16 to students those food items that do not meet the CT Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the C.G.S. providing that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event

occurring after the end of the school day or on the weekend, 2) the sale is at the location of an event, and 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store.

A MOTION was made by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga and SECONDED by Christine Arnold to act to adopt the food and beverage exemptions for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 allowing the sale in Region 16 to students those food items that do not meet the CT Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the CT General Statutes providing that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the school day or on the weekend, 2) the sale is at the location of an event, and 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The "regular school day" is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. "Location" means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food and beverage sales.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 8.0)

23-053

5. Act to appropriate \$277,500 from the Region's capital non-recurring fund for the replacement of the gymnasium floor at Woodland Regional High School.

A MOTION was made by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga and SECONDED by Priscilla Cretella to act to appropriate \$277,500 from the Region's capital non-recurring fund for the replacement of the gymnasium floor at Woodland Regional High School.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 8.0)

23-054

6. Act to award the fabrication and installation of custom workstation cabinets in the WRHS STEM Room to American Millwork in the amount of \$31,000.00.

A MOTION was made by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga and SECONDED by Priscilla Cretella to award the fabrication and installation of custom workstation cabinets in the WRHS STEM Room to American Millwork in the amount of \$31,000.00.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 8.0)

23-055

Mr. Yamin noted this went out to bid.

7. Act to approve Red-Thread in the amount of \$27,383.11 for the replacement of the carpet and tile of the vestibule and media center at Woodland Regional High School.

A MOTION was made by Roxann Vaillancourt and SECONDED by Priscilla Cretella to approve Red-Thread in the amount of \$27,383.11 for the replacement of the carpet and tile of the vestibule and media center at Woodland Regional High School.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 8.0)

23-056

Mr. Yamin noted this went out to bid.

8. Act to set 2023 graduation date for WRHS as 6/14/23 and promotion ceremony date for LRMS as 6/12/23.

A MOTION was made by Roxann Vaillancourt and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to

set 2023 graduation date for WRHS as 6/14/23 and promotion ceremony date for LRMS as 6/12/23.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 8.0)

23-057

9. Act to non-renew employment contract for 2023-2024 for Allison Wolfe if she does not pass the CT Foundations of Reading Test, Praxis II for Reading and Language Arts and Praxis II for Mathematics by April 28, 2023.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to non-renew employment contract for 2023-2024 for Allison Wolfe if she does not pass the CT Foundations of Reading Test, Praxis II for Reading and Language Arts and Praxis II for Mathematics by April 28, 2023.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 8.0)

23-058

10. Act to accept Kristen Mosher's letter of resignation.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to accept Kristen Mosher's letter of resignation.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 8.0)

23-059

11. Act to non-renew WRHS teacher, Janet Horton, for 2023-2024 PTE 0.06 math position due RIF.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Christine Arnold to non-renew WRHS teacher for 2023-2024 PTE 0.06 math position due RIF.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 8.0)

23-060

12. Act to accept Cathy Lachance's letter of resignation.

A MOTION was made by Roxann Vaillancourt and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to accept Cathy Lachance's letter of resignation.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 8.0)

23-061

IX. OLD BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

XI. ITEMS for NEXT BOE AGENDA

Curriculum meeting added on June 15, 2023 at District Office. The District wants to move forward with a new reading program for next year.

Mr. Hiscox brought up bodycams which will be discussed at the next interdepartmental meeting.

Ms. Cretella took time to acknowledge Mrs. Moraniec's upcoming retirement and noted the Board offers their sincere appreciation for her dedication.

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

Coming Attractions - delivered on March 24, 2023

XIII. ENROLLMENT - April 2023**XIV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Personnel and Negotiations Committee
- B. Facilities and Transportation Committee
- C. Curriculum Committee: **Next meeting April 19, 2023, 6:15 p.m., District Office**
- D. Policy Committee: **Next meeting May 24, 2023, WRHS**
- E. Public Communications
- F. Technology Committee: **Meeting minutes of 3/8/23**
- G. Recognition Committee
- H. Liaisons:
 - 1. Schools
 - 2. Wellness Committee
 - 3. Professional Development Committee: **Next PDEC meeting April 24, 2023, Virtual**
 - 4. 2COM
- I. Parent Advisory Council: **Next meeting April 19, 2023, 5:45 p.m., Virtual**
- J. Interdepartmental Safety Committee

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

This evening's Executive Session was canceled due to family member's request, Mr. Yamin received this request to cancel at 6:00 p.m.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Karima Jackson and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to adjourn the Board of Education meeting of April 5, 2023 at 8:08 p.m.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 8.0)

23-062

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: April 19, 2023, District Office, 30 Coer Road, Prospect, CT, 7:00 p.m.

Board Secretary,

Christine Arnold

These minutes are subject to Board approval.

Submitted by Kelly Rodriguez, Board Clerk