

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 16
SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

Board of Education Meeting
Prospect and Beacon Falls, CT
30 Coer Road, Prospect, CT
203-758-6671

Date: August 17, 2022

Place: District Office

Time: 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

The order of business shall be at the discretion of the Chairman.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Roll Call**
- B. Pledge of Allegiance**
- C. Revision/Additions to Agenda Order**

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of June 15, 2022 Board of Education Meeting (Ex. I)

III. COMMENT

- A. Town Officials**
- 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. The Superintendent or Board Chair will respond to a concern within five business days***

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

2022-2023 Welcome Back Letter

V. TREASURER'S REPORT

VI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT (Kayleigh Budnick, Charli Hughes)

VII. EXEMPLARY PEOPLE, PROGRAMS and AWARDS

WRHS Softball Team State Champions

VIII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

- A. Superintendent's Update**
 - 1. Facilities Update (M. Parrino)
 - 2. Region 16 BOE Mission Statement and Core Values/Beliefs
 - 3. Region 16 School Opening Week- 8/22/22-8/29/22

B. Director of Finance and Business Operations Report

C. Action Items

1. Act to hire Emily Gotowala, 4th teacher at LLES, for the 2022-2023 school year at MA, Step 1, \$52,217.
2. Act to hire Sarah Carter, School Psychologist at LLES, for the 2022-2023 school year at MA+30, Step 3, \$56,399.
3. Act to hire Eileen Portelance, Art Teacher at WRHS, for the 2022-2023 school year at BA, Step 3, \$52,511.
4. Act to hire Janet Horton, .6 FTE Mathematics Teacher at WRHS, for the 2022-2023 school year at 6th Year+15, Step 12, \$59,326.20.
5. Act to hire Christie Achorn, Dean of Culture and Student Liaison at LRMS, for the 2022-2023 school year at \$64,000.
6. Act to hire Emma Dzamko, Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) District-Wide, for the 2022-2023 school year at \$100,000.
7. Act to accept letter of resignation from teacher, effective 7/25/22. (Molly Sullivan)
8. Act to accept letter of resignation from teacher, effective 8/3/2022. (N. Montagno)
9. Act to appropriate \$11,200 from the Region's Capital Non-Recurring fund for repairs to the football field at Woodland Regional High School.
10. Act to increase the cost of lunch in the elementary schools to \$3.00, middle school to \$3.25, and the high school to \$3.50 as of the 2022-2023 school year.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

XI. ITEMS for NEXT BOE AGENDA

XII INFORMATION ITEMS

XIII COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Personnel and Negotiations Committee
- B. Facilities and Transportation Committee - **9/14/2022, 6:00 p.m.**
- C. Curriculum Committee
- D. Policy Committee - **9/28/2022, 6:15 p.m.**
- E. Public Communications
- F. Technology Committee - **10/12/2022, 6:15 p.m.**
- G. Recognition Committee
- H. Liaisons:
 1. Schools
 2. Wellness Committee
 3. Professional Development Committee
 4. 2COM
- I. Parent Advisory Council
- J. Interdepartmental Safety Committee

XIV ADJOURNMENT

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 16
Board of Education Meeting
June 15, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

		<u>Weighted Vote Per Member</u>
<i>Beacon Falls...</i>	Christine Arnold	.7
	Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga (arrived 7:12 p.m.)	.7
	Priscilla Cretella	.7
<i>Prospect...</i>	Robert Hiscox	1.3
	Roxann Vaillancourt	1.3
	Karima Jackson	1.3

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Robert Hiscox, at 7:00 p.m. at WRHS, in Beacon Falls, 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 Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Roxann Vaillancourt to add Action Item #23: to approve the replacement of the gym floor at WRHS by A. Secondino. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 5.3) **22-087**

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of May 25, 2022 Board of Education Meeting (Ex. I)

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Roxann Vaillancourt to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2022, Board of Education Meeting (Ex. I)
ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 5.3) **22-088**

III. COMMENT

A. Town Officials

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. The Superintendent or Board Chair will respond to a concern within five business days

A copy of an email was provided to the BOE members regarding Robert Hiscox's response to a parent email that was received. The email sent by Mr. Hiscox stated that a complaint cannot be brought up against individual employees unless a complaint or charge has been filed. Then the response gave directions on how to complete this process.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

Superintendent update to community in letter dated 6/3/2022.

Mr. Yamin sent out correspondence to the community regarding promotion and graduation ceremonies. Mr. Yamin updated the community on accomplishments and important dates coming up for the end of the year.

V. TREASURER'S REPORT

Roxann Vaillancourt read the following into the record:

Balance in General Fund as of 6/15/22:	\$ 6,726,518.90
Tonight's Invoices Total	\$937,598.60
General Fund	\$901,854.69
Federal and State Grants	\$17,087.24
Adult Ed, Other Grants, Athletic Fund	\$18,656.67
Capital Non-Recurring Project	\$0.00

VI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT (Kayleigh Budnick, Charli Hughes)

Student reps did not attend the meeting.

VII. EXEMPLARY PEOPLE, PROGRAMS and AWARDS

LRMS Swim Team receipt of Sportsmanship Award.

Loren Luddy and the WRHS softball team won 2022 State Championships, Class M. The team jerseys will be purchased by BOE to be framed and given to the players.

VIII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. Superintendent's Update

1. Fine Arts bathroom issue at WRHS.

Mr. Yamin summarized that no contamination was found and the problem was resolved.

2. Update on Capital Improvement Project and PowerPoint.

Mr. Yamin updated that the referendum on the CIP was approved. Mr. Yamin stated that there is \$2.3 million to finance and draw out. The football field and track at WRHS will be completed the following year because of logistics. Ms. Jackson asked for a short term resolution for the football field and track. Mr. Yamin did answer the question by stating that it will most likely start later next year.

3. Surveys – parents & staff.

Mr. Yamin stated that the information provided by the survey results will help formulate goals and mission statement for the upcoming year. A conversation ensued regarding dress code. Ms. Cretella addressed issues she was receiving from parents regarding the dress code. Ms. Cretella suggested a possible PD for teachers regarding the dress code. Mr. Yamin stated that, per request, it will be introduced by the principals at the faculty meetings at the beginning of the year. Ms. Cretella noted that it should be the expectation of all teachers in the region to address the dress code in their classrooms.

4. PES lightning upgrades.

A contract is being send out to replace the old LED lights outside of PES as a part of our electrical upgrade.

B. Director of Finance and Business Operations Report

Mr. DiLeone reported the following: The Town of Wilton closed \$4.435 million dollar bond with an interest cost of 2.658%, which is positive news for Region 16 as our estimated rate of interest is 3.6%; however, timing will affect our rate. We are still working on the Region's credit rating with S&P Global trying to increase from AA-. The Special Education Department will receive a \$15,000 stipend this summer from CSDE. The Food Services Department has been using Time and Attendance. The state will be doubling reimbursement rates for retiring teachers/administrators' medical insurance

C. Action Items

1. Second reading of revised policy #4118.11 *Nondiscrimination*.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Roxann Vaillancourt to approve the second reading of revised policy #4118.11 *Nondiscrimination*.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 6)

22-089

2. Second reading of revised policy #5131.6 *Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco*.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Christine Arnold to approve the second reading of revised policy #5131.6 *Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco*.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 6)

22-090

3. Second reading of revised policy #5132 *Dress and Grooming*.

A MOTION was made by Roxann Vaillancourt and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to approve the second reading of revised policy #5132 *Dress and Grooming*.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 6)

22-091

4. Second reading of **new policy** #5141.72 *Student Sports/Emergency Action Plan*.

A MOTION was made by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga and SECONDED by Karima Jackson by to approve the second reading of new policy #5141.72 *Student Sports/Emergency Action Plan*.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 6)

22-092

5. Second reading of revised policy/regulation #5145.12 *Search and Seizure*.

A MOTION was made by Roxann Vaillancourt and SECONDED by Christine Arnold to approve the second reading of revised policy/regulation #5145.12 *Search and Seizure*.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 6)

22-093

6. Second reading of revised policy #6141.51 *Advanced Courses or Programs*.

A MOTION was made by Karima Jackson and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to approve the second reading of revised policy #6141.51 *Advanced Courses or Programs*.
ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 6) **22-094**

7. Second reading of revised policy #6146 *Graduation*.

A MOTION was made by Roxann Vaillancourt and SECONDED by Christine Arnold to approve the second reading of revised policy #6146 *Graduation*.
ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 6) **22-095**

8. Second reading of **new policy** #6172.1 *Gifted and Talented*.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to approve the second reading of new policy #6172.1 *Gifted and Talented*.
ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 6) **22-096**

9. Act to hire Allison Wolfe, Fourth Grade teacher at PES, for 2022-2023 school year at BA, Step 2, \$51,310.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to hire Allison Wolfe, Fourth Grade teacher at PES, for 2022-2023 school year at BA, Step 2, \$51,310. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 6) **22-097**

10. Act to hire Elisabeth Szklany, Kindergarten teacher at LLES, for 2022-2023 school year at MA, Step 4, \$55,896.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to hire Elisabeth Szklany, Kindergarten teacher at LLES, for 2022-2023 school year at MA, Step 4, \$55,896. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 6) **22-098**

11. Act to hire Victoria Kozlowski, First Grade teacher at LLES, for 2022-2023 school year at MA, Step 2, \$53,272.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Roxann Vaillancourt to hire Victoria Kozlowski, First Grade teacher at LLES, for 2022-2023 school year at MA, Step 2, \$53,272.
ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 6) **22-099**

12. Act to hire Nicole Ciaramella, Special Education teacher at LRMS, for 2022-2023 at MA+30, Step 5, \$60,624.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to hire Nicole Ciaramella, Special Education teacher at LRMS, for 2022-2023 at MA+30, Step 5, \$60,624.
ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 6) **22-100**

13. Act to hire Lindsey Nichols, Literacy Specialist at LRMS, for 2022-2023 at MA+30, Step 12, \$95,452.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to hire Lindsey Nichols, Literacy Specialist at LRMS, for 2022-2023 at MA+30, Step 12, \$95,452. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 6) **22-101**

14. Act to hire Casey Stevens, English teacher at WRHS, for 2022-2023 at BA, Step 3, \$52,511.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to hire Casey Stevens, English teacher at WRHS, for 2022-2023 at BA, Step 3, \$52,511. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 6) **22-102**

15. Act to award Prospect snow removal bid for 2022-2025 to Hillview Property Maintenance in the amount of \$213,825.

A MOTION was made by Roxann Vaillancourt and SECONDED by Priscilla Cretella to award Prospect snow removal bid for 2022-2025 to Hillview Property Maintenance in the amount of \$213,825. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 6) **22-103**

16. Act to award Beacon Falls snow removal bid for 2022-2025 to Highland Construction in the amount of \$127,000.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to award Beacon Falls snow removal bid for 2022-2025 to Highland Construction in the amount of \$127,000. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 6) **22-104**

17. Act to award Prospect refuse removal bid for 2022-2025 to AJ Waste Systems, LLC in the amount of \$56,970.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to award Prospect refuse removal bid for 2022-2025 to AJ Waste Systems, LLC in the amount of \$56,970. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 6) **22-105**

18. Act to award milk bid for 2022-2023 to Wade's Dairy.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to award milk bid for 2022-2023 to Wade's Dairy. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 6) **22-106**

19. Act on approval of resolution for Schools and Libraries Universal Services (E-Rate) for 2022-2023.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Roxann Vaillancourt to approve of resolution for Schools and Libraries Universal Service (E-Rate) for 2022-2023. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 6) **22-107**

20. Act to approve the purchase of a midsize pickup truck for District Office, not to exceed \$55,000, before the trade-in of one of the Chevrolet City Express vans.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Roxann Vaillancourt to approve the purchase of a midsize pickup truck for District Office, not to exceed \$55,000, before the trade-in of one of the Chevrolet City Express vans.
ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 6) **22-108**

21. Act to approve replacing obsolete controls for both elevators at WRHS by TK Elevator in the amount of \$33,896.90.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Christine Arnold to approve replacing obsolete controls for both elevators at WRHS by TK Elevator in the amount of \$33,896.90. **ALL IN FAVOR** except Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga who **ABSTAINED**
MOTION PASSES (weighted vote 5.3) **22-109**

22. Act to approve the replacement of the video security system at Prospect Elementary School for \$45,342 by Mercury Security, LLC.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to approve the replacement of the video security system at Prospect Elementary School for \$45,342 by Mercury Security, LLC.
ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 6) **22-110**

23. Act to approve replacing the gym floor at Woodland Regional High School by A. Secondino, for \$820,000.

A MOTION was made by Priscilla Cretella and SECONDED by Tiffany Burkitt-Lyga to approve the replacing the gym floor at Woodland Regional High School by A. Secondino for \$820,000. **ALL IN FAVOR** (weighted vote totals 6) **22-111**

IX. OLD BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

New projector for WRHS auditorium

XI. ITEMS for NEXT BOE AGENDA

The District Strategic Planning Meeting is canceled for July 13th and changed to July 11th, 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

XIII. ENROLLMENT (Ex. II)

June 2022

XIV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Personnel and Negotiations Committee
- B. Facilities and Transportation Committee
- C. Curriculum Committee
- D. Policy Committee
- E. Public Communications

- F. Technology Committee
- G. Recognition Committee
- H. Liaisons:
 - 1. Schools
 - 2. Wellness Committee
 - 3. Professional Development Committee
 - 4. 2COM
- I. Parent Advisory Council
- J. Interdepartmental Safety Committee

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Roxann Vaillancourt and SECONDED by Karima Jackson to adjourn the June 15, 2022 Board of Education meeting at 7:37 p.m.

ALL IN FAVOR (weighted vote totals 6)

22-112

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: July 11, 2022, District Office, Special BOE, District
Strategic Meeting 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Regularly scheduled BOE meeting of July 13, 2022 will be canceled

*These minutes are subject to Board approval.
Submitted by Laura Marvin, Substitute Board Clerk.*



Michael P. Yamin
Superintendent

Welcome Back!

August 1, 2022

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As we approach the beginning of a new school year, I hope this letter finds you in good health and enjoying a pleasant summer break. I am overwhelmed with enthusiasm this year. Unlike the past two years we are fully staffed, opening all schools with a “normal schedule” and implementing a number of new instructional practices. Summer is a time to recharge, connect with family and friends, and feel rejuvenated. The start of a new school year is an exciting time, not only for students, but for families and our staff as well. In that regard, **it is my pleasure to welcome you back to the 2022-2023 school year.**

The R16 Administrative Leadership Team in collaboration with the R16 Board of Education held a 2-day retreat in July. We collectively reviewed our 5-year student achievement data, staff and community survey results, and the board’s existing mission statement and goals. We set new benchmarks for student performance. We established action plans to ensure a positive and healthy school climate and culture in all Region 16 schools. The BOE and Administrative Leadership Team reaffirmed Region 16’s commitment to infusing technology into the curriculum and performing Learning Walks. We are prepared to provide continuous and ongoing embedded professional learning and establish clear teaching and learning expectations that are aligned district-wide for our staff. We have increased our resources for all students and we will focus our goals on personalizing learning opportunities for students to increase engagement and rigor. We will continue to provide tiered supports for students that allow us to differentiate our practice to meet the needs of all students.

We are committed to a healthy partnership with families and the community. We will eliminate what isn’t working and build upon what has been successful in our schools! Our first priority is to the students and we will assume the responsibility to lead this district with clear expectations and allocate resources to support teaching and learning.

Our mission has been reaffirmed by the Board of Education to partner with families and the community, and provide high quality educational opportunities through authentic instructional practices which empower all students to navigate an ever-changing global society. We foster the diverse talents of our students ensuring they will become life-long learners and responsible members of society.

As we approach this upcoming school year, there is much to be excited about in the Region. There has been a significant amount of curriculum writing, summer school and enrichment programs, new staff hiring, administrative and pre-school restructuring, basic maintenance and renovation work at the schools. The BOE changed the school day hours for high school students and created a new schedule for middle school students in conjunction with the Long River Leadership Team. Long River will implement a rotating block schedule this school year and incorporate an intervention block. The entire PreK-12 community will continue to implement social-emotional learning programs with fidelity that is embedded into the school day.

30 Coer Road, Prospect CT 06712 • phone (203) 758-6671 • fax (203) 578-3162

Email: myamin@region16ct.org
An Equal Opportunity Employer



Michael P. Yamin
Superintendent

My personal goals for this upcoming year are to build trust & staff morale, create authentic educational experiences to meet the interest of all students, institute accountability through regional alignment, and support a culture of creativity to enhance student performance. I will continue to emphasize a system thinking approach and adaptive leadership. I will work on the morale in the Region and create a culture of respect that allows all students to reach their greatest academic potential.

I believe in creative thinking and will encourage our instructional leaders through allowing for autonomy to be progressive and support collaborative efforts with their staff to build positive school climates. I will continue to make my decisions in the best interest of students and on what the community wants for the Town of Prospect and the Town of Beacon Falls. I will continue this task with great appreciation for the R16 staff and recognition that they are the key resource to students developing emotionally, socially, and academically.

New Teacher Orientation has been planned for Monday, August 22, 2022 at Long River Middle School. The "Welcome Back Breakfast" will be held on Wednesday, August 24, 2022, at Woodland Regional High School. Enclosed please find an agenda for the event, as well as the professional development sessions planned for Thursday, August 25, 2022.

We are all responsible for the success of our students!

Sincerely,

Michael

Be Strong but not Rude.

Be Kind but not Weak.

Be Humble but not Timid.

Be Proud but not Arrogant.

Author Unknown

Board of Education Policies, Goals, and Mission Statement

Mission Statement

The mission of Regional School District 16, in partnership with families and the community, is to provide high quality educational opportunities which empower all students to navigate an ever-changing world. We foster the diverse talents of our students ensuring they will become life-long learners and responsible members of society.

Statement of Beliefs

We educate students academically, socially, and emotionally to acquire the skills and knowledge to become capable, creative, and responsible individuals that pursue their interests and reach their highest level of potential .

We believe that....

- All students can learn and be successful by providing equitable tools and resources;
- A high quality education is essential to creating productive citizens that make meaningful contributions to our society;
- Clear and transparent communication fosters a strong and positive relationship with the school community;
- Providing students with educational opportunities that promote critical thinking, intellectual curiosity, and innovation ensures that all students achieve their highest level of academic potential and become responsible members of society;
- Everyone has value and should be treated with dignity, respect, and embraced by our community;
- Respecting the point of view of others is critical in building good character and sustaining a positive school culture.

We are committed to...

- Meaningful partnerships with families and the community that foster the diverse talents and abilities of every student in a safe and inclusive environment;
- Ensuring that every school promotes a socially, emotionally, and physically healthy inclusive learning environment;
- A rigorous and innovative curricula that is grounded in Region 16's Portrait of a Graduate;
- Providing professional learning opportunities that are responsive to the needs of all staff that support high quality instruction and continuous improvement;
- Maintaining the highest ethical practices in policy, practice, and allocation of resources in order to achieve the greatest positive impact on student learning;
- Providing the greatest educational opportunities for all students while remaining fiscally responsible and meeting the needs of all students within local, state and federal requirements;
- Continuous improvement through systematically assessing our actions and outcomes.

Goals and Strategic Actions

Goal I: Culture

We will:

- Ensure our district culture reflects our mission and beliefs and models professional ethics.
- Promote respectful school cultures that foster innovation, excellence, and meaningful partnerships with schools, families, and communities.
- Maintain a climate that acknowledges and celebrates diversity and embodies cultural sensitivity, openness, and inclusiveness.
- Maintain a safe and healthful learning environment that recognizes individual differences and promotes a respectful and responsive culture.
- Allocate resources and staff efficiently and equitably to meet the mission of the schools, and local, state, and federal requirements.
- Establish a set of acceptable and commendable student behaviors which foster a culture of respect.
- Encourage and support students to participate in meaningful community learning and service activities.
- Establish meaningful connections with alumni to assess their post-secondary success as it reflects on their Region 16 experience.

Goal II: Achievement

We will:

- Create personalized opportunities for students to engage in collaboration, problem-solving, critical thinking, innovation, and creative expression.
- Provide tiered instruction that is differentiated to meet the needs of students at all levels.
- Develop and implement programs, activities, and experiences that provide multiple pathways to ensure all students are prepared for college, career, and life.
- Clearly articulate and implement a Pre-kindergarten to Grade 12 academic and SEL curriculum that is rigorous, relevant and vertically aligned to Portrait of a Graduate.
- Design, implement, and evaluate teaching and learning to achieve and maintain high standards.
- Provide all students with the opportunity to achieve at their highest levels. (in the mission statement)
- Align our professional learning to meet the needs of certified and non-certified staff in fulfilling their responsibilities and foster continuous improvement.
- Develop and implement plans to integrate evolving technology and STEM opportunities. Foster meaningful connections with alumni to assess their post-secondary success as it reflects on their Region 16 experience.
- Maintain the highest quality of staff in all employment categories.

Goal III: Communication

We will:

- Communicate consistently with students, parents, school personnel, and community members.
- Provide communication that is relevant, clear, and concise.
- Identify and utilize a variety of platforms to communicate, inform, educate, and respond to all stakeholders.
- Maintain appropriate Board policies and administrative practices aligned with our educational goals.
- Promote opportunities for parent engagement, community involvement and support of schools.

Goal IV: Fiscal

We will:

- Balance providing the best possible education to Region 16 students with being fiscally responsible to the district's taxpayers and determining the return on investment.
- Utilize data and cooperative purchasing to reduce costs and search for efficiencies.
- Encourage the identification and implementation of ideas toward reduction in energy, transportation, and health care costs.
- Assure alignment, transparency, and public understanding of the budget development process.
- Assure there is an updated 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan that is aligned with the mission and vision of the Board of Education.
- Manage the schools in an efficient and cost effective manner while maintaining and improving the quality of the educational program.
- Attract and retain talented staff to fulfill the mission and goals of Region 16.
- Evaluate the relative expenditures of the district's proposed budget to ensure appropriate funding for salaries, benefits, academic supplies, extracurricular activities, maintenance of facilities and acquisition of equipment.



Tony DiLeone Jr.

Director of Finance and Business Operations

Director's Update - Board of Education Meeting - August 17, 2022

- ❖ Our natural gas contract is up for renewal for the second half of this fiscal year and the next 2 fiscal years. We are being marketed with rates much higher than we anticipated. While the fiscal year 23 budget called for a 13% increase, the rates we are being offered constitute an approximate increase of 125%. We are attempting to work with other districts on a consortium purchase to help lower our contract cost, but we will not be seeing rates anywhere close to what we have with our past contracts.
- ❖ As discussed in July, we have negotiated with All-Star to reduce our transportation by 2 buses for the upcoming school year, saving us approximately \$120,000/year. Additionally, we saved approximately \$30,000 on our renewal for workers compensation and liability insurance. These funds will be transferred to cover previously announced overages in snow removal and rubbish removal, with the remainder going to contingency for other unanticipated expenses (such as the natural gas increase). An action item will follow at the next meeting.
- ❖ The auditors from Claremont & Associates have begun their work on the audit for fiscal year 2021-2022. The State has also opened the EFS system and we are currently working on the September 1 submission.
- ❖ CASBO has asked me to serve as a district liaison for the upcoming year. The liaisons help to steer CASBO's direction in supporting school business officials in their role and is the first step to the leadership track within CASBO.
- ❖ Coinciding with action item #10, the State has awarded Region 16 approximately \$320,000 in "SMART funds" which will be leveraged to continue to offer free meals to the Region's students. While the formula for these funds is a somewhat complicated mixture of state and federal reimbursement rates, at this time, I anticipate that these funds will last until approximately January 2023, at which time students who are not eligible for free/reduced lunch will be required to begin purchasing their meals again.

M E M O R A N D U M

ACTION ITEM

1-6

DATE: August 17, 2022
TO: Board of Education Members
FROM: Michael P. Yamin, Superintendent of Schools
RE: New Members for the Region 16 Learning Community 2022-2023

The following teacher candidates have been interviewed and are recommended for hire for next year, 2022-2023.

LAUREL LEDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1.0 FTE Fourth Grade Teacher

Emily Gotowala
411 Payne Dive
Cheshire, CT 06410
MA, Step 1, \$52,217

Emily received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications Studies at the University of Rhode Island. She earned a Master of Arts in Teaching at Southern CT State University. She has worked at a substitute teacher in North Haven Public Schools and Cheshire Public Schools, as well as a fourth-grade summer school teacher in New Haven. This fourth-grade position at LLES is new for this year.

1.0 FTE School Psychologist

Sarah Carter
12 Tallwood Road
Woodbridge, CT 06525
MA+30, Step 3, \$56,399

Sarah Carter earned a Bachelor of Science degree at SCSU in Psychology. She also holds a Master of Arts and 6th Year Certificate in School Psychology from Fairfield University. She completed a Practicum in School Psychology in Shelton and an internship in School Psychology in West Haven Public Schools. She has worked as a graduate assistant, a private tutor and has specialized training in psychological management, autism diagnosis, crisis intervention and suicide prevention. She will replace Danielle Miller, who resigned.

WOODLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

1.0 FTE Art Teacher

Eileen Portelance
8 Wildlife Drive
New Milford, CT 06776
BA, Step 3, \$52,511

Eileen earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Graphic Design with a concentration in Illustration from Western CT State University. She also received a certificate in Art Education at SCSU for a teaching certification in Art. She has worked as a substitute teacher In Danbury, Newtown and Region 16 Public Schools. She will replace Lisa (Seagren) Adam at Woodland.

.6 FTE Mathematics Teacher

Janet Horton
10 Turning Leaf Lane
Shelton, CT 06484
6th Year+15, Step 12,
\$59,326.20

Janet Horton earned a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Mathematics Education at the University of Bridgeport. She also received a Master of Science Degree from UB in Secondary Mathematics Education. She hold a Sixth-Year degree in Administration from Sacred Heart University, as well as 15 credits in Gifted Education from SHU. Her career in teaching Mathematics has been in Fairfield, Easton, New Fairfield, and Trumbull Public Schools. She also served as a District-Wide K-12 Mathematics Coordinator in Ansonia public Schools. She will replace Klajd Drogu, who resigned.

LONG RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

.5 FTE Dean of Culture and Student Liaison

Christie Ahcorn
38 Brantwood Drive
Madison, CT 06443
Salary: \$64,000

Christie Ahcorn earned a Bachelor of Arts in Social Science at Keene State College, a Master's Degree in Special Education K-12 at Franklin Pierce University, and a Sixth-Year Degree in Educational Leadership for an Intermediate Administrator 092 certification at SCSU. She worked at Grove School in Madison, a private, co-educational, therapeutic boarding/day school, as a special educator and residential administrator for the past eight years. This is a new part-time, 10-month administrative position at LRMS this year.

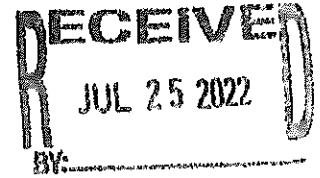
DISTRICT -WIDE

Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)

Emma Dzamko
1013 Washington-
Woodbury Road
Roxbury, CT 06783
Salary: \$100,000

Emma earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Central CT State University and a Masters in Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis from Endicott College in Beverly, MA. She holds a Behavior Analyst Certification with the CT Dept. of Health. She has worked at ACES Center for Autism Spectrum and Developmental Disorders, as a Behavior Therapist for the Newtown BOE, as a Registered Behavior Therapist for Prism Autism Education and Consultation and Apex Educational Solutions, and as a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst. This is a non-certified, 10-month school-year position with an additional responsibilities in the Special Education ESY program in the summer.

Action Item
#7



Jun 25, 2022

Dear Mr. Yamin,

I am writing to inform you that I am resigning from my position as a sixth grade teacher at Long River Middle School. I would like to thank you and the staff at Long River for all the support you have given me throughout my time there. I have enjoyed working as part of this team and appreciate the opportunities I have been given.

Sincerely,
Molly Sullivan

Action Item
8

August 3, 2022

Region 16 District Office
30 Coer Road
Prospect, CT 06712

Dear Michael Yamin,

I am writing this letter to inform you of my resignation from my position as a Special Education Teacher at Prospect Elementary School. It was a very difficult decision, but I have decided to change my career path.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity, as I thoroughly enjoyed my time in Region 16 and touching the lives of the students in this great community. It has been a pleasure to learn from them as it was to teach them. I am also grateful for the time I have spent with the team and the relationships I have made with the staff.

Please let me know if you need my assistance before the start of the school year.

Sincerely,

Nakita Montagno

nmontagno1@yahoo.com

860-483-0497



ACTION ITEM #9

Invoice #
425981

1329 Waterbury Road | Thomaston CT 06787

Bill To :
Regional School District #16 30 Coer Road PO BOX 7038 Prospect, CT 06712

Terms	Due Date	Invoice Date
Due on receipt	8/5/2022	8/5/2022

Description	Amount
<p>Woodland High School 135 Back Rimmon Road Beacon Falls CT 06403</p> <p>Aerating, Top Dressing and Seeding of Football Field - Aerate area and install 60 yards of specialty compost top soil to improve approximately 10,000 SF of low spots and bare areas of the Football Field. Apply starter fertilizer, Rye and Blue Grass seed mix, rake and roll out.</p> <p>** Please Note the Following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You must water the lawn lightly & frequently for the first two weeks. - AgriCare of CT is not responsible for weeds germinating in new seeded area or for non-germination due to lack of watering or weather that is beyond our control (drought/washouts). - There is to be NO activity on the newly seeded areas for a minimum of 4 weeks. 	11,200.00

We appreciate your business.	Subtotal	\$11,200.00
	Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
	Balance Due	\$11,200.00

ACTION ITEM #10

August 8, 2022

Action Item: Act to increase the cost of lunch in the elementary schools to \$3.00, middle school to \$3.25, and the high school to \$3.50 as of the 2022-2023 school year.

R16 present cost (2020-2021) Lunch

Elementary \$2.50
Long River \$2.75
Woodland \$3.00

Information on some of the surrounding towns websites, these prices are from the previous school year. We also emailed the Food Service Directors to find out what they will be charging for the new school year.

Oxford Public Schools YR 21-22

	Breakfast	Lunch
Elementary	1.50	2.75
MS	2.00	3.00
HS	2.00	3.50

Cheshire Public Schools YR 21-22

	Breakfast	Lunch
Elementary	2.25	3.50
MS	2.50	3.75
HS	2.75	4.00-5.00 depends on the lunch Tier

Seymour Public Schools YR 20-21

	Breakfast	Lunch
Elementary	1.50	2.65
MS	1.50	2.90
HS	1.50	3.15