

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE
June 07, 2018 MEETING
Joint Board of Education Committee**

April 05, 2018

A regular meeting of the Joint Board of Education Committee was held on Thursday, April 05, 2018 in the John Winthrop Middle School Library, with the following Board Members present:

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION:	David Fitzgibbons, Robert Bibbiani, Charlene Fearon, Becky Iselin, Tom Englert, Rebecca Greenberg-Ellis, Theresa Myers
DEEP RIVER BOARD OF EDUCATION:	Paula Weglarz, Miriam Morrissey, Tracy Dickson, Imran Munawar, Robert Ferretti, Lenore Grunko, Mary Massey
ESSEX BOARD OF EDUCATION:	Lon Seidman, Adam Conrad, DG Fitton, Loretta McCluskey
REGION 4 BOARD OF EDUCATION:	Jennifer Clark, Mario Gioco, Lori Ann Clymas, Leigh Rankin, Rick Daniels, Kate Sandmann,

Also in attendance: Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent; Dr. Kristina Martineau, Assistant Superintendent; Kim Allen, Business Manager & Jennifer Bryan, Board Clerk.

Audience of Citizens: 0

CALL TO ORDER

Supervision District Committee Chair Paula Weglarz called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

The Chairs of the Chester, Deep River, Essex Boards and Region 4 Board of Education called their respective Boards to order at 7:11 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion duly made and seconded, the Chester (unanimous), Deep River (6 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstained - Tracy Dickson = Motion PASSED), Essex (unanimous), and Region 4 (unanimous) Boards of Education VOTED to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the February 22, 2018 regular meeting of the Joint Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT – no comments were made

OTHER ITEMS –

The Joint BOE Ad Hoc Cafeteria Committee's presentation of their report and recommendations was moved to the June 7th Joint BOE meeting when more members of the Cafeteria Committee will be in attendance.

The Board considered the Superintendent's recommendation to renew the Healthy Food Certification for all of the school cafeterias, as in past years.

There was a brief discussion.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Chester (unanimous), Deep River (unanimous), Essex (unanimous), and Region 4 (4 Yes, 2 No - Rick Daniels and Mario Gioco = Motion PASSED) Boards VOTED to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to renew certification that all food items sold to students at any time other than those covered by exemption, will meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards to qualify for CSDE's Healthy Food certification and monetary compensation from the State.

REPORTS

Financial Status Update

Ms. Allen gave a brief, high level financial update for each district. More detail will be given at the individual board meetings in May.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Levy discussed the status of all of the education budgets. She mentioned that VRHS recently held their musical, *Cinderella* and JWMS will be presenting theirs, *James and the Giant Peach*, this weekend. The district hosted another presentation by Alicia Farrell on Resilience and Grit in the JWMS auditorium last evening. It was well attended and provided wonderful information and solid ideas for coping in our adult lives and translating that into helping our children as they grow and develop into adults. It was videotaped and will be available for viewing on the website. The Social and Emotional Wellness Committee will continue to bring timely and relevant presentations for parents, community members and students throughout next year. Dr. Levy also mentioned that the shelter was opened at JWMS for the recent widespread power outages. The manufacturing program is going well and the VRHS IB program application process is moving on. Valley is currently enjoying a 100% graduation rate.

Dr. Levy and Essex BOE Chair Lon Seidman gave a review of how our districts came to have their current governance structure. Mr. Seidman also reviewed various attempts throughout the years to put into place a more manageable system that would be beneficial to all three towns. They both discussed their on-going efforts for legislative changes that would allow non-regionalizing options through a Cooperative Agreement going forward. The main goal of this legislative language change would be to provide a single LEA designation that the State would recognize under a Cooperative Agreement type of governance. Senate Bill 490, which has this desired language, is currently being considered. Board members were encouraged to write to their local legislators in support of this bill. If the bill doesn't pass this year, they will continue to work for its passage in the future.

Committee Reports

Joint BOE Policy Committee Chair Leigh Rankin reported that the Committee met on March 19th and will be meeting again on April 09th to consider many different policies including the Region 4 Cell Phone policy addendum which affects VRHS only. Members of the Committee met yesterday with about a dozen student leaders at Valley to listen to their thoughts on that policy. Administration will also be soliciting parent and teacher input as well. The Committee will be looking into financial policies (those with a 3000 designation) now that the business procedures manual has been created and vetted by the Joint BOE Finance Committee. The Policy Committee will now will be looking to ensure compliance between board policy and the business procedures manual as well as continuing their review of all sections of policy to ensure their compliance with legislative requirements.

Joint BOE Curriculum Committee – Committee Chair, Tracy Dickson reported that they cancelled their March meeting but will meet again in May.

Joint BOE Finance Committee - Committee chair Adam Conrad reported that they met on March 27th and reviewed some of the 3000 policies regarding Business and Non-Student operations. They have passed along some recommendations to the Policy Committee for their review. They also discussed insurance matters, the audits, budget presentations, and striving for ever increasing financial transparency.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Assistant Superintendent Martineau gave an update on Professional Development and Curriculum. She has started her end-of-year meetings with the different K-12 curriculum groups. They have been presenting draft rubrics and have begun sharing assessment data; formal and informal (on-going throughout the year, not just end of unit assessments). Today she met with the elementary strategic planning group (PDEC) and they are beginning to streamline, re-write and create checklists for teachers to use on a day-to-day basis. She will meet with secondary group at the end of April and both groups will come together K-12 again. They will be presenting an update on the strategic plan at the June Joint BOE meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No comments were made

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Next Regular Joint BOE Meeting, June 07, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m.
- End-of-Year Strategic Plan Presentation on Next Steps (June)

ADJOURNMENT:

On Motion duly made and seconded, the Chester, Deep River, Essex, and Region 4 Boards of Education unanimously VOTED to adjourn 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Bryan, Clerk