

***THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE
Dec. 03, 2015 MEETING***

Joint Board of Education Committee

October 01, 2015

A regular meeting of the Joint Board of Education Committee was held on Thursday, October 01, 2015 in the John Winthrop Middle School Library, with the following Board Members present:

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION: Wendy King, Arthur Henick, Robert Bibbiani,
Charlene Fearon

DEEP RIVER BOARD OF EDUCATION: Michelle Grow, Jim Olson, Miriam Morrissey,
Nelle Andrews, Hadley Kornacki,

ESSEX BOARD OF EDUCATION: Lon Seidman, DG Fitton, Loretta McCluskey, Carolyn
Rotella

REGION 4 BOARD OF EDUCATION: Chris Riley, Jennifer Clark, Mario Gioco, Jane
Cavanaugh, Leigh Rankin, Jim Olson

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

Audience of Citizens: 2

CALL TO ORDER

Supervision District Committee Chair Lon Seidman called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

The Chairs of the Deep River, Essex Boards and Region 4 Board of Education called their respective Boards to order at 7:12 p.m. The Chester Board did not have a quorum.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion duly made and seconded, the Essex and Region 4 Boards of Education unanimously VOTED, and the Deep River Board VOTED (3 Yes, 2 abstained Michelle Grow and Miriam Morrissey, = motion passed) to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the August 20, 2015 regular meeting of the Joint Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT – 2 citizens, Carolyn Linn and John Ropiak were present. No comments were made.

OTHER ITEMS –

None needed

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report was moved to this portion of the agenda

Dr. Levy reported that Christian Strickland, Principal at Deep River Elementary has been awarded the CAS Outstanding First Year Principal Award. There will be an awards ceremony held on November 9th at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington.

Dr. Levy reminded the Boards of two upcoming workshops. The first will be for new BOE members, or any previously elected members who are interested in attending. The date has changed to Tues., November 10th @ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the JWMS library. The second workshop is for All BOE members and will be held on Tues., December 1st @ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Dr. Levy presented a second reading of the proposed BOE meetings calendar for Jan.-Dec. 2016. There was one change made since the first reading in August. The change was the removal of a Supervision District and Joint BOE meeting scheduled for August. This meeting has historically been under attended and lacking in quorums. Therefore the recommendation was made that there be no regular August meetings on the schedule going forward.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Deep River, Essex, and Region 4 Boards unanimously VOTED to approve the BOE meetings calendar for Jan. – Dec. 2016 as presented.

Dr. Levy also talked about the 2016-17 district calendar and the fact that a uniform calendar is now legislatively required. Once a finalized uniform regional calendar has been received from LEARN, the Supervision District Committee will move forward with approving a calendar for the 2016-17 school year.

Dr. Levy shared that the VRHS madrigal group has been asked to perform in a show at Carnegie Hall on Dec. 4th.

Financial Status Update

Mr. Sawyer gave a brief, high level financial update for each district. More detail will be given at the individual board meetings in March.

Committee Reports

The Joint BOE Policy Committee met on September 28th. Committee Chair Jennifer Clark noted that the meeting was the first one held since some Board members had expressed concern with the Policy Committee's recommendation regarding the health examination policy. However, since no new information was received by the Policy Committee with regards to those concerns, the Committee reiterated that they would follow the agreed upon process that no action would be taken if no new information was brought to them for consideration. Therefore, no action was taken by the Committee.

Dr. Clark also reported that the Committee had discussed two policies, both of which require revisions based on legislative mandates. The Committee will continue their work on these policies at their next meeting and will plan to present them for a first reading at the December 03rd Joint BOE meeting.

The Joint BOE Curriculum Committee – the Committee met on September 28th 2015.

Committee members reported that they discussed SAT updates, Next Generation Science Standards, and also reviewed the proposal for a new pre-calculus book for the high school. The Committee recommended that the book be moved forward into the budget process.

The Joint BOE Finance Committee - Mr. Sawyer had to postpone the planned September 29th meeting due to a scheduling conflict with teacher negotiations. He will inform members of a new date once chosen.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Assistant Superintendent Martineau had nothing new to report for Professional Development and Curriculum since her last report at the individual meetings. She did note that the State Board of Education will be meeting next week, and they should be providing more information to districts

regarding SAT testing sessions (vs. SBAC testing for 11th graders) The State Board will also be discussing Next Generation Science Standards, so she should have more information to share on those topics at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No comments were made.

Chair Seidman spoke briefly to recognize and honor all of the outgoing Board members. He said it had been an honor and pleasure serving with all of them. He then noted that Wendy King, Chair of the Chester Board, would be leaving the Board after 18 years of service. She spoke briefly, encouraging everyone to continue their service and asked that everyone keep up their good work, work well together, and focus on the students.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Next Regular Joint BOE Meeting, Dec. 03, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.
- New BOE Member Workshop on November 10th, @ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. @ JWMS
- All BOE Member Workshop on December 1st @ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. @ JWMS
- Superintendent presents draft Supervision District 2016-17 budget (Dec.)
- Appoint members to Joint BOE Committees for 1 year terms if positions are not already filled (Dec.)
- Executive Session – mid-year evaluation of Superintendent (Dec.)

ADJOURNMENT:

On Motion duly made and seconded, the Chester, Deep River, Essex and Region 4 Boards of Education unanimously VOTED to adjourn at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Bryan, Clerk