

***THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT MEETING***  
**Joint Board of Education Committee**  
**June 1, 2017**

A regular meeting of the Joint Board of Education Committee was held on Thursday, June 1, 2016 in the John Winthrop Middle School Library, with the following Board Members present:

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION: Arthur Henick, John Ropiak, Becky Iselin, John Stack, Tom Englert, Charlene Fearon, Rob Bibbiani, David Fitzgibbons

DEEP RIVER BOARD OF EDUCATION: Nelle Andrews, Hadley Kornacki, Tracy Dickson, Miriam Morrissey, Jim Olson, Tadria Ciaglo, Paula Weglarz, Imran Munawar

ESSEX BOARD OF EDUCATION: Lon Seidman, Loretta McCluskey(8:14pm Departure), Mark Watson, Carolyn Rotella, DG Fitton

REGION 4 BOARD OF EDUCATION: Susan Hollister, Jane Cavanaugh, Chris Riley, Mario Gioco, Elaine Fitzgibbons, Jim Olson

Also in attendance: Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent; Kristina Martineau, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Joanne Beekley, Chester Principal, Christian Strickland, Deep River Principal, Jennifer Tousignant, Essex Principal, Garth Sawyer, Business Manager, Tyson Stoddard, Pupil Services, Kathryn Ryan, John Winthrop Math Department, Allison Charbonier, Strategic Planning Committee, Kelley Frazier, Substitute Board Clerk.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair David Fitzgibbons called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

The Chair of the Region 4, Essex, Deep River and Chester Board of Education called their Boards to order at 7:09 p.m.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

On motion duly made and seconded, the Region 4, Essex, Deep River and Chester Boards of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular April 6, 2017 meeting of the Joint Boards of Education.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were made.

## **OTHER ITEMS –**

### **Presentation of Individual School Highlights**

Mr. Strickland discussed the students from each elementary school who received the Citizen's Award. Paige Lee was the recipient from Deep River. Dr. Beekley introduced Chloe Clark who was the Chester Elementary recipient. Lilly Farrell was the recipient from Essex Elementary.

Dr. Levy thanked Dr. Beekley for her years of service to the children of our district. She wished her the best in her retirement.

### **Executive Session – Negotiations - Review of Key Provisions in Para-Educators Contract for 2017-20**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee moved into Executive Session at 7:15pm to review the Key Provisions in the Para-Educator contract for 2017-2020.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:23p.m.

Upon a motion made by DG Fitton and seconded by Lon Seidman the Chester, Deep River and Essex Boards unanimously **VOTED** to approve the Regional School District No. 4 Boards of Education and Municipal Employees Union Independent, SEIU Local 506 (For Para-Educator Bargaining Units) for July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020. Region 4 Ayes: Chris Riley, Sue Hollister, Jim Olson and Elaine Fitzgibbons. Opposed: Mario Gioco Abstentions: Jane Cavanaugh = motion passed

## **REPORTS**

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#### **Presentation of and possible VOTE to approve 5 Year Strategic Plan**

Dr. Levy introduced Mr. Jonathan Costa who presented the 5 Year Strategic Plan.

The standards to focus on were discussed. Mr. Stack asked about the tactical rollout and timeline that goes around this. This work has been started and will be worked on this summer for rollout. An assessment rubric is being developed. This will be added to individual board meeting agendas for ongoing discussion.

Upon a motion made by DG Fitton and seconded by Lon Seidman for discussion to accept the Mission Statement of the focus of the 5 Year Strategic Plan. Discussion ensued.

Upon a motion made by DG Fitton and seconded by Lon Seidman the Region 4, Deep River Elementary, Essex Elementary and Chester Elementary Schools unanimously **VOTED** to adopt the mission statement as reflected on page 13 of the Strategic Coherence Plan and to charge the administration to adopt the plan and endorse the five priority district wide strategic actions as stated on page 32 of the Strategic Coherence Plan.

Mr. Stack stated that strategic plans are not tactical plans. He feels that this is a strategic plan and wants this approved. He is comfortable with the Mission Statement. Ms. Andrews said that she trusts the people on the committee to ask the right questions to get to this point. Ms. Ryan, stated that by focusing on developing creative problem solvers and critical thinkers it grounds the staff and allows us to stay focused and deliver a better product for our students. Ms. Charbonier feels that this is a great plan that will allow opportunities for teachers to have more freedom. She thanked Mr. Costa for guiding the group to find their own focus.

### **High Level Financial Status Updates for all Boards**

Mr. Sawyer gave a general overview of the district wide fiscal status. All districts are with their budget allocation. More detailed reports of the fiscal year's activity will be at the individual Board meetings.

Dr. Levy thanked Mr. Sawyer for his years of service and building systems and budgets across all of our district schools. She wished him well in his move and new position.

### **Information and Communication Items**

Dr. Levy presented a PowerPoint presentations of the success of the past school year. There is more cohesion across all five schools in our district. All three elementary schools have the Bridges math program and a new Math Coach for next year. Dr. Levy discussed the learning opportunities at all schools. We are doing the right things for our students. She thanked the Board members for their work this year and for the many successes of the district.

### **Vote on Superintendent's Recommendation to appoint Shipman and Goodwin as legal counsel for the Boards of Education of Chester, Deep River, Essex, and Region 4 for 2017-18.**

Upon motion duly made and seconded the Chester, Deep River, and Essex Boards unanimously **VOTED** to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint Shipman and Goodwin as legal counsel for the Boards of Education of Chester, Deep River, and Essex.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Region 4 Board VOTED (Ayes-5 = Riley, Cavanaugh, Hollister, Olson, Fitzgibbons; Opposed – 0; Abstentions – 1 = Gioco; = MOTION PASSED) to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint Shipman and Goodwin as legal counsel for 2017-18.

Mr. Gioco feels that this contract should go out for bid. This will be considered in the future.

### **Discussion and possible appointments by BOE Chairs to Joint BOE Ad hoc Cafeteria Study Committee**

The following people will be on the Ad Hoc Cafeteria Study Committee

Tadria Ciaglo – Deep River

Tracy Dickson – Deep River

Tom Englert – Chester

Becky Iselin – Chester (Mr. Fitzgibbons will Confirm)

Carolyn Rotella – Essex

Loretta McCluskey – Essex (Mr. Seidman will confirm)

Leigh Rankin – Region 4 (Mr. Riley will confirm)

Jim Olson – Region 4

**OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
**Supervision District Committee Update**

Updated previously.

**Committee Reports**

Finance - Next meeting in September.

Curriculum – Next meeting in September.

Policy – Next meeting in September.

**Second Reading and possible VOTE on the following Policies:**

**5123 Promotion/Acceleration/Retention**

Upon a motion made by Arthur Henick and seconded by Hadley Kornacki the Region 4, Deep River Elementary, Essex Elementary and Chester Elementary Schools unanimously **VOTED** to approve Policy Number 5123 Promotion/Acceleration/Retention as written.

**Assistant Superintendent's Report**

**Update on Professional Development – Update on Curriculum**

No additional update.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

No comments were made.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

7.1 Next Regular Joint BOE Meeting, October 5, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.

7.2 Update on Celebrate Learning Summer Program (Oct)

7.3 First Reading of BOE Meeting Calendar for Upcoming Calendar Year (Oct)

7.4 Executive Session-Presentation of Superintendent's Goals (Oct)

**ADJOURNMENT:**

On Motion duly made and seconded, the Essex, Chester and Deep River Boards of Education unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 9:02p.m. Region 4 remained in session to discuss the following:

**Region 4 Only - Executive Session – Strategy and Negotiations – Discuss Possible Real Estate Acquisition –**

The Region 4 Board went into Executive Session at 9:07 pm.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:40pm.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

On Motion duly made and seconded, the Region 4 Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 9:41.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Substitute Clerk