

**F.O.I. Compliance** – Subject to Committee and Board approval

**COMBINED SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE  
SUPERVISION DISTRICT COMMITTEE  
AND  
THE REGION 4 BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Date:** December 12, 2022

**Location:** John Winthrop Middle School Library

(To view a recording of this meeting, please visit our website [www.reg4.k12.ct.us](http://www.reg4.k12.ct.us) and select “Remote Meeting Recordings” under the BOARD OF EDUCATION Heading)

<b>Attendance:</b>	<u>Supervision District Comm.</u>		<u>Administration:</u>		<u>Region 4 BOE</u>	
	Lon Seidman	√	Brian White	√	Kate Sandmann	√
	Nancy Johnston	√	Sarah Brzozowy	√	Lol Fearon	√
	Justin Pillion		Robert Grissom	√	John Stack	√
(√ = attended)	Kate Sandmann	√			Rick Daniels	
	Jane Cavanaugh				Jane Cavanaugh	
	John Stack	√			Lon Seidman	√
	David Fitzgibbons	√			Richard Strauss	√
	Dale Bernardoni	√			Jennifer Clark	√
	Rebecca Greenberg-Ellis	√			Alex Silva	√
	Miriam Morrissey					
	Pat Maikowski	√				
	Bob Ferretti	√				

Supervision District Committee Chair Lon Seidman and Region 4 BOE Chair Kate Sandmann called their respective groups to order at approx. 6:06 p.m.

**Items / Discussion**

Lon Seidman reviewed the past practice for Region 4 and Supervision District for the distribution back to the towns of any audited surplus amounts, wherein the groups have historically returned audited surplus funds back to the towns by check. However, he shared that our districts have been advised that this practice is not permitted per Conn. Gen. Statute Section 10-51. There was a lengthy discussion regarding possible ways to rectify this practice in order to move the Region 4 Board into compliance with statute and determine a consistent practice for Supervision District.

Mike VanDeventer of Mahoney-Sabol noted that the intent of the statute is that any funds raised by a regional school district ultimately would go to the regional school district to fund educational expenses. He shared their firm's experiences with other regional districts. In practice, they have seen some regional school districts reduce net expenses for a subsequent fiscal year (i.e. use the audited surplus from 21-22 to reduce the billings to their towns in 22-23), however, in that case, one could argue that the outcome would be the same as cutting a check to the towns, as it does not ensure that educational funds raised by a regional school district are being used to support that regional school district's educational expenses. Rather it would return to the towns' general funds and could be used towards anything the town chose to use it for. Their firm has also worked with other regional districts who have factored the audited surplus from, say 2021-22, in to the budget development for 2023-24 (since the audited surplus would never be known prior to the

approval of the 2022-23 budget, it could not be factored into the 2022-23 year's budget). He noted that the outcome of that process does ensure that ultimately the funds approved by and collected from tax payers for a regional school district's educational expenses, do go to support the regional school district's educational expenses.

The members continued to discuss possible ways to bring the districts into compliance.

Based on the discussions, Administration will confer with legal regarding the best way for the Supervision District Committee and the Region 4 BOE to proceed with the audited surplus funds for 2021-22. A follow-up combined special meeting will need to be scheduled for early January (in advance of budget development), to vote on what the Committee and Board wish to do with the audited surplus funds from 2021-22.

Mike VanDeventer of Mahoney-Sabol presented the 2021-22 Audit Report for Supervision District. An unmodified clean opinion will be issued on the Supervision District's Financial Statements for 2021-22.

There was a time for BOE members to ask questions.

Committee Chair Seidman moved to adjourn the Supervision District Committee meeting at approx. 7:49 p.m.

Mike VanDeventer of Mahoney-Sabol presented the 2021-22 Audit Report for Regional School District No. 4. An unmodified clean opinion will be issued on the Regional School District No. 4's Financial Statements for 2021-22.

Superintendent White shared that part of his anticipated recommendation (that will be made in concert with other recommendations regarding the audited surplus Region 4 funds, at a special meeting to be scheduled for early January) will be to make a supplemental appropriation of \$218,112 of the audited Region 4 surplus funds (the maximum allowable per state statute), to the Region 4 Capital Reserve Fund, in accordance with statute. One of the known capital needs will be to fund the tennis court project in the current fiscal year (this project will ultimately be eligible for reimbursement from the state), and to also fund other future Region 4 capital projects.

There was a recommendation made by the auditors that the Tech lease be moved out of Region 4 and be housed in the Supervision District, which is a more appropriate location for this shared services resource. This potential action will be reviewed and discussed at an upcoming Supervision District Budget Workshop.

**Public Comment:** No comments were made. \_\_\_\_\_

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

On motion duly made and seconded, the Region 4 Board unanimously VOTED to adjourn at approx. 8:10 p.m.