

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT  
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 4 Board of Education Regular Meeting  
John Winthrop Middle School Library  
May 4, 2023 at 7:00pm**

A regular meeting of the Regional School District No. 4 Board of Education was held on Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 7:00pm in the John Winthrop Middle School Library.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm.

**VERBAL ROLL CALL**

<b>Region 4 BOE</b>	<b>Administration</b>
Lol Fearon	Brian White
John Stack	Bob Grissom
Richard Strauss	Sarah Brzozowy
Jennifer Clark	Mike Barile
Kate Sandmann	Melissa Morgan-Hostetler
Lon Seidman	
Jane Cavanaugh	

**Absent:** Alex Silva, Rick Daniels

Also in attendance: Board Clerk Kelley Frazier, Senior Student Representatives Jack Finnegan and Emily Mezick. Katie deMik and Kai Carlin, John Winthrop Representatives.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

On motion made by Richard Strauss and seconded by Lon Seidman the Board **VOTED** to approve the Minutes of the Budget Workshop III of February 27, 2023, the Regular meeting of March 2, 2023, the District Meeting/Public Hearing and Special Meeting of March 29, 2023 the Minutes from the Public Budget Hearing on April 3, 2023 and the accounts payable report.

**REPORTS AND OTHER ITEMS**

**Region 4 Student Representatives Report**

Jack Finnegan and Emily Mezick gave an update on the events happening at Valley Regional High School.

**JWMS Middle School Student Report**

Katie deMik and Kai Carlin gave the student report. They discussed events happening at John Winthrop Middle School.

**Superintendent's Report**

**District Update**

Mr. White noted that this is the season of events and awards for our students in each of our schools. The R4 budget passed in all three towns. The athletic field improvement referendum also passed. A building committee will be formed on how to tackle the athletic field work. The security project will not move forward as proposed. Two options are being considered. Additional costs for this project were briefly discussed. The security audit is being reviewed. It was suggested that a collaborative grant effort for the athletic fields could be done by all three towns. This was briefly discussed.

## **Assistant Superintendent's Report**

### **General Update**

Dr. Brzozowy gave a brief update. The Connecticut Association of School Business officials have awarded Mr. Grissom with the rising star award.

### **Financial Status Report**

#### **Financial Status Update**

##### **Current Year to Date Financial Status Update**

All financial obligations are expected to be met. Committed balance of the budget is under 97%. This is through April 2023. Repair issues at Valley have been covered in the budget.

#### **Cafeteria Fund Update**

This report is through March 2023. Just under 70,000 meals have been served. The free meal program is in effect until the end of the year. Work is being done with the food service director to develop a list and quotes for equipment that needs to be upgraded.

#### **Medical Reserve Tracking**

Trending very favorably. No significant problems with claims are anticipated.

#### **Grants Update**

No update

#### **Cafeteria Equipment Update**

Discussed previously.

#### **BOE Treasurer Report**

None

## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

### **M. Morgan-Hostetler – JWMS**

No update.

### **M. Barile - VRHS**

College acceptances for seniors are from several ivy schools this year. The I/B program has helped. Publicity should be done regarding these academic achievements.

## **OTHER ITEMS**

### **Summary of Key Provision of the Region 4 Secretaries and Nurses Contract Negotiated for July 1, 2022-June 30, 2025.**

Superintendent White shared a summary of the key provisions for the proposed contract.

### **Possible VOTE to approve the Agreement between the Regional School District No. 4 Board of Education and Local 1303-419 of Council 4 American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO effective July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025 as presented.**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Region 4 Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the Agreement between the Regional School District No. 4 Board of Education and Local 1303-419 of Council 4 American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO effective July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025 as presented.

### **There was a brief discussion regarding two possible donations to VRHS.**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Region 4 Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to accept a donation of \$50.00 from Alberta Martucci to VRHS to be used at the discretion of the administration and to also accept the

donation of \$750.00 from the Essex Community Fund to VRHS to be used at the discretion of the administration to benefit Valley TV.

**Discussion and possible VOTE to approve a World Language trip to France Wednesday, April 3, 2024 – April 13, 2024.**

There is an application process for students planning to go on the trip. This is for Junior and Senior students.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Region 4 Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve a World Language trip to France Wednesday, April 3, 2024 – April 13, 2024 as presented.

**Discussion and possible VOTE to approve a World Language trip to Spain Thurs., April 4<sup>th</sup> – Sun., April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously VOTED to approve a World Language trip to Spain Thurs., April 4<sup>th</sup> – Sun., April 14, 2024, as presented.

**Discussion regarding general process for Superintendent Contract Negotiations**

Mr. Seidman discussed the process that has been followed in the past, but never formalized, and led a discussion regarding how this should be addressed and codified moving forward. The approval process was discussed. This will be voted on at a later date.

**Committee Reports**

**Curriculum**

No Update.

**Finance**

No Update.

**Policy**

No Update.

**Other Committee Reports**

**Supervision District Committee Updates**

No Update.

**Discussion Regarding any Pending Policy for all BOE's**

No Action taken.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Joint BOE Retreat-Saturday, May 6, 2023 from 9:00am – Noon @ JWMS Library
- Joint BOE Meeting Thursday, June 1, 2023 @ 7:00pm
- Regular Region 4 BOE Meeting Thursday, August 3, 2023 @4:00pm @ JWMS Library (ONLY if needed)
- Regular Region 4 BOE Meeting – Thursday, September 3, 2023 @ 7:00pm @ JWMS Library

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL**

Evaluation of the Superintendent

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Region 4 Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to go into executive session at 8:33pm. Superintendent White was invited to attend.

Executive Session ended at 9:10pm. No action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion duly made and seconded the Region 4 Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 9:11p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kelley Frazier