

Regional School District 12
Board of Education
Special Meeting Minutes
Shepaug Valley School
August 17, 2015

The Special Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m., on Monday, August 17, 2015, by Chairman James Hirschfield. Present were Board members: Anthony Amato, Alan Brown, Gregory Cava, Rebecca Devine, Michelle Gorra, Rose Krantz, Jennifer Pote, and Peter Tagley. Patricia Cosentino, Ed.D., Superintendent, was also present. Valerie Andersen, Emily Hibbard and Michael Sinatra were absent.

Also in attendance were: Robert Giesen, Director of Finance and Operations; Don O'Leary, Director of Facilities; Kim Gallo, Principal, Shepaug Valley School; Karen Fildes, Director of Technology Integration, Communication & Community Outreach.

Invited guest: Bill Davenport, Nonnewaug High School.

Chairman Hirschfield welcomed Rose Krantz as a new member to the Board of Education. Chairman Hirschfield also mentioned that Rep. Arthur O'Neill had been invited to tonight's meeting but was unable to attend.

Dr. Cosentino spoke about the upcoming Superintendent's Convocation being held on Monday, August 24th at 8:00 a.m. and invited all Board members to attend. Dr. Cosentino noted that Joyce Saltman will be this year's keynote speaker.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed Wainwright, Bridgewater – asked about bonding and the business case.

AGRISCIENCE STEM PROJECTED PLANS AND COSTS

Charlie Boos and his team from Kaestle Boos gave a presentation of the projected plans and costs for the Agriscience project. The presentation included a handout which coincided with a PowerPoint presentation showing the designs of the projected building along with a site map, floor plans and an aerial view of the projected plan. Estimated costs given were \$45,806,059 to which Chairman Hirschfield stated the state had approved a reimbursement to the Region at a minimum of 80%. Also mentioned were the costs for the science renovations. Discussion followed in regard to renovations, buildings, upkeep, enrollment and athletic fields.

John B., Washington – asked questions in regard to the animals that would be housed and retail use (eggs, plants, vegetables). He also asked about staffing increases, parking and the bus drop off area at the school.

First Selectman Lyon, Washington – asked about energy expenses.

Bill Davenport, Nonnewaug High School – helped field questions pertaining to the animals and programs.

Chairman Hirschfield offered Mr. Davenport the opportunity to speak on any of the topics mentioned throughout the evening.

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Dr. Cosentino commented on the upcoming timeline stating that the project will be coming up at the Facilities Committee meeting next week with plans to bring an approximate cost to the Board of Education by the first week in September. Dr. Cosentino asked that if any Board members had questions to please put them in writing and send them to either Greg Cava or herself.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.