

Regional School District 12
Board of Education
Special Meeting
Shepaug Valley School
September 14, 2015

The Special Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:03 p.m., on Monday, September 14, 2015, by Chairman James Hirschfield. Present were Board members: Anthony Amato, Alan Brown, Gregory Cava, Michelle Gorra, Jennifer Pote, and Peter Tagley. Patricia Cosentino, Ed.D., Superintendent and Robert Giesen, Director of Finance and Operations were also present. Rebecca Devine, Emily Hibbard and Michael Sinatra were absent. Valerie Andersen arrived at 7:07 p.m.

Also in attendance were: Kim Gallo, Principal, Shepaug Valley School and Don O'Leary, Director of Facilities.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Bonahue, Washington – asked questions on the vote structure for the AgriScience STEM project and commented on future enrollment numbers of out-of-district students compared to in-district.

Ed Wainwright, Bridgewater – commented that he is not able to hear Board members when they are talking.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Cosentino showed the tractor trophy Shepaug Valley School received from the Bridgewater Tractor Parade for the *Best School Float*. Dr. Cosentino noted that the next tractor parade will be in Roxbury on October 4.

Dr. Cosentino shared that she met with the Selectmen and the Finance Board Chairs from the towns this morning. Information shared tonight has been already shared with the towns.

Dr. Cosentino said that the video for the AgriScience STEM would not be shown tonight. It had been sent to each Board member and it is also on the Region's website. Charlie Boos was recognized as being in the audience.

**PRESENTATION ON AGRISCIENCE STEM AND SCIENCE LAB RENOVATIONS
PROJECTED COSTS AND REIMBURSEMENTS AS APPROVED ON AUGUST 31, 2015**

Kim Gallo began a presentation on population and demographics of incoming students and spoke briefly on the actual study of the program. A handout was shared which showed the Nonnewaug AgriScience Application History. Discussion followed along with questions about how students would be recruited, the application process, how students qualify for the program, and financial assistance for students who may need support services.

Bob Giesen reviewed the handout entitled Summary of Project Overview. Mr. Giesen briefly reviewed the three sections, explaining the bonding amounts going out 10, 15 and 20 years with a concentration on 20 years. Mr. Giesen mentioned that there had been meetings with the Selectmen and the Finance Board Chairs from the three towns. Discussion and questions regarding bonding followed.

Anthony Amato reviewed the Nonnewaug Ag Statistics. The focus of this handout were pages 3 and 4.

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Discussion and questions followed.

Dr. Cosentino stated that if Board members would like more detailed information on the population, it could be discussed at the next Board meeting

AGRISCIENCE STEM INFORMATION SESSIONS SCHEDULE

Dr. Cosentino reviewed the calendar of events going on in the three towns and asked that Board members sign up for any of the dates that they were available for the Information Sessions.

Mr. Giesen will have a draft of the question for review at the next Board meeting. Dr. Cosentino reminded the Board that the Public Hearing is scheduled for October 5, 2015.

Alan Brown made reference to State Sections 10-47C and 10-64 bringing both to the Boards attention.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: made by Peter Tagley, seconded by Greg Cava to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.