

Regional School District 12  
Board of Education  
Education Meeting Minutes  
Shepaug Valley School  
November 14, 2016

The Education Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m., on Monday, November 14, 2016, by Chairman James Hirschfield. Present were Board members: Anthony Amato, Alan Brown, Rebecca Devine, Michelle Gorra, Stephanie Kolnick, Lisa Roush, Michael Sinatra, and Peter Tagley. Also present was Patricia Cosentino, Ed.D., Superintendent. Valerie Andersen, Gregory Cava, and Jennifer Pote were absent.

Also present were: Teresa DeBrito, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Lori Ferreira, Associate Principal at SVS; and Emily Judd, Principal at WPS.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Comment.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

*Approval of minutes:* Special Meeting, November 2, 2016.

### **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

No report.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

*Correspondence:* Dr. Cosentino reported on the CT Council Municipalities breakfast that she had attended. Dr. Cosentino summarized conversations that had taken place with other educational stakeholders who were in attendance. As a reminder, Dr. Cosentino mentioned the two emails she had sent to Board members in regard to the Legislative Breakfasts on December 7 and December 9 both at 7:30 a.m.

*Personnel:* Dr. Cosentino announced the retirement of Cheryl Ayer, Educational Assistant, WPS (effective December 26, 2016). Dr. Cosentino also reported that Emily Rhew, Special Education Teacher at Booth Free and Burnham Schools, earned her Doctorate Degree after presenting her Dissertation this afternoon, which Dr. Cosentino was in attendance for.

Chairman Hirschfield also acknowledged Cheryl Ayer, her time spent with Region 12 and that she will be missed. Chairman Hirschfield also commented on Dr. Cosentino attending the various meetings at the State level and how important and appreciated it is for Dr. Cosentino to bring back budget information.

### **VHS REPORT**

Teresa DeBrito, Director of Curriculum, introduced VHS Site Coordinator, Joan Temple. Mrs. Temple explained the VHS process including how grading is done. VHS teacher, Heidi Edel spoke on the VHS

process offering information from the teacher perspective. Student Martin Myer, commented on the VHS program as a student who is taking AP Chemistry and AP Language Composition, Martin offered information from his perspective and answered questions from the Board. A PowerPoint was also shown with the presentation. Mrs. Temple was acknowledged for the different ways she has recognized the VHS program to help promote the program. Discussion and questions followed.

Board member Alan Brown asked for the presentation be put up on the Region's website (if possible) which could offer additional information to the public.

### **FIRST READING POLICY 6154**

*First Reading – Policy 6154 Homework:* Mrs. Gorra spoke on the request to review Homework Policy, 6154, made by the Board at a previous meeting. Concerns were voiced in regard to naming specific religious holidays as part of the policy. There were also concerns that calendar breaks such as winter and spring, should be thought of as family time. There was discussion as to when homework should be due following the break/holiday. It was suggested that the policy be brought back to committee and that they get input from administration and teachers in regard to the policy. A motion for a first reading of policy 6154 was not made.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

No action items.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, Rebecca Devine made the motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

**VOTE:**           unanimous.