

**Region One Board of Education
Special Meeting
Monday, May 4, 2020**

A virtual meeting of the Region One Board of Education was held on Monday, May 4, 2020 using Zoom. A quorum was in attendance: Chair Pat Mechare, Canaan; John Sanders, Cornwall; Jenn Duncan, Kent; Brian Bartram, North Canaan; Stacie Weiner, Salisbury; and Sara Cousins, Sharon.

Also in attendance were: Superintendent, Pam Vogel; Assistant Superintendent, Lisa Carter; Business Manager Sam Herrick; HVRHS Principal, Ian Strever; faculty/staff; press and public.

Chair Mechare called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

No amendments to the agenda were made.

No public comment was heard.

A presentation was made by David Moran, Audra Leach, Danielle Melino, and Rene Boardman of the HVRHS AgEd Department for the HVRHS AgEd Grant Application approval. The approval will be brought back to the Board at their June meeting for approval. The requested funding amount is included in the proposed budget.

A brief update regarding graduation was given by Principal Strever. At this time, awaiting for an announcement from the governor, which is expected to come tomorrow, prior to finalizing any plans. The high school administration has been gathering feedback from the students and are leaning towards an in-person event, when that would be possible.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Duncan, seconded by Ms. Cousins, to approve 2020-2021 proposed budget for Region One, which includes the high school, Pupil Services, and the Regional Schools Services Center.

Discussion was held regarding the insurance line of the budget, as it has become known that a person in Pupil Services that does not currently take insurance is expected to come onto the plan, as a family, at a cost of \$24,948.

The **motion** was amended by Ms. Duncan, seconded by Ms. Cousins, to include up to an additional \$24,948 to the benefits line of Pupil Services and approve the proposed 2020-2021 budget for Region One. Motion carried unanimously.

It was made clear that Mr. Herrick can look through the budget to find this amount in other areas in order to keep the budget increase at 0%.

Ms. Weiner entered the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

The Proposal for Northwest Corner Marketing Campaign was postponed to June, as the Board did not receive all four proposals in advance of tonight's meeting.

Information from Administration:

- a. HVRHS Principal: Highlighted written report.
- b. HVRHS Assistant Principal: No report
- c. Athletic Director: Highlighted written report
- d. Business Manager: No report
- e. Pupil Services—No report

- f. Assistant Superintendent: Highlighted Written Report
- g. Superintendent: Highlighted written report

A **motion** was made by Ms. Duncan, seconded by Ms. Weiner, to approve the items in the consent agenda, which included:

- Minutes:
 - i. 4/6/2020 Regular Meeting [Approve]
 - ii. 4/22/2020 MS Sports and Activities Committee Meeting [Receive]
 - iii. 4/28/2020 Special Meeting [Approve]
 - iv. 4/29/2020 ABC Committee Special Meeting [Receive]

Motion carried unanimously.

Public comment was heard from Ms. Duncan regarding the addition of an extra line item in the budget for 1 year only, in the amount of \$50,000, non-transferrable, and credited back to the towns if not used for the purpose of COVID-19 expenses. Discussion followed. Mr. Herrick explained that there are funds in a capital reserves account that may be used in the case of an emergency. At this time, Board members agree to not add funding for this purpose to the budget.

No other public comment was heard.

A motion was made by Ms. Duncan, seconded by Ms. Cousins, to move to executive session in the following manner, inviting in Mr. Herrick, Ms. Vogel, Ms. Carter, and Ms. MacNeil for the first two, then they would leave while the Board discussed the third:

First executive session for the purpose of discussion and possible action on the transportation agreement, second for discussion and possible action on certified contract negotiations, then the guests would leave, and the third for discussion and possible action on the Recommendation from the ABC Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Exited executive session at 9:43 p.m.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Sanders, seconded by Ms. Duncan, that the Region One Board of Education accepts the amended agreement between All Star Transportation and Region One Board of Education for the 2019-2020 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Sanders, seconded by Ms. Weiner, that the Region One Board of Education accepts the recommendation from the ABC Committee to appoint Lisa Carter as the interim Superintendent for Region One School District beginning on July 1, 2020. Mr. Sanders, Ms. Weiner, Ms. Mechare, Ms. Dunan, and Ms. Cousins in favor. Mr. Bartram opposed, stating that he believes that the ABC should appoint Ms. Carter as the permanent Superintendent, not an interim. Motion carried.

No action was taken regarding Certified Contract Negotiations.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Duncan, seconded by Ms. Cousins, to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Bunce

Tina Bunce
Board Clerk