

**Region One Board of Education
Special Meeting
Monday, March 2, 2020**

A meeting of the Region One Board of Education was held on Monday, March 2, 2020 in the library at HVRHS. A quorum was in attendance: Chair Pat Mechare, Canaan; John Sanders, Cornwall; Scott Trabucco, alternate for 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 6:30 p.m.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Trabucco, seconded by Ms. Weiner, to amend the agenda to reverse items IX. Proposal for Northwest Corner Marketing Campaign and item X. Policies. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Sanders, seconded by Ms. Weiner, to add Spring Coaches to the agenda after item XVIII. Regional 2020-2021 Draft Calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Bartram, seconded by Ms. Cousins, to add the Social Studies Field Trip to New York City to the agenda along with item XVII. Robotics Field Trip. Motion carried unanimously.

The first Focus on Student Programs presentation was given by David Ferreira, Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, and Kalia Kellogg of Northwestern Community College regarding the new Debt Free College Program.

The second Focus on Student Programs presentation was given by student Michael Hanlon, Jr. regarding the AgEd landscaping project for the front entrance of the school building. Donations can be made to the Arboretum Landscaping Committee. Ms. Weiner and Ms. Mechare each pledged to donate \$100 to their project.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weiner, seconded by Ms. Cousins, to fund the landscaping project entirely, after all donations, but not to exceed a total of \$1,500. The plantings are to be done in the spring. Motion carried unanimously.

The Student Representatives report was given by Emerson Rinehart. He stated that they are currently planning for the next Housatonic's Next Top Mountaineer. They will also be working on an additional fundraiser, yet to be determined.

Recognition for "*Those who Contribute to HVRHS*" was postponed until April for AFS parents.

Recommendations for "*Those who Contribute to HVRHS*" for May were called for. No nominations were made, will be asked again at the April meeting.

Public comment was heard by many in support of keeping the football program. Those who spoke in support included: Frances "Champ" Perotti of North Canaan; Lee, a resident of Southbury, and an OWT grandparent; Ray Tanguay, OWT Athletic Director; Leigh Ann Merrill of Salisbury and a parent of a current player; Dan Odell of Falls Village; Jennifer Garza, the current head football coach; Sebastian, a junior at OWT; Damian Gwinn, a current assistant football coach; Kurt, a father of a player at OWT; Jacob Ward, a current player from OWT; Jesriah (spelling?), the father of a current freshman player; Will Perotti of North Canaan; Larry Gwinn, a

former assistant coach; Marcus Morey of North Canaan; Michael, dad of a freshman player; Michelle Kearns, a parent of a current OWT player; and Deron Bayer of Lakeville.

Discussion was held regarding the sustainability of the football and field hockey programs. The discussion will be continued at the next Budget Committee meeting, on Thursday, March 12th.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weiner, seconded by Ms. Cousins, to approve the Healthy Food Certification as presented. Discussion was held and determined that the board would like to have financial numbers regarding this program before voting. It will be carried forward to the April meeting. The motion was withdrawn by Ms. Weiner, and the second withdrawn by Ms. Cousins.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Trabucco, seconded by Ms. Weiner, to approve Policy 9270, Conflict of Interest, as presented. Vote: Ms. Mechare, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Trabucco, Ms. Weiner, and Ms. Cousins in favor. Mr. Bartram opposed. Motion passed.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Trabucco, seconded by Ms. Weiner, to approve Policy 9010, Limits of Authority, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding the two presented marketing campaigns from the One Eleven Group. One proposal is for Region One and the second is an “Umbrella Campaign” covering 4 regions and 1 district.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Cousins, seconded by Ms. Weiner to obtain proposals for the Region One Marketing Campaign through an RFP process and follow the process documented in Policy 9270. Vote: Ms. Mechare, Mr. Trabucco, Mr. Bartram, Ms. Weiner, and Ms. Cousins in favor. Mr. Sanders abstained. Motion passed.

A motion was asked for in regards to the umbrella campaign that covers 4 regions and 1 district, but after further discussion, the motion was removed from the table.

Discussion was held regarding holding a joint meeting with the ABC Committee regarding the possible revision of the 7000 Series Policies. Consensus amongst members was to move forward with this after an attorney is selected by the Board. Mr. Bartram would also like to hold a listening session for information and feedback from the public.

A discussion was held regarding an update to the Coronavirus. New information is coming out daily, and administrators are working on plans for if schools would need to be closed.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Trabucco, seconded by Ms. Weiner, to approve the contract as presented for the Occupational Therapist. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Trabucco, seconded by Ms. Cousins, to approve the Physical Therapist contract as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Trabucco, seconded by Ms. Cousins, to approve the BCBA contract as presented. After further discussion, the Board felt that they could not approve this contract, as the hours of this position are not yet determined. No vote was held. The motion was withdrawn by Mr. Trabucco, and the second was withdrawn by Ms. Cousins.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Bartram, seconded by Ms. Weiner, to approve the contract for the Social Communication and Behavior Program Facilitator (Liam P. O'Reilly) as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weiner, seconded by Mr. Trabucco, to approve the contract for the Social Communication and Behavior Program Facilitator (Charles Carsley) as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Bartram, seconded by Ms. Weiner, to approve the Facilities Manager contract as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Trabucco, seconded by Ms. Weiner, to approve the Science Technology Center Program Coordinator contract as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Trabucco, seconded by Mr. Bartram, to approve the Executive Secretary/Board Clerk contract as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Bartram, seconded by Ms. Weiner, to approve an increase of 2.7% for the 2020-2021 school year for the salary of the Assistant Superintendent. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Bartram, seconded by Mr. Trabucco, to approve Riley Marshall to attend as a freshman for the 2020-2021 school year as a faculty student. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding student mental health challenges and the possibility of a future presentation. The Board asked Ms. Carter and Dr. Vogel to compile a list of what is currently being done in schools for students' social and emotional health.

Brief discussion was held regarding Board of Education Workshops regarding Parliamentary Procedure and FOIA training. Mr. Trabucco stated that these would be great workshop offerings for all Board of Education members throughout the region.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Bartram, seconded by Ms. Weiner, to approve the Robotics Field Trips as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Bartram, seconded by Ms. Weiner, to approve the Social Studies Field Trip to New York City as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Trabucco, seconded by Ms. Cousins, to approve the Regional 2020-2021 Calendar as presented. Votes: Mr. Sanders, Mr. Trabucco, Mr. Bartram, Ms. Weiner, and Ms. Cousins in favor; Ms. Mechare opposed. Motion passes.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Bartram, seconded by Mr. Trabucco, to approve the list of Spring Coaches as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Information from Administration:

- a. HVRHS Principal: Presented written report and a data presentation
- b. HVRHS Assistant Principal: No report
- c. Athletic Director: Written Report
- d. Business Manager: Answered questions regarding his written report
- e. Pupil Services—No report
- f. Assistant Superintendent: Highlighted Written Report
- g. Superintendent: Highlighted Written Report

Discussion was held regarding the bleachers project and the bidding process that was used to select the company.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Sanders, seconded by Ms. Cousins, to accept the bid amount of \$82,000 from the Sourcewell Purchasing Agreement, to be paid out of the current 2019-2020 fiscal year surplus funds, from Robert H. Lord, Hussey, for the bleachers project. Votes: Ms. Mechare, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Trabucco, Ms. Weiner, and Ms. Cousins in favor; Mr. Bartram opposed. Motion passes.

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

- Minutes:
 - i. 1/15/2020 Standing Building Committee Meeting [Receive]
 - ii. 2/3/2020 Special Meeting [Approve]
 - iii. 2/3/2020 Policy Committee Meeting [Receive]
 - iv. 2/4/2020 Policy Committee Meeting [Receive]
 - v. 2/11/2020 Personnel Committee Meeting [Receive]
 - vi. 2/12/2020 Budget Committee Meeting [Receive]
 - vii. 2/13/2020 ABC Committee Special Meeting [Receive]
 - viii. 2/19/2020 Policy Committee Meeting [Receive]
 - ix. 2/26/2020 Personnel Committee Meeting [Receive]
 - x. 2/26/2020 MS Sports and Activities Committee Meeting [Receive]
 - xi. 2/26/2020 ABC Committee Meeting [Receive]
 - xii. 2/27/2020 Policy Committee Meeting [Receive]
 - xiii. 2/27/2020 Budget Committee Meeting [Receive]

Motion carried unanimously.

Public comment was heard from Lynn Harrington of Kent. She spoke about the ECE Program grading, the 7000 Series policies, Policy 9270, Special Act 405, hand sanitizer in relation to the Coronavirus, the graduation date, and the football program.

Public comment was heard from Mike Flint of Salisbury regarding the Coronavirus.

Public comment was heard from Denise Cohn of Falls Village regarding ADD and ADHD.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Sanders, seconded by Ms. Weiner, to move to executive session for the purpose of discussion of FAPE complaint, inviting in Dr. Vogel and Mr. Herrick, after a brief recess. Motion carried unanimously.

Exited executive session at 10:32 p.m.

No action taken.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Weiner, seconded by Mr. Trabucco, to adjourn the meeting at 10:33 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Bunce

Tina Bunce
Board Clerk