# PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION JOINT WORKSHOP BOARD OF EDUCATION RSD13

Wednesday, September 3, 2025 7:00 P.M. Third Floor Town Hall and Via ZOOM MINUTES

#### Call to order

Chairman DeFelice called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

#### **Roll Call**

<u>In attendance:</u> John DeNunzio, Josh Eddinger, Michael Dahlheimer, Jim Piotrowski, Michael Fumiatti, Phil Augur, Frank DeFelice, Chris Balay

Absent: Jim Martinelli, Kyle Mosher, Angela Helfrich, Janet Morganti

Others in attendance: Robin Newton; Town Planner, Bob Moore; Chairman of Board of Ed

# **Seating of Alternates**

John DeNunzio seated for Janet Morganti

# **Amendments to Agenda**

None

#### **Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by C. Balay, seconded by several to approve the September 3, 2025 meeting agenda as presented. All aye, motion passed

### **POCD Workshop**

Bob Moore, Board of Education chairman, reviewed POCD section 7.3 School Facilities. Noted that Memorial School has change to pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade and Lyman School will be closed. Discussed continuing decline in enrollment.

Reviewed concerns over the next decade:

- Continued state and federal assistance
- Expanding educational requirements
- Unfunded mandates from the General Assembly
- Capital Project needs at Strong and CRHS
- Rising costs of Special Education in programming and transportation with reductions in state financial support

# **Reviewed Goals:**

- Successful disposition of Brewster and Lyman Schools on completion of Memorial School construction and thereby lowering District operating costs
- Implementation of 10 year strategic plan addressing education and community needs
- Expansion of Career Pathways at CRHS to improve student retention
- Expand collaboration with both towns

Commission asked whether the closing of schools would create a need for additional sports fields in town. Bob Moore replied that some fields will stay, and others (tennis courts) need to be reconfigured for drainage

Discussed student enrollment, requested the capacity of all the schools. Briefly discussed public hearing schedule and process for gathering information and opinions from the public

R. Newton indicated that a first draft of intro and background demographics for the POCD to commission members for review

#### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by J. DeNunzio seconded by P. Augur to adjourn. All aye, motion passed; meeting adjourned at 7:52p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Nicole Charest Town Clerk, Recording Secretary

# To view meeting:

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