

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 20  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MEETING MINUTES  
September 11, 2025

1. Call to Order The Board of Education meeting held at Lakeview High School and via teleconference was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Tiffany Parkhouse.

Members present: Tiffany Parkhouse, Chair, Ashley Westfall, Vice Chair, Ashley Hall Daddona, Secretary, John Morosani, Treasurer, Krista Rizzo, Susan Wheeler, Margaret Hunt, Kara Cruoglio, Diane Barnes, Billie Jean Sideris, and Rob DeLayo.

Also present: Jeffrey Villar, Ph.D., Superintendent, Julie Haggard, Assistant Superintendent Pupil Services, and Julia Cardillo, Chief Financial Officer.

Absent: Scott Pottbecker.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Tiffany Parkhouse requested everyone stand for a moment of silence in remembrance of those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

Tiffany Parkhouse invited everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Committee Reports

John Morosani shared the Finance Committee met on September 8, 2025. At the meeting, Julia Cardillo opened the single bid received in response to the auditing services RFP. There was a preliminary, high level review, and discussion about the proposal. This Auditing Services Provider is an Action Item on the Board agenda this evening.

Kara Cruoglio shared the Strategic Planning Committee met earlier in the evening and had a “two-part” meeting. First, the committee received a presentation from Dr. Villar on Strategic Planning Framework, followed by a review, discussion, and selection of a Climate Survey tool for the district.

4. Chairman’s Report & Update

Upcoming Board of Education Meetings

September 25 – Lakeview High School – 7:00 p.m.

October 16 – Lakeview High School – 7:00 p.m.

November 20 – Lakeview High School – 7:00 p.m.

December 11 – Lakeview High School – 7:00 p.m.

*(All meetings will have a remote option)*

Tiffany Parkhouse read aloud the upcoming BOE meeting schedule, times, and locations. These can also be found on the district website.

5. Board of Education - Correspondence

None.

6. Consent Agenda

6.1 Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes of August 12, 2025

6.2 Board of Education Meeting Minutes of August 21, 2025

6.3 Acceptance of Scholarship Donation – Girls Softball

6.4 Approval for Sale of Former District Uniforms & Equipment

6.5 Approval of New Hires

6.5.1 Sara Musselman, Special Education Teacher, Warren School

6.5.2 Christine Steward, Educational Assistant, Goshen Center School

Ashley Westfall made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Billie Jean Sideris seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Superintendent Update

Dr. Villar opened by thanking all district staff for their hard work preparing schools for the start of the school year; “it was very much a collective effort.” He toured schools on the first day and saw a lot of happy people, but the district did face some transportation challenges. He understands this can happen and appreciated everyone’s patience while these issues were addressed. Dr. Villar has concerns about transportation and the district need to take a long-term, holistic view on transportation, the number of buses, routes and school end times. When the timing is appropriate, he plans to talk with the Board and community as any changes would impact everyone. He closed his update sharing that leadership from our four communities have signed the voluntary payment agreement, and he expressed his sincerest appreciation for the collaboration to solve this complex problem.

7.1 Personnel Report

Dr. Villar gave an overview of the September Personnel Report.

8. Finance Update

8.1 FY26 Budget Update

Julia Cardillo gave the FY26 Budget Update opening by sharing information on district check and balance procedures, facility project updates, grant opportunities and a projects and purchases forecast. Additionally, she spoke about four line item deficits and mitigation strategies when reviewing the detailed budget report. Julia Cardillo, along with the Board, discussed line item budget transfers.

9. Public Comment

Individuals offering public comment should please state their first and last name and the town where they reside. Remarks should be limited to no more than three minutes. A maximum time limit of 30 minutes will be allocated for public comment at any one meeting. Individuals representing a common interest or topic may be asked to have one individual speak for the group. Public comments must be relevant to the meeting's agenda. Speakers shall direct all comments to the Board, not to individual BOE members or administrators. Profane or vulgar language, partisan political statements, and comments related to the conduct or performance of staff are not permitted. Public comment is received without Board comment or response, the Board is to keep comments “under advisement.” However, BOE members may seek clarification or additional information from speakers through the Chairman.

Becky Hubschman, Goshen spoke about the need for ELA and Math Interventionists at the elementary school level.

10. Action Items

10.1.1 Discussion of New Policy 5131.81 Student Electronic Devices (First Read)

Dr. Villar fielded questions from the Board regarding Policy 5131.81 Student Electronic Devices (First Read). It was determined the Board concerns would be addressed in the Policy Regulation. Therefore, Policy 5131.81 Student Electronic Devices (First Read) will go to the Board for Second Read/Adoption at its next meeting on September 25, 2025.

10.2.1 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Audit Services Provider

Julia Cardillo provided background information to the Board regarding the RFP for auditing services, invited six firms to submit proposals, and reached out to CASBO (Connecticut Association of Business Officials) to drum up interest. The district received one proposal.

She then spoke about the auditing services firm, provided information on the reference calls she made to school districts who utilize this firm, and addressed questions from the Board. There was also a discussion about line item transfers to cover the additional fees of the new Audit Services Provider.

Billie Jean Sideris made a motion to Approve the Audit Services Provider. Ashley Westfall seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Adjournment There being no further business to come before the Board, Billie Jean Sideris made a motion to adjourn. Margaret Hunt seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Escobar  
Secretary, pro-tem