REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 20
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2026

1. Call to Order The Board of Education meeting held at Litchfield Intermediate School and via teleconference was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by Tiffany Parkhouse.

   Members present: Tiffany Parkhouse, Chair, Ashley Westfall, Vice Chair, Ashley Hall Daddona, Secretary, Billie Jean Sideris, Treasurer, Susan Wheeler, Sharon Mahieu, Margaret Hunt, Kara Cruoglio, Josh Szwed, Diane Barnes, Scott Pottbecker, and Rob DeLayo.

   Also present: Jeffrey Villar, Ph.D., Superintendent, Julie Haggard, Assistant Superintendent Pupil Services, and Jim Parker, Athletic Director, Lakeview High School.

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

3. Presentation
   3.1 Proposed Application to Change Lakeview High School Athletic Conference
   Michael Valerio, Principal & Jim Parker, Athletic Director

   Jim Parker, Athletic Director, gave a presentation addressing questions regarding the potential change in athletic affiliation to the NVL (Naugatuck Valley League) and from the Board of Education members.

4. 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. 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.

   Andrew Marchand, Goshen, representing the swim coach, spoke in favor of joining the NVL.

   Julia Turtoro, Goshen, spoke about the potential athletic affiliation change, in support of this move citing better competition for student athletes and more league teams to play.

   Dan Porri, Torrington and Lakeview High School Tennis Coach, spoke in favor of joining the NVL for the increased competitive opportunities it offers the tennis program.

   Brad Hoar, Warren, is not in favor of joining the NVL due to potential increases in transportation costs, travel time to competitions, and missed instruction time for student-athletes leaving early for matches. He has concerns that declining enrollment in our towns will affect the ability to compete against larger schools in the future.

   Kevin Weik, Morris, spoke about the current challenges in providing transportation to athletic events, commenting that this issue would likely worsen if the district joins the NVL.

Amy Sobek, Litchfield, opposes moving to the NVL. She cited concerns regarding smaller teams' inability to compete and transportation issues, suggesting the district should wait another year before applying.

Kristen D'Urso, Goshen, opposed moving to the NVL. She expressed concern about rushing the decision without weighing the pros and cons, noting that the soccer program remains competitive.

Lindsay Baker, Bantam and Cheer Coach, supports moving to the NVL, as cheerleading is not recognized in the Berkshire League. With the program's growth across all levels, she is confident Lakeview can compete successfully in the NVL.

Gregg Hunt, Lakeview High School Basketball Coach, opposes moving to the NVL. He noted that the basketball team would face stiffer competition and emphasized the need to remain responsible partners in the Berkshire League.

Malissa Harber read letters from the following coaches who support the move to the NVL: Tyler Schuck (Volleyball Coach), Ethan Casey (Softball Coach), and Alan Stinson (Baseball Coach).

Eric Augustyn, Litchfield, speaking on behalf of his son Reid Augustyn (Lakeview High School Class of 2026), supports the league change to the NVL.

Mike Shea, Girls Varsity Soccer Coach, supports a move to the NVL for program growth. He noted that the transition would address the lack of junior varsity teams, offer better competition, and provide more playing opportunities to help the program continue growing and flourishing.

Liam Lawrence, Warren, supports moving to the NVL due to competitive imbalance in the Berkshire League for cross country and track and field. He is concerned that if Nonnewaug leaves the Berkshire League, Lakeview will have no remaining competitors.

Mary Stolle, former Athletic Director, suggests the district slow down and exercise due diligence regarding a potential move to the NVL. She noted the need to invest in the district's athletic program, including having a full-time, non instructional athletic director and upgrading facilities, such as turf fields and a pool, prior to making the transition.

Tiffany Parkhouse closed the meeting, thanking everyone for attending and sharing their thoughts on this potential athletic affiliation move. She also thanked Lakeview High School's Jim Parker, Athletic Director, and Sue Leigh, Assistant Athletic Director, for their work.

5. Adjournment There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Escobar
Secretary, pro-tem