

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 20
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES
January 18, 2024

1. Call to Order The Board of Education meeting held at Wamogo and via teleconference was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Emily Cole.

Members present: Emily Cole, Chair, Alexandria Papp, Secretary, Andrew Tita, Treasurer, Jannelle Carroll, Krista Rizzo, Bill Davenport, Matt Terzian, Christine Lauretano, Jennifer Munson, Rob DeLayo, Tiffany Parkhouse. Also present: Chris Leone, Superintendent, Emily Cole, Jannelle Carroll, John Morosani, Bill Davenport, Jennifer Munson, Christine Lauretano, Rob DeLayo, Alexandria Papp, Kristen Della Volpe, Assistant Superintendent, Julie Haggard, Assistant Superintendent Pupil Services, and Deanna Marchand, Region 20 Project Coordinator.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Emily Cole invited everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

At the request of Mr. Leone, Alexandria Papp made a motion to remove Action Item 8.6 Appointment of Positions and 9. Executive Session. Andrew Tita seconded the motion.

During discussion Emily Cole supported the removal of Action Item 8.6 but requested Executive Session stay on the agenda.

Since a motion and second was made a vote was called.

The motion failed to pass with Matt Terzian abstaining.

Christine Lauretano made a motion to remove Action Item 8.6 Appointment of Positions. Krista Rizzo seconded the motion.

During discussion Mr. Leone commented that he believes Ms. Lauretano has a conflict with Action Item 8.6 and cannot make that motion.

Christine Lauretano withdrew the motion.

Krista Rizzo made a motion to remove Action Item 8.6 Appointment of Positions. Alexandria Papp seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed with Christine Lauretano abstaining.

3. Committee Reports

Bill Davenport provided the ASTE Committee update commenting on a review of 2024-2025 enrollment, a discussion on the Arethusa Farm Foundation, and staffing for the ASTE Department.

Matt Terzian shared that the Long Term Planning Committee discussed formatting and content for a Region 20 Strategic Plan. A draft model of the plan will be reviewed at the February 15, 2024 meeting.

The Facilities Committee met earlier in the evening and approved the middle and high school branding concepts to go to the full Board for approval at its next meeting on February 1, 2024. The Committee also discussed a plan to archive various Litchfield Public School and Region 6 items, and received a pool update.

Andrew Tita shared that the Finance Committee viewed the Budget Workshop #1 presentation, discussed new technology devices for students and staff, and received an insurance update.

Alexandrea Papp said the Curriculum Committee reviewed the Region 20 Program of Studies and discussed the student eligibility policy for activities and athletics. Through this discussion, it was agreed that this policy would go for review at the next Policy Committee meeting for potential edits. The Committee also received the Litchfield Public Schools and Region 6 Assessment Schedule.

The Communications Committee update given by Krista Rizzo discussed the Region 20 Community Forum and plan to hold this event twice a year; Fall and Spring, discussed the Parent Prom fundraising event, received a social media update, and the Region 20 newsletter.

4. Chairman's Report

Upcoming Board of Education Meetings

- February 1 – Goshen Center School – 7:00 p.m.
- February 15 – Litchfield Center School – 7:00 p.m.
- March 14 – James Morris School – 7:00 p.m.
- March 28 – Warren School – 7:00 p.m.

(All meetings will have a remote option)

5. Approval of Minutes

- 5.1 Communications Committee minutes of November 30, 2023
- 5.2 Finance Committee minutes of November 30, 2023
- 5.3 Long Term Planning Committee minutes of November 30, 2023
- 5.4 Facilities Committee minutes of November 30, 2023
- 5.5 Board of Education minutes of November 30, 2023
- 5.6 Board of Education minutes of December 5, 2023
- 5.7 Curriculum Committee minutes of December 14, 2023
- 5.8 Facilities Committee minutes of December 14, 2023
- 5.9 Policy Committee minutes of December 14, 2023
- 5.10 Negotiations Committee minutes of December 14, 2023
- 5.11 Board of Education minutes of December 14, 2023

Tiffany Parkhouse made a motion to combine the Committee and Board minutes of November 30, 2023, December 5, 2023, and December 14, 2023. Krista Rizzo seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passes and Matt Terzian abstains.

Tiffany Parkhouse made a motion to approve the combined Committee and Board minutes of November 30, 2023, December 5, 2023, and December 14, 2023. Krista Rizzo seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passes and Matt Terzian abstains.

6. **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.

7. **Superintendent Update**

Mr. Leone strongly cautioned and urged the Board to review the reasons and rationale behind Executive Session under Connecticut General Statute and would recommend they have counsel advise them accordingly.

8. **Action Items**

8.1 **Approval Region 20 School Calendar – 2024-2025 (Second Read)**

Jannelle Carroll made a motion to approve the Region 20 School Calendar – 2024-2025 (Second Read). Krista Rizzo seconded the motion.

During discussion Matt Terzian asked about community comments and Mr. Leone said he has shared all community feedback with the Board that he has received.

Emily Cole called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

8.2 **Approval of Insurance Broker Contract**

Tiffany Parkhouse made a motion to approve the Insurance Broker Contract. Krista Rizzo seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.3 **Approval of Agreement with Greenwood's Counseling & Referrals, Inc.**

Tiffany Parkhouse made a motion to approve the Agreement with Greenwood's Counseling & Referrals, Inc. Krista Rizzo seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.4 Approval of PreK Tuition – 2024-2025

Tiffany Parkhouse made a motion for the Approval of PreK Tuition – 2024-2025. Krista Rizzo seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.5 Approval of Job Description - Central Registration/Transportation Coordinator

Tiffany Parkhouse made a motion to approve the Job Description - Central Registration/Transportation Coordinator. Krista Rizzo seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.6 Appointment of Positions

This Action Item was removed from the meeting agenda.

9. Executive Session

Tiffany Parkhouse made a motion to enter Executive Session. Krista Rizzo seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passes with Matt Terzian abstaining.

Entered Executive Session: 7:14 p.m.

Exited Executive Session: 7:15 p.m.

10. Adjournment There being no further business to come before this Board the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Escobar
Secretary, pro-tem