

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE
October 1, 2015 MEETING
Joint Board of Education Committee
August 20, 2015**

A regular meeting of the Joint Board of Education Committee was held on Thursday, August 20, 2015 in the John Winthrop Middle School Library, with the following Board Members present:

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION: David Fitzgibbons, Robert Bibbiani, Maria Scherber

DEEP RIVER BOARD OF EDUCATION: Nelle Andrews

ESSEX BOARD OF EDUCATION: Lon Seidman, Loretta McCluskey, Adam Conrad

REGION 4 BOARD OF EDUCATION: Jennifer Clark, Mario Gioco, Elaine Fitzgibbons, Jane Cavanaugh, Leigh Rankin, Ann Monaghan, Elaine Fitzgibbons

Also in attendance: Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent; Kristina Martineau, Assistant Superintendent, Garth Sawyer, Business Manager, Tyson Stoddard, Pupil Services, Sarah Smalley Director of Pupil Services, Peter Foxen, John Winthrop Assistant Principal & Kelley Frazier, Substitute Board Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER

Supervision District Committee Chair Lon Seidman called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

The Chair of the Region 4 Board of Education called their Boards to order at 7:06 p.m. Deep River, Chester and Essex did not have a quorum.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion duly made and seconded the Region 4 Boards of Education **VOTED** to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the June 4, 2015 regular meeting of the Joint Boards of Education. Chester, Deep River and Essex did not have a quorum.

PUBLIC COMMENT – no comments were made

OTHER ITEMS –

Update on Celebrate Learning Summer Program – T. Stoddard, S. Smalley, P. p

Board members enjoyed a presentation of the Celebrate Learning Summer program presented by Mr. Foxen. Mr. Stoddard discussed the activities the students participated in as well as answered questions from the Board.

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Financial Status Update

This report will be discussed at the individual September board meetings.

Information and Communication Items

2015-16 Initiatives

This will be discussed at the individual board meetings. Dr. Levy noted that the focus this year will be on the individual child and his or her needs. She noted that only the most important assessments will be given which will allow students to focus on learning.

We will be looking at our long range planning. We will discuss resources and getting community input about where our district wants to go. We want to come together as a cohesive team to do what is best for our children.

Legislative Updates

This will be discussed at the September individual Board of Education meetings. Dr. Levy stated that there are many more mandates than in previous years. She noted that many of the mandates are unfunded and that there are additional professional development requirements.

First reading for Calendar of BOE Meetings for January-December 2016

Dr. Levy asked members to review the calendar and let her know if there are any conflicts.

Update on Summer Hiring

Dr. Levy said that there are many new staff members in our schools this year due to retirements. Dr. Levy discussed the new teachers who have joined our district.

Committee Reports

The next Committee meetings will be held in September. Mr. Sawyer noted that the Finance meeting may need to be rescheduled.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Update on Professional Development – Update on Curriculum

Ms. Martineau said that we are in our second year of NWEA. Staff will learn to use the information in day to day instruction. It has been a busy summer with curriculum development. We now have the K-12 curriculum for Social Studies. There was a press release in August stating the approval of the waiver to replace Grade 11 SBAC testing with the SAT. This will be administered during the school day. SBAC and CAPT results have just arrived. These will be reported on as soon as possible.

All the buildings are ready for the first day of school on August 27, 2015. Monday is Convocation for all staff members. Dr. Levy asked Board members to attend if possible.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No comments were made

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 7.1 Next Regular Joint BOE Meeting, October 1, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.
- 7.2 Second Reading of BOE Meeting Calendar for upcoming calendar year (Oct)
- 7.3 First Reading of District Calendar for 2016-17(TBD)

ADJOURNMENT:

On Motion duly made and seconded, the Chester, Deep River, Essex and Region 4 Boards of Education unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 7:45p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Substitute Clerk