

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
DEEP RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
May 21, 2015, 7:00PM**

The regular meeting of the Deep River Board of Education was held on Thursday, May 21, 2015. In attendance were Miriam Morrissey, Nelle Andrews, Jim Olson, Hadley Kornacki, Peter Corcoran, and Michelle Grow. Also in attendance were Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent, Dr. Joanne Beekley, Assistant Superintendent, Christian Strickland, Principal and Kelley Frazier, Board Clerk. Absent: Christine Daniels, Julia Grabowski and Dave Berardis

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Grow called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

Miriam Morrissey made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 19, 2015 regular meeting, the May 5, 2015 special meeting and the Accounts Payable report. Jim Olson seconded the motion. The motion passed by an unanimous vote.

STUDENT REPORT

Mr. Strickland introduced Sixth Grade students Scott Connell and Cassidy McCormick who gave the monthly update for the Deep River Elementary School. The Board thanked the children for coming and presenting to the Board of Education.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comment

OTHER ITEMS:

Principal's Update

Mr. Strickland gave a brief update of the activities at Deep River Elementary School. Our activities include celebrating our Day of the Arts which was well received. SBAC has concluded. MAP testing will conclude this week. We had our Band and Chorus concerts. We had Kindergarten open house and visitation days. The kids enjoyed our Spring Book Fair, Tip a Teacher night, Bingo and the Used Goods Drive. Upcoming events are the Memorial Day Assembly and the Memorial Day Parade. We have many class field trips and the Sixth Grade graduation to look forward to in the next month. Mr. Strickland thanked the Board for their support.

Ms. Grow thanked Mr. Strickland for his leadership this year.

REPORTS:

Financial Status Report – Mr. Garth Sawyer

Dr. Levy updated the Board of the financial status for Deep River Elementary School. Currently Deep River is projecting a small surplus. We will remain vigilant of any unforeseen circumstances and will keep the Board informed of any developments as they arise.

Cafeteria Report – Mr. Garth Sawyer

Dr. Levy gave an update on the status of the Cafeteria Budget. We are showing a deficit in the cafeteria report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance

The Finance Committee is scheduled to meet in September.

Policy

The next meeting is scheduled for September.

Curriculum

The next meeting is scheduled for September.

Supervision District

No Update.

LEARN Committee Update

The meeting was held at the Marine Science Magnet school.

Facilities

No Update

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – J. Beekley

General Update

Dr. Beekley said that MAP testing is being completed. She is focusing on the social studies curriculum. A group of science teachers are reviewing the new science standards. Language Arts and Math is also being reviewed. Block scheduling will be part of the discussion.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT - R. Levy

District Update

The schools are all doing well. Valley Regional High School students worked in our communities during VRHS Community Day. We have wonderful and respectful students who have a great sense of community. Dr. Levy noted that she will be conducting senior exit interviews with members of the senior class.

Dr. Levy stated that Mr. Strickland has transformed this school in such a positive way. She thanked him for his hard work. Dr. Levy also thanked Dr. Beekley for her hard work in our district and for guiding and coaching our principals and developing curriculum.

Information and Communication

Regionalization

Draft 2 of the regionalization document has been favorably received. Dr. Levy discussed the changes. We have conducted morning meetings to discuss community concerns and to address questions. She also met with staff members to review the plan. We have a public forum on May 26th. We have made progress in developing the educational side of the document. The finance component is still being finalized. Revisions to the ADM formula are being discussed. There is a meeting on June 1st to continue working on the document with the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance from all three towns. Dr. Levy was asked to be on a Regionalization Sub Committee with legislators. This will also need to go through Planning and Zoning for the lease agreement.

Discussion Regarding Pending Policies

Nepotism, Homebound Instruction and Publication or Creation of Materials are the policies being reviewed. The Board had various questions which were briefly discussed. This will be voted on at the next Joint Board of Education meeting.

Discussion and possible Vote to Renew the Agreement Concerning the Establishment and Operation of an Interim Collaborative Preschool Program dated February 13, 2008.

Upon a motion made by Miriam Morrissey and seconded by Jim Olson the Deep River Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to renew the Agreement Concerning the Establishment and Operation of an Interim Collaborative Preschool Program dated February 13, 2008 for renewal for a one year increment upon agreement (vote) of all signing parties (Boards of Education for Chester, Deep River, Essex and the Regional Supervision District Committee) no later than June 30, 2015.

Approval of Food Certification

Upon a motion made by Jim Olson and seconded by Hadley Kornacki the Deep River Board of Education **VOTED** to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to renew certification that all food items sold to students during school hours other than those covered by exemption, will meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards to qualify for CSDE's Healthy Food Certification and monetary compensation from the State.

Donation Acceptance

Upon a motion made by Hadley Kornacki and seconded by Jim Olson the Deep River Board of Education **VOTED** to accept a donation of \$4,000 from Dinners at the Farm to be equally shared between the Chester, Deep River, Essex and Region 4 cafeterias as presented.

Policy Removal

We are following the recommendation that we remove this policy. We may get an ad hoc group to do more research into other issues brought up by discussion regarding this policy, however, they would give a recommendation to the Policy Committee and then a decision will be made on any new policies desired. Dr. Levy discussed what the hiring process entails.

Upon a motion made by Nelle Andrews and seconded by Hadley Kornacki, the Deep River Board of Education **VOTED** to remove Policy #4112.4/4212.4 Health Examination from the policy manual. The vote resulted in a tie and did not pass. Ayes: Nelle Andrews, Jim Olson, Hadley Kornacki Nays: Miriam Morrissey, Peter Corcoran, Michelle Grow.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –PERSONNEL

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board moved into Executive Session at 8:08p.m. to discuss a personnel matter – BOE Evaluation of Superintendent.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:45p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 8:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Board Clerk