

F.O.I. Compliance – Subject to approval at a future Committee meeting

REGIONAL SUPERVISION DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Date: June 02, 2022

Regular Meeting – REMOTE MEETING held

(To view a recording of this meeting, please visit our website www.reg4.k12.ct.us and select “Remote Meeting Recordings” under the BOARD OF EDUCATION Heading)

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION: David Fitzgibbons, Charlene Fearon, Dale Bernardoni

DEEP RIVER BOARD OF EDUCATION: Miriam Morrissey, Pat Maikowski (joined at 6:01 p.m.), Bob Ferretti (joined at 6:05 p.m.)

ESSEX BOARD OF EDUCATION: Lon Seidman, Justin Pillion

REGION 4 BOARD OF EDUCATION: Kate Sandmann, Jane Cavanaugh

Also in attendance: Brian J. White, Superintendent; Sarah Brzozowy, Assistant Superintendent; and Robert Grissom, Finance Director

CALL TO ORDER and Verbal Roll Call

Committee Chair Miriam Morrissey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and took a verbal roll call.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion duly made and seconded the Committee unanimously (all members present at 6:01 p.m.) VOTED to approve the consent agenda consisting of the Minutes from the regular meeting of April 27, 2022 and the Accounts Payable Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT – No comments were made.

REPORTS AND OTHER ITEMS

Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent White will hold his district update until the Joint BOE meeting immediately following this meeting.

Assistant Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Brzozowy will also hold her district update until the Joint BOE meeting immediately following this meeting.

Finance Office Report

Finance Director Bob Grissom reviewed the Finance Office enclosure for the Supervision District Year-to-Date Financial Report.

Other Items

There was a brief discussion regarding the annual renewal of the Agreement Concerning the Establishment and Operation of an Interim Collaborative Preschool Program. The original contract expired on June 30, 2012 and per agreement may be renewed in 1 year increments upon agreement of all signing parties (Boards of Education for Chester, Deep River, Essex and the Regional Supervision District Committee) no later than June 30, of the current year. Essex BOE Chair Lon Seidman stated that at their May meeting, the Essex Board reviewed their space availability at Essex Elementary School, and determined they are able to host the program at EES again next year. Therefore, the Essex BOE voted to continue hosting the program for next year, which allows for the vote by the Joint BOE this meeting.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously VOTED to renew the *Agreement Concerning the Establishment and Operation of an Interim Collaborative Preschool Program* dated February 13, 2008.

Superintendent White shared that he and Finance Director Grissom met with our three resident troopers to discuss bus safety concerns and to learn of their recommendations for ensuring safe bus transitions for our students when they are loading or unloading at bus stops. The outcomes of these conversations indicated that while the cameras will aid efforts to increase safety and security at bus stops, it is worth noting that cameras themselves will not be the fix. After an in depth conversation with our resident troopers Administration learned that our law enforcement community recommends a multipronged approach which includes encouraging training for drivers, and community education, in conjunction with the additional external bus cameras. Our local law enforcement community does support the use of the bus traffic security cameras, as they would be one tool to help enforcement.

Administration, in conjunction with First Student, also researched more information regarding the proposed camera system specifications including hardware needs, data storage, data responsibility, and other considerations related to the possibility of the district purchasing bus traffic security cameras.

Mr. Grissom noted that the Supervision District does have the ability to support this within the current operating budget without requiring a transfer of funds.

Superintendent White shared that if the cameras are purchased, there may be the need for developing an operating contractual Memorandum of Agreement attached to the transportation contract. If such an agreement is determined to be necessary he will bring it to the Committee for approval.

Essex and Region 4 BOE Member L. Seidman wanted to note that he has a lot of confidence in the efforts of our local police to date, who have investigated all reported violations to the extent of their ability, with the information they have been given.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously VOTED to approve the recommendation of the administration to purchase the bus traffic security cameras, for the entire fleet, at a cost of up to \$7400.

Individual BOE reports:

Chester BOE Chair Fitzgibbons shared that their budget was recently approved at a Town Meeting. He also shared that he has personally been told by several families that they specifically moved to Chester because of Chester Elementary and to him that's the highest form of praise for the school. He noted that they have a lot of people to thank for that including Administration, Staff, Families and the voters of Chester.

Deep River BOE Chair Morrissey shared a general update including that their budget was also approved at a Town Meeting recently. The Deep River BOE has appointed a new Principal effective July 1st, Josh Torchia. End of school activities are starting to happen in preparation for summer.

Essex BOE Chair Seidman shared a general update including that their budget also passed at a Town Meeting, and things are beginning to return to normal with field trips and many other activities. There have also been many retirements of some long term staff, so things will look a little different next year, but everything is going very well.

Region 4 BOE Chair Sandmann shared a general update including the return to many much loved end of year traditions at both JWMS and VRHS and some great sports achievements this spring. She also shared that Region 4 has hired a couple of new administrators, as of July 1st, including Region 4 Athletic Director, Lew Pappariella, and John Winthrop Middle School Principal, Melissa Morgan-Hostetler.

Committee Reports:

There were no new Committee Updates to be shared.

PUBLIC COMMENT – No comments were made

On motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously VOTED to add the following item to the agenda, after the Executive Session, “a discussion and possible vote on the Superintendent’s Contract”.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously VOTED to move into Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. for a Personnel matter regarding the Superintendent’s contract negotiations.

The Committee returned from Executive Session at 6:51 p.m.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously VOTED to approve the recommended Superintendent’s contract as provided by the Board Chairs.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Next regular Supervision District Committee meeting – August 4, 2022 @ 5:00 p.m. (only if needed)

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Bryan, Clerk