

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO COMMITTEE APPROVAL AT THE
February 27, 2014 MEETING
REGIONAL SUPERVISION DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

December 5, 2013

A regular meeting of the Regional Supervision District Committee was held on Thursday, December 5, 2013 in the John Winthrop Middle School Library, with the following Committee members present:

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION:	David Fitzgibbons, Arthur Henick, Wendy King (arrived 6:55 p.m.)
DEEP RIVER BOARD OF EDUCATION:	Jim Olson, Miriam Morrissey
ESSEX BOARD OF EDUCATION:	Lon Seidman, Loretta McCluskey, DG Fitton
REGION 4 BOARD OF EDUCATION:	Chris Riley, Elaine Fitzgibbons

Also in attendance: Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent; Joanne Beekley, Assistant Superintendent; Garth Sawyer, Business Manager, and Jennifer Bryan, Committee Clerk.

Audience of Citizens: 2 present

CALL TO ORDER

The position of Committee Chair rotates yearly among BOE Chairs in alphabetical order per Board. This year the position of Chair moves to Deep River. In the absence of Christine Daniels, Chair of the Deep River Board, Essex Chair Lon Seidman called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

On motion duly made and seconded the following appointments were unanimously made: Lon Seidman was appointed Vice-Chair and Loretta McCluskey was appointed Treasurer/Secretary.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion duly made and seconded the Committee VOTED (8 yes /1 abstention, Chris Reilly – motion passed) to approve the consent agenda consisting of the Minutes from the regular meeting of October 03, 2013, and the Accounts Payable Report.

OTHER ITEMS

The Committee and any Community members present were asked for their input on the development of the 2014-15 budget. The first Supervision District budget workshop is scheduled for Tuesday Dec 10th .

PUBLIC COMMENT -

2 present – no comments

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

Financial Status – Business Manager Garth Sawyer reviewed the highlights of the Supervision District financial status updates for the current year. At this point he anticipates remaining within the appropriated budget.

Individual BOE reports

Chester – Board member David Fitzgibbons reported that the Chester BOE is down 3 members, 2 by resignation and 1 opening that had no candidate running on the ballot in November.

Deep River – Board Vice-Chair Jim Olson reported that DRES is losing their principal, Jennifer Byars, to an Assistant Superintendent position in Ledyard. The Board has hired an interim principal, Nancy Haslam, who will start Jan. 2nd, 2014. The Deep River Board has 4 new members after the November elections.

Essex – Board Chair Lon Seidman reported that they currently have a fully seated Board, with Mark Watson recently appointed to fill a vacancy on the Essex Board.

Region 4 – Board Chair Chris Riley reported that have a number of new members as well, and still need to fill some Committee appointments.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Information and Communication

There was a second reading of the proposed 2014-15 district school calendar. Dr. Levy reviewed a few proposed changes that were recommended by the Calendar Committee since the first reading to the Supervision District Committee in October.

There was some discussion regarding various issues, including Veterans Day. There was a general consensus that this current year’s calendar has been well received, and the 2014-15 calendar mirrors the template of the current one. There was some discussion regarding feedback from high school parents that they would like the high school to refine programs for future years with regards to the observance of Veterans Day. But, it has been nothing but all positive comments from the elementary and middle school parents.

Board member Elaine Fitzgibbons asked for statistics on absenteeism during the upcoming shortened February break since this current year is the first time for a shortened break.

On motion duly made and seconded the Committee unanimously VOTED to approve the 2014-15 district school calendar as presented. (posted on district website)

Dr. Levy gave a brief presentation on the major budget drivers for 2015-15 proposed Supervision District Budget. The First Workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10. A budget document was handed out to Committee members.

PUBLIC COMMENT – 5 present no comments

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Supervision District Budget Workshop I: December 10, 2013 @ 6:00 p.m. @ CO
Supervision District Budget Workshop II: January 7, 2014 @ 6:00 p.m. @ CO
Supervision District Budget Workshop III (if needed): January 14, 2014 @ 6:00 p.m. @ CO
Supervision District Public Meeting on Budget: February 3, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m. @ JWMS
Next Regular Supervision District Meeting: February 27, 2014
Vote to Approve Proposed Supervision District Budget for 2014-15 (Feb.)
Executive Session to Vote on Supervision District Staff Non-Renewals (Feb.)
Review/approval of Supervision District Audit Report for 2012-13 (*TBD*)

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously VOTED to adjourn at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Loretta McCluskey, Secretary,
Jennifer Bryan, Clerk