

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
DEEP RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
MAY 18, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Deep River Board of Education was held on Thursday, March 16, 2017. In attendance were Tracy Dickson, Tatria Ciaglo, Miriam Morrissey, Jim Olson, Paula Weglarz and Michelle Grow. Also in attendance were Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent, Kristina Martineau, Assistant Superintendent, Christian Strickland, Principal, Garth Sawyer, Business Manager. Absent: Nelle Andrews, Hadley Kornacki, Imran Munawar.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Grow at 7:01p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion duly made by Jim Olson and seconded by Tatria Ciaglo the Deep River Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of March 16, 2017 and the Accounts Payable report. Abstentions: Ms. Weglarz

Amendments:

Paul Weglarz and Miriam Morrissey were absent for the March 16, 2017 meeting.

STUDENT REPORT

Mr. Strickland introduced Lucas Rogers, Brooke Millburne, and Isabella Guiliano who presented the student report of events happening at Deep River Elementary.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comment

Principal's Update

Mr. Strickland gave a brief update. June will be a busy month. Mr. Strickland noted that Mathew Daniels was recognized at the state level for the Invention Convention. Lynette Spaner was recognized with a writing award. High School students will be helping in the school next week (5/24) for their Warriors in the Community day. There will be an assembly on the 26th for Memorial Day. Mathew Anderson and Tyler Hunter from the Coast Guard Academy will be the speakers. June 1st is Unity Day. There will be many field trips and celebrations before the end of the year. Mr. Strickland thanked the Board of Education for their support and impacting the students of Deep River Elementary in a positive manner. He discussed the many things Deep River Elementary is doing to develop their students. Ms. Grow stated that Mr. Strickland has made such a change in climate at the school and has implemented programs that have positively impacted the students at Deep River Elementary. She thanked him for his accomplishments. Mr. Olson wishes that the public was here to hear all of the good things that are going on at the school. The PTO will be donating funds to the school for the field trips and the Math Olympiads program.

Reading Recognition

Dr. Andrea Ricci recently received the Connecticut Reading Association's Outstanding Reading Educator Award. She will be recognized along with Nicole Flynn on May 25th. Ms. Flynn received a reading grant. Peggy Shaeffer will retire this year as the media specialist.

REPORTS:

Financial Status Report – Mr. Garth Sawyer

Mr. Sawyer gave a brief update on the financial status for Deep River Elementary School. Currently the Deep River Elementary budget is projecting a small surplus. We will remain vigilant of any unforeseen circumstances and we will keep the Board informed of any developments as they arise.

Cafeteria Report – Mr. Sawyer

Mr. Sawyer gave an update on the status of the cafeteria budget. Money from the State is expected for reimbursement. Sales remain steady. We are within our expected budget.

Ms. Grow thanked Mr. Sawyer for bringing transparency to the district so that people understand and trust the numbers.

Committee Reports

Finance - Next meeting in September.

Curriculum – Next meeting in September.

Policy – Next meeting in September.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Supervision District Committee Update

No additional update.

DRES Facilities

No Update

LEARN

No Update.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Ms. Martineau gave a brief update. Strategic Planning for K-12 Curriculum is happening. This group will prioritize for next year. There is consensus that the focus should be on the critical thinking quadrant. There is excitement for the strategic plan and how we can impact student learning long term. Curriculum is changing to provide opportunities that are authentic so students are able to apply their learning. The Math pilot has been successful and we are preparing for the implementation. There will be a two day professional workshop in August. Grade Six is focusing on next generation science and working closely with 7th and 8th grade teachers. A decision was made to focus on the integrated model which will move us forward.

We have 30 Chinese students visiting this summer for two weeks in July. Host families will be needed. Valley Regional students will be international ambassadors. Information is available on the website.

ISUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

District Update - Information and Communication

Dr. Levy noted that our district has contracted with Spiral International to contract for up to four Chinese students to attend school for the fall. We are seeing many students interested in international studies. We currently have trips to France and Spain and this is an opportunity to have a relationship with China. This is budget neutral. Dr. Levy discussed the manufacturing program. This program will expand next year. There will be a meeting with the Department of Labor and the Commissioner of Education to discuss expansion of this program. The students who are part of this program will receive an advanced certificate of manufacturing. This would be an additional certification along with their diploma. The program with Whelen Engineering is full every semester. A Therapeutic Program will begin next year at the high school to serve the needs of our students who have social and emotional challenges. The capacity is 10 and only open to students in our district. It is an exciting time across the district. Dr. Levy thanked everyone for their work on the budget.

Discussion Regarding Any Pending Policies – Standing Item #5123 Promotion/Acceleration/Retention

This will be voted on at the 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. The Original contract expires June 30, 2012 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, 2017.*

Upon a motion made by Tracy Dickson and seconded by Miriam Morrissey the Deep River Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to extend the site of the preschool for one year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Olson noted that we are a great school district and have much to offer families moving in.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –PERSONNEL-EVALUATION OF SUPERINTENDENT

Upon motion duly made by Miriam Morrissey and seconded by Jim Olson, the Deep River Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to go into Executive Session at 8:07 pm. Dr. Levy was invited to stay.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:40pm.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Next Joint BOE meeting June 1, 2017
- Next Deep River BOE Meeting is September 19, 2017 @ 7:00pm
- BOE Self-evaluation (TBD)

ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made by Miriam Morrissey and seconded by Jim Olson, the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Secretary