

The Regional School District 13 Board of Education Well-Being Committee met in special session on Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in the library at Coginchaug Regional High School, Durham, Connecticut.

Committee members present: Mrs. Caramanello, Mr. Moore, Mr. Roraback and Dr. Friedrich (via telephone)

Student Advisors present: Conner Byrne and Molly Yale

Administration present: Dr. Veronesi, Superintendent of Schools

Other board members present: Mrs. Petrella

Committee members absent: Mrs. Schaefer and Mr. Hicks

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Roraback to approve the agenda as presented.

In favor of approving the agenda as presented: Mrs. Caramanello, Mr. Moore, Mr. Roraback and Dr. Friedrich. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – May 28, 2019

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Roraback, to approve the minutes of May 28, 2019 as presented.

In favor of approving the minutes of May 28, 2019 as presented: Mrs. Caramanello, Mr. Moore, Mr. Roraback and Dr. Friedrich. Motion carried unanimously.

Equity Update

Dr. Veronesi updated the committee on the work of the Equity Committee. Next steps include consultants from SERC working with the high school team leaders. A book club of CRHS and Middletown High School students will begin this fall. The students will be reading selections from “Tell Me Who You Are” and will participate in four guided discussion sessions facilitated by Melissa Moreno Gonzalez, CRHS Special Education teacher and Dwight Sharpe, Middletown Public Schools’ Equity, Restorative Practices and Social Emotional Learning Facilitator. The students will meet four times; twice at each high school.

District Well-Being Committee Update

The district Well-Being Committee has not met yet this fall and will be meeting for the first time at the end of October.

Socio-Emotional Learning Discussion

The PAUSE approach that the committee worked on last year with CCSS will continue at Strong School so that all teachers can learn this method of self-leadership and it can begin to be taught to students. Additionally, at Strong School the teachers and staff will begin to learn about the use of restorative practices in addressing student conduct issues. At the elementary schools, Second Step programming will continue and be expanded to Memorial School where it will be supported through their Communities structure. In Communities, small groups of multi-graded students work with two staff members once a month. At Lyman School, the Second Step programming is being delivered by the Unified Arts teachers. Both Strong and CRHS will continue to use the Advisory period to address these needs. The student representatives indicated that students do not always take the advisory period seriously and what is most important to them is that they have teachers they can trust and can go to if they need advice or support.

Climate Survey Update

Dr. Veronesi indicated that the climate survey would be sent to parents, staff, and students at the end of September and beginning of October. The committee gave feedback on the types of questions that they thought would be helpful to ask. Dr. Veronesi indicated that results could be shared with the committee and help direct areas of focus.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by, Mr. Roraback to adjourn the meeting.

*In favor of adjourning the meeting: Mrs. Caramanello, Mr. Moore, Mr. Roraback and Dr. Friedrich.
Motion carried unanimously.*

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Y. Veronesi, Ed.D.