The Regional School District 13 Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 7:00 PM in the library at Coginchaug Regional High School.

Board members present: Ms. Adams (arrived late), Ms. Betty, Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello (arrived late), Mrs. Dahlheimer, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback and Mr. Stone Board members absent: Mr. Mennone Administration present: Dr. Schuch, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Neubig, Director of Finance, Mrs. Keane, Director of Student Services and Special Education, Mrs. DiMaggio, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment and Mr. Brough, Human Resources Specialist, and Mr. Pietrasko, Director of Infrastructure and Security Technology

Mrs. Petrella called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

## **Approval of Agenda**

Mrs. Dahlheimer made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Booth, to approve the agenda, as presented.

In favor of approving the agenda, as presented: Ms. Betty, Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Dahlheimer, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella and Mr. Stone. Motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

Mrs. Petrella thanked everyone for coming and asked that everyone continue to show respect for each speaker and their point of view. She reminded everyone that it is the board's practice not to respond as well as that there will be a three-minute time limit.

Julia Talbert-Slagle, from Durham, read a letter from the Middlefield-Durham Racial Justice Team that was emailed to the board.

Chad Reddick, from Durham, has a son who is a student at Lyman School and is also a member of the Middlefield-Durham Racial Justice Team. He gave background about groups that have tried to tackle this issue before, but none of them have really stuck. He was involved with a group about six years ago with some principals from Region 13, Laura Francis, Ed Bailey and some pastors from local churches. The group fizzled out after a year or two. About four years ago, the superintendent organized a group of parents and teachers who met once or twice with a leader from SERC, but that didn't really go anywhere either. This time, they need to make sure that any change is going to be long-lasting. Mr. Reddick applauds the Board of Education and the administration for starting to make a plan to address issues of race and hopes that it is just not one or two trainings and done. He felt that any training to teachers to help strengthen school climate will be helpful. He hopes to continue this work together with the community.

Erin Lampron, from Rockfall, spoke about the update on equity-related training for learners and employees and thanked the individuals who bravely came forward at the last meeting to share their experience of racism. She is sorry that they had to be brave, but is hopeful that the opportunity this has created for everyone to reflect and enact change. Her oldest child has just entered the district this year and their experience has been positive to date, however she has become acutely aware that this is not the case for others. She has been saddened, frustrated and outright angry after hearing about recent events of intolerance and cruelty. Children of all abilities, races, ethnicities and genders as well as their families should feel safe and supported in the schools and community. The acts of outright cruelty are not acceptable, but equally as unacceptable is inaction. Ms. Lampron was pleased to see that this item was added to the agenda and looked forward to hearing a plan. She urged the board to consider making this topic a recurring agenda item with time devoted to explore these inequities, identify actionable items and to take action. She felt that it is the responsibility of parents and educators to teach children how to embrace and respect one another. She realizes that this is not an easy fix and will take time and a real investment in change, but it must be done. She asked the board to invest in the children, their educational experience and overall well-being by investing time and resources to address these issues.

Michelle Gohagon, from Rockfall, read a letter from her daughter and hoped that the board is half as brave as she is.

Peter Neidhardt, from Middlefield, stated that his three children have gone through the district and it was very good to them. He echoed the comments made before him. Mr. Neidhardt stated that two referendums have resulted in a vote to keep John Lyman School open. He now understands that now the district is going to go to the State Board of Education or the legislature to enable the board to close John Lyman. He noted that John Lyman is a wonderful school and his kids excel in their lives because of that school. He felt it is somewhat disingenuous to see that the board is trying to find a way end-run the will of the people. Mr. Neidhardt stated that if they wanted to learn anything from Ukraine, it's that people's rights should be respected and this does not do that.

Carol Bufithis, a selectwoman from Middlefield, stated that through the democratic process of two referendums concerning closing John Lyman School, the vote results from Middlefield were to keep the school open and this needs to be honored. The agenda item tonight to vote on a resolution to close John Lyman School is not right and not acceptable. Financing needs to be put together and a plan moved forward.

Alice Malcolm, from Middlefield, stated that she heard a public comment from someone expressing disappointment that her children had to go to Middlefield for three years. Middlefield children have to go to Durham for 10 years. There is no equity there. There was a legitimate, legal vote and it is the duty of the Board of Education and the selectmen to honor a legal vote and she felt it was dishonorable if that doesn't happen.

Lori Fusco, from Durham, expressed her support for the victim and family of the incident at Strong School. She is sorry that the community has failed them and looked forward to hearing how the district will be working to correct this situation. The board should be reminded of its legal, constitutional and moral obligations to protect the civil rights of its students. Ms. Fusco would also like to express her concerns about the process being used in an attempt to close John Lyman School. She reiterated that the Board of Education does not have the authority to take this action and reviewed that a similar vote was taken a few years ago. She felt that this vote is occurring without any public notice or public hearing. Ms. Fusco stated that she has repeatedly heard that the voters of Middlefield are misinformed or didn't understand what they were voting for and she felt it is patronizing to think that. It was the Board of Education's responsibility to inform the voters and make them understand. Either that failed or, more likely, they were completely informed and voted their minds knowing that the lack of a local

neighborhood school will impact their property values. Ms. Fusco asked what the plan was to convince the state legislature that this is a good idea, short of saying that Durham votes should count more than Middlefield votes. She felt that this is vulgar nullification. The majority of voters in Middlefield voted to keep John Lyman School open and the majority of Middlefield voters also voted to fund the repairs. The board is now deciding that the voters of Middlefield should have no say and that their votes do not count. They are saying that they do not have the right to have a local elementary school in town, as was agreed to in the original regionalization plan from the 1960s. Every Middlefield representative on the board should consider this when taking action. Ms. Fusco added that Durham's agreements with Middlefield voters should be sacred and they are Durham's partners. The voters of Middlefield have spoken and Durham owes them the same deference that they would expect the next time they are on the other end. She does not feel that this plan will be successful nor reflect well on the district. It will likely waste precious time and money and they need to look at other options.

Christine Geraci, from Durham, wrote an email to the board members about previous issues she has brought about all-inclusive play and how it relates to equity. SEPTO would like to see all-inclusive play be a priority for the district. Support staff and teachers who help special needs kids are nothing short of amazing. As a prior Board of Ed member, Ms. Geraci continues to bring up the issues of accessibility and issues with the playground as recently as this past fall. Parents are getting frustrated with what is available to the children. Most of the kids cannot access most playground equipment and are forced to play on the blacktop. Staff help out, but their plates are full. She asked how it is fair for a child with mobility issues, a child who cannot speak or a child with low muscle tone to be just tossed to the side. Ms. Geraci stated that none of the board members know what it is truly like to have a kid with severe disabilities. There are other accessibility issues in the schools as well. She posted an issue about the ramp at the entrance to the preK room. Most people were offering to help, but other posts were made to make a mockery of their children because members of the community continue to be ignorant and take it upon themselves to bully and harass and intimidate. Some of the board members allowed this to happen. Ms. Geraci asked how they can sit there and pretend to uphold the district's core ethical values and expect the learners to do so when they cannot. She felt that it starts at the top and if the board could not see what was wrong and take action, then they need to step down. She felt that they have violated their code of ethics 4, 5, 6 and 11 and continue to use social media platforms to drive their political narratives. Ms. Geraci asked how the board can talk about diversity and equity training when they don't think that includes disabled learners. Equity includes representation, access and inclusion for all students.

Maureen Funke, from Durham, stated that she has three daughters at three schools. She wanted to remind everyone that while discussing which schools close or stay open with declining enrollment, that Mrs. Gohagon's daughter is still not in school because they don't feel comfortable sending her there. She suggested that a plan to make their family comfortable and get their daughter back into school be a priority.

Caitlin Brady, from Middlefield, has a daughter at John Lyman and a younger daughter who will go into kindergarten in two years. She is also president of the John Lyman Parent Association. She thanked Dr. Schuch for attending their meeting yesterday and stated that he was very informative and had a lot of tomatoes thrown at him which he handled very nicely. Coming out of that meeting, Ms. Brady can somewhat wrap her head around possibly closing John Lyman to benefit the whole community. But she does not feel right not knowing where those 200 kids will go. Dr. Schuch explained that the board has not been able to make a plan because that will cost money as well, but the feeling of comfort in knowing where the kids will go would help her to change her vote. She hoped that the board would look into

hiring architects or figuring out numbers and tell people that their kids will not be in a portable somewhere. She would like to see a plan and a curriculum and suggested maybe even changing the name of Brewster. She hoped the board would not be so closed-minded/narrow-minded and hear what everyone has to say. She reiterated that Dr. Schuch was very helpful in opening her mind and hoped there was a way to understand where their kids would go and how they would get there. Ms. Brady also noted that she was so sorry for what was going on at Strong and offered her support as well as the support of JLPA.

Heide Pizzo stated that she has written to the board before regarding something and still feels very strongly about it. She felt that parents in the district have no clue about what's going on when it comes to hearing from the superintendent. She encouraged the board to find a way to get more information to the community. She'd like a letter to explain more about what's happening. There is so much misinformation.

Julia Carroll, from Rockfall, stated that she has twins that are about to graduate and she is really happy that they are about to get out of public education. She is a second-grade teacher in Cromwell and works hard every day to do her best. Ms. Carroll explained that she voted no to closing John Lyman and noted that her kids were probably in the last class to go through John Lyman under Mrs. Brimecombe and really have the ID program. Ms. Carroll felt that it their experience was wonderful and explained that she voted no because there was no plan for where the kids and the teachers will go. She also explained that she has lived here for 15 years and all of her neighbors have been through the district. It is a fact that going to Strong is toxic and everyone encourages the kids to just get through it. Ms. Carroll noted that her kids never experienced bullying, but she is so sorry that it is happening. She expressed that it is just not okay to say these things to your kids and something needs to be done. She is also a Durham-Middlefield Youth and Family Services board member and offered their help. Ms. Carroll noted that Cromwell is a very different environment, but it is now time to wake up in this community.

Benjamin Carroll, from Rockfall, stated that he is a senior at Coginchaug and felt that the community has made its opinion on the matter of John Lyman clear. By continually ignoring that, the board is actively undermining their position and duty as public officers. He also felt that the situation at Strong is not just the people who committed the act, but is also perpetrated by the environment and the only way to help that is to introduce comprehensive education on critical race theory. It is being perpetuated by decades of societal pressure and he begged the board to include that in their plan.

Michael Heiligmann, from Middlefield, explained that he and his wife moved here about nine years ago after looking at school districts. They purchased a house within walking distance to Lyman in hopes to send their kids there. His son is now four-and-a-half and they are registering him for kindergarten. He was disappointed to hear that this was happening tonight from a neighbor after they voted to keep Lyman open. He was also disappointed to know there was no plan if it is closed. Mr. Heiligmann wanted the board to know he disapproves of closing Lyman and does not want to see it happen.

Bruce Eidinger, from Middlefield, expressed his disappointment in what was happening tonight as well. He felt it was disingenuous and underhanded that this vote is happening after two public hearings on the matter and the community stating that they'd like to keep John Lyman open. He also pointed out that the way the budget was proposed was potentially in a way to encourage Durham voters to come out against it in they were looking at approximately \$6.5 million to bring John Lyman up to speed. If you look at that budget, you can see about \$1 million in class 4 items that are not immediately necessary. Looking at the

proposal to bring those same kids over to Brewster was somewhere around \$5.5 million. He questioned why the board would choose to not pay attention to that and instead say they will close the school and figure out what happens later. Both towns need to come to the realization that it will cost money to put the kids somewhere and if one town would like to keep their school where it is while being somewhat equivalent to the other option, he doesn't see why there is any discussion. His son is very happy to be at John Lyman and he had to explain to him that he was going to attend a meeting to see why that is happening outside of a public forum. Mr. Eddinger would like to see a plan for what will happen.

Rebecca Tobin, a Coginchaug senior, noted that she is barely getting through the meeting without crying. No one should go through what has happened at Strong School. She cannot understand why this is happening in the district while there are so many things going on in the world that are so much worse. She loves the fact that she is a brunette, white girl growing up in a cow town and doesn't experience those things, but the board doesn't hear from those students. She felt that the district is wonderful, but there are so many things to fix. People are working hard to fix the little things every day, but it's not enough and they need to be fixed before they reach this point. No little girl should have to write a letter like the one that was read. She encouraged everyone to think ahead so that that doesn't happen anymore. She wants to see the world, but is afraid because of things like that. She admits that she has seen it happening and felt that they had nowhere to say it. She mentioned events in Florida, Ukraine and Black Lives Matter and felt that they can make things so much better. Students want to help and she encouraged everyone to engage them and involve them in this.

Heather Castiglia, from Durham, has had three students in the district and her oldest son graduated in 2020 from Coginchaug. Her daughter is a senior at the high school and her son is an eighth grader at Strong. She thanked the students involved for their brave words which is partly because they were raised here by great parents and part of that is from the district that taught them how to be brave. She was so dismayed with hearing about incidents of racism in her son's school and was sorry because she knew of some racist incidents a month ago that her son told her about. They spoke about it in their house and she was proud that her son told the other kid that it wasn't okay, but she never told anybody. She never went to the principal or the board because she was afraid and uncomfortable and was sorry for that. She knows that she doesn't have to tell anyone that racism is wrong, but she is horrified that there has been no written or spoken response from the board or the superintendent or his office that actually addresses the incidents and condemns racism. Too often, people act like neutrality is a blessing when it is still a choice. Being silent and being neutral is choosing the wrong side. She hopes that the board will choose to condemn these racist attacks and work harder to protect and support equity, inclusion and diversity in the schools.

Jennifer Tomer, from Durham, stated that she has two children at John Lyman and two at Brewster. One of them is a four-year-old brown little girl and she is terrified to send her to school when she gets past Brewster and that is absolutely not okay. She is being raised by a white family and they have a lot to learn. It is not okay for any black or brown child to feel like Draya does. Ms. Tomer is a Durham resident who voted no to closing John Lyman. She is part of JLPA and loves that school. They moved here two years ago for that school. Dr. Schuch opened her mind a little bit more that it may make sense logistically and financially, but she is still not fully on board with that. Emotionally, the voters have voted to keep the school open and that needs to be honored.

Sophia Taylor, from Durham, explained that is a sixth grader at Strong School. She is in the same grade as Draya and has missed her very much. She sent her an email about that. Sophia felt that what happened

to Draya really wasn't right and should be fixed. She also noted that she loved Lyman when she went there and it really should stay open.

Carol Bufithis, from Middlefield, apologized that she did not address the board about the racial issues that exist in the towns. She had a very long talk with Bob Yamartino and Jim Irish from Middlefield and they are mortified by what has happened. In the next three days, Middlefield plans on taking the statement that was created on June 4, 2020 after George Floyd died and use it as the beginning of a new statement which will include several action items. That has also been given to the superintendent. Middlefield is very clear that a statement is necessary to the entire town and they hope Durham will do the same. There is zero tolerance for all of this and the Racial Justice Team is extraordinary. They will keep working as best they can and asked that people come to their meetings if they feel they are not addressing any issues.

## CRHS Reporters - Nora O'Connell, Logan Palardy and Rebecca Tobin

Logan Palardy reported that the boys' indoor track team placed fourth at the Class S State meet with 36 points. One student qualified for State Opens and another student placed second in pole vault, tying his PR. The 4x4 team came in second and also qualified for State Opens. The SMR (sprint medley relay) team finally made nationals, hitting the exact time of 3:47 flat. The State Open Championship produced a fifth in 600, qualifying for New England, an 11<sup>th</sup> place in pole vault and the 4x4 team came in 16<sup>th</sup>. The SMR team ran a 3:46.02, placing eighth in the state. At New Englands, the school record was broken in the 600 which qualified for nationals. Nationals will be held this Saturday. Girls' indoor track placed 12<sup>th</sup> at the Class S State meet with 12 points. Coginchaug won pole vault, vaulting 11 feet and qualifying for State Open and Nationals. She came in second place at the State Opens, vaulting 10'6".

Boys' basketball had a rough season, going 3-17. Coach Salva was recognized for his 31-year stint as coach. He was the second coach in Coginchaug's history. There was a Pink-Out game against North Branford 44-31 and Coginchaug produced an honorable mention for Shoreline All-Conference. Girls' basketball had a successful season, going 12-11. They lost to North Branford in the Shoreline quarterfinals. A junior was named Second Team All-Conference and honorable mention as well. The girls defeated St. Bernard in the first round of the Class S state tournament, but lost in the next round to Thomaston.

The swimming and diving team had a solid season, going 6-5. They competed in the SSC championships on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and Logan heard they did well. Starting tomorrow, they begin competing in the Class M state championships. The boy's hockey team went 2-18 this season and the girls' hockey team went 3-12, winning a close overtime against the Masuk co-op team. Cheerleading had three athletes recognized as first-team All-Conference. The unified sports team has been very active as well and had a trip to the bowling alley on February 17<sup>th</sup>. They also attended the Positive Leadership for Active Alaskan Youth on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Coginchaug had three coaches named Shoreline Coach of the Year, including Coach Ford for the boy's indoor track team, Coach Salva for boys' basketball and Coach Murphy for cheerleading. Everyone is looking forward to the spring sports season.

Nora O'Connell reported that DECA will be hosting Mr. Coginchaug on March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. National Honor Society is holding peer tutoring at Coginchaug. Project Graduation is holding a calendar fundraiser. Prom will be on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at Cascade in Hamden. The robotics team is competing this weekend in Waterbury. Scholarships are currently open to seniors and juniors will be taking the new

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online version of the SATs on March 30<sup>th</sup>. This Friday will be a half-day as will this coming Tuesday and Wednesday due to parent-teacher conferences.

Rebecca Tobin reported that the cast, crew and pit orchestra is rehearsing for the school musical, Emma, the Pop Musical, with the final performances beginning on Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Students in both band and choir are participating in an airline raffle fund-raiser to help fund the Disney trip for the students. District band night is on April 28<sup>th</sup> and Rebecca also reported that the band recently performed the Ukrainian national anthem and the video can be seen on the Coginchaug High School or Coginchaug POPs Facebook pages and emails can be sent to Mr. Fisher directly for additional pictures or videos.

## **Approval of Minutes**

# A. Board of Education Work Session - February 9, 2022

*Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Dahlheimer, to approve the minutes from the Board of Education Work Session held on February 9, 2022, as presented.* 

In favor of approving the minutes from the Board of Education Work Session held on February 9, 2022, as presented: Ms. Adams, Ms. Betty, Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Mrs. Dahlheimer, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella and Mr. Stone. Motion carried.

## B. Board of Education Regular Meeting - February 9, 2022

*Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Ms. Adams, to approve the minutes from the Board of Education Regular Meeting held on February 9, 2022, as presented.* 

In favor of approving the minutes from the Board of Education Regular Meeting held on February 9, 2022, as presented: Ms. Adams, Ms. Betty, Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Mrs. Dahlheimer, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella and Mr. Stone. Motion carried.

## **Board of Education Appreciation**

Mrs. Petrella noted that this is Board of Education Appreciation Week. Dr. Schuch explained that he has never been a member of a Board of Education and wasn't sure he would ever want to be. He is glad that state agencies have set aside the month of March to recognize, thank and appreciate members of Boards of Education. Dr. Schuch believes that serving on a Board of Education is a higher calling and is a call to public service in that they represent citizens, but have a specific responsibility to learners, families and the community. He acknowledged that that is not always easy because people don't always see eye-to-eye on issues. He added that it is a tremendous time commitment and they always try to do right by the citizens and the learners.

Dr. Schuch reminded everyone that nobody gets paid to serve on the Board of Education and it is often a thankless job, subjecting themselves to a lot of public criticism. Looking at what's happening everywhere in the country, it is getting harder and harder to get people to step into these roles. He asked everyone to thank the board members and recognize their service to the community.

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Dr. Schuch also thanked Jamie Bowman, a teacher at the high school who has a class called Pastry and Cakes, for supplying the goodies and thanked Meg Maloney for getting the gifts together as a small token of appreciation from the district.

Mrs. Petrella asked to take about a 10-minute break at this point.

## Next Board Meeting - March 23, 2022 at 7:00 PM in the CRHS Library at 7:00 PM

## **Committee Reports**

## A. Finance Committee Meeting - March 2, 2022

Mr. Stone reported that the Finance Committee discussed a purchasing policy on par with the town which is anything over \$5,000 would require three quotes, with anything purchased over \$25,000 requiring three bids. They have recommended that that go to the Policy Committee for review.

They also reviewed the budget and recommended that it be reviewed and that there be possible staff reductions. They also recommended advertising for rental of the auditorium and agreed that work needs to be done on retention at the high school.

Mrs. Petrella had a copy of Middlefield's purchasing policy to send to Mr. Stone.

### Communications

Mrs. Petrella received an email with details of the incident that happened at Strong School. Because of possible legal action, Mrs. Petrella did not respond nor share the email.

Mrs. Petrella received an email from Michael Skelps, Middlefield Board of Finance, who requested a joint meeting regarding the budget. There was an email from Michael D'Agostino regarding no response from the board about his FOIA request and Mrs. Petrella responded that Dr. Schuch had already responded and complied with the request. There were two separate emails, from Doug Forbush and Rhonda Riggott, stating their support for removal of the mask mandates. Melinda DiPietro emailed with her concerns about removing the mask mandate.

Mrs. Petrella reviewed that she does forward all relevant emails to all of the board members while she does respond to them herself.

Chuck Stengel emailed regarding his public comments on February 23<sup>rd</sup> which were read by Carl Stoup. She received an email from Tricia Bowle regarding her request for aligning the grade levels at each of the elementary schools. There were several emails from Donia Viola, forwarded by Mrs. Booth, regarding her concerns about how communications and emails are handled. Mrs. Petrella received an email from the Director of Programs from InSpirit AI regarding an enrichment program opportunity which she forwarded to Dr. Schuch and all the principals. There was an email from Mike Charron with questions about the C.A.R.E. club at Strong School. CABE sent an email with a video message of appreciate for the Board of Education members. Michelle Puzzo, president and co-founder of UR Community Cares, detailing community service opportunities for high schoolers. There was an email from Maureen Funke regarding her concerns about racial bullying. There were a couple of emails in support of the field house,

from Josh Eddinger and Nick Faiella. Mrs. Petrella received an email from Patrick Holden, co-head of the Middlefield-Durham Racial Justice Team, with an attached letter which was read at tonight's meeting. Katie Checko also emailed regarding her concerns about continuing virtual parent conferences.

Three emails were received today which Mrs. Petrella has not responded to yet that were in opposition to the resolution to close Lyman. Mrs. Petrella also received an email from Christine Geraci which she has not responded to yet and a phone call from Cheryl Pizzo regarding the resolution to close Lyman School.

Mr. Moore commented that PaperHouse Productions did a great job on their musical a few weeks ago. He also encouraged everyone to view the video of the high school band performing the Ukrainian national anthem.

Mrs. Booth was excited to be back in the schools reading to the students. Several other board members read to the students as well.

Mrs. Booth wanted it known that when things happen in the schools, whether it be bullying, a racial or personnel incident or a fight, the board is not made aware of those things, particularly to protect the children/people involved. She wanted to make sure that everyone understands that the board is not privy to all information. Ms. Adams explained that they are a governance board and everyone needs to have their independence and privacy.

# Vote on Resolution to Close John Lyman Elementary School at the end of the 2022-2023 School Year

Mrs. Petrella reviewed that the last two referendums left the board in a conundrum, with one vote to not close Lyman and the other to not fund any repairs. The board examined several options and explained that the board seriously considers the people's voice on both sides of the issue. They weigh the communities' voices, the needs of the students and the effect on their education, the financial impacts of the decision, declining enrollment and its effect on the per-pupil costs as well as other considerations. Mrs. Petrella is aware that some in the community will not agree with whatever decision the board makes, but they cannot let the situation remain as it is. They are also aware that a budget which would include funding for the school may not pass. Student population is declining and maintaining five school buildings is costly. The board knows that something needs to be done to resolve this issue, one way or the other, as soon as possible.

This has led the board to vote on tonight's resolution which will then lead to seeking legislative input to help resolve the issue for the safety of the children. Mrs. Petrella added that this resolution does not override the vote, but simply restates the board's position about Lyman School which will then go to the legislature for determination.

Dr. Schuch felt it was important to include some history in the resolution and Ms. Adams recommended it be read into the record, with a motion to accept it after.

Mrs. Dahlheimer read the following into the record. "Whereas the Regional School District 13 Board of Education voted to adopt a single educational approach for all learners on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018; and whereas the Regional School District 13 Board of Education voted on a grade configuration for the district that included closing John Lyman Elementary School on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in response to

significant declining enrollment; and whereas the citizens of both Durham and Middlefield rejected changes to the Regional School District 13 Plan of regionalization on February 11th, 2020 that would have permitted the Board of Education to close any school in the district; and whereas the Regional School District 13 Board of Education voted on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to change the Plan of Regionalization to permit the Board of Education to specifically close John Lyman Elementary School; and whereas the citizens of Durham approved changes to the Plan of Regionalization on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 to permit the Board of Education to specifically close John Lyman Elementary School; and whereas the citizens of Middlefield rejected changes to the Plan of Regionalization on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 to permit the Board of Education to specifically close John Lyman Elementary School; and whereas the referendum to change the Plan of Regionalization on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 to permit the Board of Education to specifically close John Lyman Elementary School failed in spite of being approved by the majority of combined voters in Durham and Middlefield; and whereas the Regional School District 13 Board of Education voted on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to ask the citizens of Durham and Middlefield to fund \$7.5 million in necessary capital improvements and replacements to end-of-life mechanisms at John Lyman Elementary School; and whereas the referendum to fund \$7.5 million in necessary capital improvements and replacements to end-of-life mechanical systems at John Lyman Elementary School was overwhelmingly rejected by the combined voters of Durham and Middlefield on February 8th, 2022. Therefore, be it resolved, that the Regional School District 13 Board of Education hereby authorizes the closure of John Lyman Elementary School in Middlefield at the end of the 2022-2023 school year. Be it further resolved that the Superintendent of Schools and other district officials and employees are authorized to execute agreements and other documents and to take all actions necessary and proper to close John Lyman Elementary School."

### Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, to approve the resolution as read.

Mr. Moore reviewed that three different boards have pursued this item, going back to 2017. He reminded everyone about the meeting when they voted to close the school and had 300-400 people attend. Several committees were created to get a better understanding of the issues and a single program was voted on in December, 2018. It was then decided to close Lyman based on a variety of issues in January, 2019, with the plan to eliminate two temporary buildings and build six classrooms at Brewster (a net of four classrooms). They then went to the Bond Counsel to establish a referendum for \$2.7 million for that purpose and were told that they were required to change the Plan of Regionalization based on another town's court case. A public meeting was held to discuss that and it was noted that two other schools had been closed by the Board of Education. The referendum to change the plan was rejected by both communities and an additional referendum was held just to close Lyman which was rejected by the voters in Middlefield. Mr. Moore reviewed that the investment in five school buildings is very high and noted that this is a continuing controversy and a difficult issue for everyone.

Mrs. Booth was concerned about the date proposed to close the school. She does not feel that the pricing for the improvements at Brewster is accurate. While she does believe this is the right thing to do, she doesn't feel comfortable voting on closing the school at the end of next year because she doesn't believe there is a complete plan. Getting updated numbers will cost money and the budget is already not looking great. Mrs. Booth explained that she is not trying to push the issue out, but rather wants to be sure they are making the best decision for all of the kids.

Mrs. Caramanello believed that it was the responsible thing to do, but they are also responsible for hearing everyone's input. She realizes that people want to have the school open in the Town of

Middlefield and felt that the proposed date is too much of a finality with not knowing more details about where the kids will all go. Mrs. Caramanello feels that this is important information for parents. She also felt that the numbers need to be updated for what needs to happen at Brewster School and she would need more of a plan to be able to vote.

Ms. Betty asked how long it would take and how much it would cost to get new numbers and Dr. Schuch explained that the challenge to expend funds and do something that they technically do not have the right to do is very difficult. He felt that it is really a question of timing. Any vote that takes place tonight does not close the school, but would only close the school if the General Assembly validates it. He did feel that it will happen in no more than a month since it is a short session of the General Assembly. Dr. Schuch did know of schools who have closed a school in the spring and were ready in the fall, but explained that they would be talking about being ready for the fall of 2023.

Dr. Schuch felt that the first thing that needs to be done is to review the plan as far as the demographics side, including number of students and grade configuration, which could start almost immediately. That would be followed by going to the architect to work out the details. He has also heard that parents are concerned with transitions and the differences in grade configurations. He did feel that the sense of urgency to make this happen will diminish without a date attached to the resolution. Dr. Schuch felt that the most unsettling part in all of this is the fact that people feel that the board can't seem to make a decision. Given the budget and the limited dollars, to spend more on a plan that may never happen doesn't make sense. Dr. Schuch reiterated that keeping a date in the resolution does not bind the board, but does put the district on a trajectory which can always be changed. He added that the board can't forget that there will still be maintenance/repair costs at Lyman while they wait to close it. He agreed that closing a school is never an easy thing and is quite emotional.

Mrs. Petrella reviewed that she represents Middlefield and has heard people that are not in favor of closing Lyman, but has also heard people in her town that are in favor of closing it. It was a difficult decision for her to make, but she did it because of the needs of the students, the effect on their education, financial impact and declining enrollment. Mrs. Petrella felt it is in the best interest of the entire educational system to have one less school. Having said that, she does recognize that Middlefield would like a K-5 school, not just 3-5, and she does agree that that is a very important piece of this. If this resolution goes through, Mrs. Petrella felt that they need to immediately begin talking about grade reconfiguration and update the student demographics. She suggested they look at a K-5 in both communities and they can make a decision about preschool being at the high school. Mrs. Petrella felt that those types of decisions will help alleviate concerns that community members have.

Mrs. Caramanello felt it was important to note that that would make it two neighborhood schools, with students from each town going to elementary school in their own town. Ms. Adams added that she went to school like that and felt that it is so much better now that the Durham and Middlefield kids are together earlier on. She remembers what it was like when Center School was closed, but she would like parents to have the programming they are looking for, not a particular building. Ms. Adams would not want to see the kids separated by towns again. Mrs. Caramanello felt that that sounds perfect, but the division then came between contemporary and ID. Ms. Adams agreed that that divide is very toxic as well and hoped that they could fix that.

Mrs. Petrella explained that while she would like two elementary schools, it did not have to necessarily be divided by towns. Ms. Adams echoed the fatigue that goes along with this issue as her mother was on the

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board eight years ago and it was voted at that time. She suggested that a date be kept in the resolution to keep the urgency. Mrs. Caramanello clarified that she understands the need to keep a date in the resolution, but she just wants to be sure there is a full plan. Dr. Schuch explained that if the plans do not look like they can meet the date, the board would have the option of extending it.

Mrs. Dahlheimer felt that there was so much work to be done, but it can't be done without having the authority to close the school. She reiterated that this resolution and validating act by the legislature do not bind the district to actually close the school.

Mr. Stone agreed with Mrs. Dahlheimer and felt that everyone at the table would vote no to spending any money to do the research without the power to actually close the school. Mr. Roraback added that they need to take current events into consideration as well. The community is not affluent and there are huge variations in personal income situations. He felt that it would benefit the kids and the taxpayers alike to move forward with this work. Mrs. Petrella also mentioned that a savings would be seen if Lyman closed as well.

In favor of approving the resolution, as read: Ms. Adams, Ms. Betty, Mrs. Caramanello, Mrs. Dahlheimer, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback and Mr. Stone. Motion carried, with Mrs. Booth voting against the motion.

Mrs. Petrella reviewed that the next step will be to look at grade configurations. It was agreed to not spend any money on consultants until after they hear back from the legislature.

## Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget Discussion

Dr. Schuch explained that they wanted to talk about health insurance, answer board members' questions and to see if there was some kind of consensus to move forward on the budget. Ms. Adams asked if there were going to be any workshops on the budget, but Dr. Schuch explained that the budget work is done during the regular board meetings. Mrs. Dahlheimer would like to be sure that the board meets with the Boards of Finance from both Durham and Middlefield. Mrs. Dahlheimer felt that they seem to be going nowhere with the meetings.

Ms. Adams understands the need for cuts in the budget, but would be hesitant to just doing it by percentage. She explained that she needs full information to support the budget at every level. Mr. Moore noted that in the past, they have had meetings to discuss the budget only with no other topics. He suggested that the March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting have no issues other than the budget and they can focus on the detail. Mrs. Petrella stated that she has sent an email to both selectmen as well as the Middlefield Board of Finance and also encouraged them to send in any questions they may have. She also suggested that they attend the March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting as well. Ms. Adams felt that the board needs to meet alone to discuss the budget before bringing in the towns. Mr. Roraback would prefer inviting just one representative from each Board of Finance to attend a meeting.

Mrs. Neubig reported that the ECHMC consortium has approved the district, however it will be at a 22 percent increase just like ConnectiCare. The other option is the state plan which is estimated to be an 8 percent increase which will not change the budget. There will also be a savings because there will be no HSA contributions. Mrs. Neubig also explained that the 4.56 percent budget increase includes 2 percent for capital and .5 percent for the field house. Taking those out, the increase in school spending is 2

percent. She stressed that the 2 percent for capital is important as they are playing catch-up with the infrastructure. Mrs. Neubig felt it was unfortunate that the budget has become about Pickett Lane paving when it is really about saving for capital expenditures, including Pickett Lane. The amount being reserved for Pickett Lane is what will be needed, regardless of method used. The actual project will be under the Building Committee and can be vetted and discussed there as to how the project gets advanced. Ms. Adams explained that the Town of Middlefield has a capital savings plan just like Mrs. Neubig is explaining and she realizes that the district has been putting capital off for quite some time.

Mrs. Caramanello asked if Pickett Lane will remain a private road after it is repaired and Mrs. Neubig explained that it had never been a public road and was included in the purchase of the property when the towns regionalized

Mr. Moore explained that the district does have a capital plan, but because they were only able to save 1 percent per year, it relied on debt service which was planned to remain at \$1.2 million. Mrs. Petrella suggested having this discussion in more detail at the next meeting.

## Superintendent's Report (if applicable)

Mrs. Petrella noted that, because of the recent racial bullying incident, the board has asked the superintendent to detail what is already happening in schools now as well as outline any additional measures that are being considered. She added that the Portrait of the Citizen lists a number of attributes that address just these types of issues. Understanding and respect for others is already built into the school learning environment.

Mrs. Caramanello asked to clarify that the incidents that occurred did occur in the school building. Mrs. Petrella had stated that these types of issues originate outside of school, but are then brought into school.

## A. Update on Equity-Related Training for Learners and Employees

Dr. Schuch reviewed that there has been significant communication over the incident that occurred at Strong School and it is important to acknowledge that it was a racially-motivated incident. The Federal Education Privacy Act prohibits the board from mentioning names. Dr. Schuch explained that the board did adopt an Equity policy last spring which set a standard for what is acceptable and not. There are also discipline policies along with that.

Dr. Schuch felt that if you read the Equity policy and the discipline policy, it is pretty clear that there is no place for racism in the district's schools. While he cannot share any details of the specific event, Dr. Schuch can assure everyone that they have taken the situation very, very seriously. He felt that there is a longstanding challenge in the schools and the communities and then a horrific incident that brought a lot of this to the surface.

In terms of training, Dr. Schuch explained that the district has been engaged and committed to equity training for several years. They have utilized the State Education Resource Center (SERC) and they have worked with employees at Coginchaug and Strong as well as others in the district. That training is ongoing. Dr. Schuch also noted that they are also talking to SERC about providing training to the learners at Strong School and possibly other places in the future.

Dr. Schuch explained that having an equity policy, enforcing the discipline policy and providing training are all very important in making the schools a physically and emotionally safe place, however nothing will guarantee that there will not be future incidents. Dr. Schuch noted that the school district alone cannot eradicate attitudes and behaviors that exist in segments of the community. The community, state and nation are highly polarized by this issue and the training he talked about would not even be permitted in a lot of states. He has concerns about how to find common ground.

Dr. Schuch suggested focusing on the hopes and dreams of the individual learners. They had reached out via ThoughtExchange in the fall about this and received some pretty strong views about equity, but they weren't all on one side of the issue. There was consensus, however, about wanting the learners to live happy, productive and fulfilling lives after they leave the district which Dr. Schuch believes would include respecting, honoring and celebrating the differences that make each of us who we are. In summary, he emphasized that the district is committed to this, but they don't have all the answers.

Mrs. Dahlheimer felt that everyone in the room could get behind the fact that the little girl is afraid, has no plan and misses her friends. She felt that they need to make sure that everybody is safe and everybody has a plan. Mrs. Caramanello thanked everyone who spoke out and noted that this is one courageous child and mother, but there are many more who haven't taken it to this extent. She also felt that bullying in general is a huge, huge problem in the district and what is on paper is not the reality of what is happening in the schools, especially as the kids get older. Mrs. Caramanello felt that real action is needed to address this problem and she hoped that the board could come up with ways to prove they will not tolerate it. She felt that there is a lot of wasted time in advisories and that would be a fabulous tool for real discussion. She stated that it is appalling that advisories are being used as study halls. Kids and parents don't know who to go to when they witness bullying. There needs to be more connections with staff.

Mr. Moore stated that the district's bullying policy is very strict and needs to be taught to the teachers. Teachers need to know that they have the power and should not tolerate seeing an event. They need to know how to deal with those situations. Mrs. Caramanello felt that it needs to include the whole staff, not just a few. Mr. Moore explained that the current policy includes all staff, not just teachers. He felt that they need to be taught what their authority is and how to use it.

Mrs. Dahlheimer felt it was important to teach the kids that they need to stand up for their friends. Mr. Roraback wanted to support the teachers who are in the trenches dealing with this. The kids communicate in ways that most don't realize and it's all being brought into the classroom. The teachers set the expectations, but it is a day-in, day-out battle to enforce it. Mr. Roraback felt that the mandated reporter training both helps and hurts and it becomes tiring by this time of the year.

Mrs. Petrella wondered what kind of support parents need in order to work with their children. She felt that there should be a community component to this as well. She acknowledged that it is difficult in that age group of sixth, seventh and eighth grade and it can be quite trying to staff and parents. Mrs. Dahlheimer felt that the parents that need to be reached will probably not be reached. Ms. Adams agreed that people are afraid and they need to be sure that everybody knows what they can do and feel supported. The policy is only as good as how everyone is supported. She asked what Dr. Schuch needs for this.

Dr. Schuch heard that something needs to be done and this needs to get better. He heard a few prospective solutions, including more training for staff and learners. He didn't hear that a lot of the root

causes are in the system that is operated and all the training and outreach will not change anything. Dr. Schuch felt that every child needs to have a sense of belonging, but that is very difficult to achieve in the current system. He acknowledged that system change is hard. The challenge is that the work cannot happen overnight. They need to ramp up training, engage with groups and do more to support the work in the current system, but try to keep supporting the future vision. Learners will feel a sense of belonging and connection that they all probably don't feel now.

Mr. Moore stated that there was a huge racial issue in his last job and it was addressed by having everyone go to five days of training in diversity. That did not solve the problem and he had to fire a bunch of people which made a change because people realized they were serious. Mr. Moore does not believe that should have to happen here, but it does take some enforcement sometimes. He added that they have heard that the students want to help and hopes to get students on the Well-Being Committee engaged in this discussion.

Mrs. Caramanello felt that that is all important, but real training is the key right now. She does believe that Reimagining Education will open doors to more connections, but they have to address this right now. She felt it was important to give more power to the teachers and give them the skills to pass the information on to the students.

Mrs. Dahlheimer would like to see a few students from Strong School on the Well-Being Committee.

Mrs. Petrella summarized that this is a starting point that will continue in different ways. Mrs. Dahlheimer would like to see the district collaborate with the towns to make a statement that this is not acceptable in the schools or the community.

## **B.** Other Items (if applicable)

Dr. Schuch reviewed that the district has started mask optional on February 28<sup>th</sup> and he feels that it's working for those that mask and for those that don't. There seems to be a bit more joy and energy in the schools. They continue to watch the numbers and listen to the Health Department.

Dr. Schuch also thanked staff members, board members and the teachers and staff for all of the activities on Read Across America Day. It was nice to have visitors back in the schools and they hope to be able to do even more things in the coming weeks. He knows that parents want to get into the schools and they are working towards a responsible way to do that.

Dr. Schuch has had conversations with board members about how to reach people in the community and was happy to note that there is another tool. There is a capability within Parent Square to form a community group and people can opt in. This will allow the district to share some of the things that are happening in the schools and he hopes to send a digital newsletter out via this route as well.

# **Director of Finance's Report (if applicable)**

Mrs. Neubig explained that February financials are in the board members' packet.

## **Public Comment**

Michelle Gohagon, from Rockfall, stated that equity is defined as meeting the needs of all learners, but that cannot be reached unless what is hurting children is actually named, including racism, bullying, sexism, homophobia. She would like the board to name it and not call it equity. It is hate and to call it polarizing is telling her that the board is afraid to stand up. The opposite of protecting children is harming them. The opposite of not wanting to have racism in the schools is racism. She felt that the board wants to give as much air to racists as they want to give to her child. Her daughter has received countless emails of support from her classmates, but the board and the superintendent have said nothing. Mrs. Gohagon felt that 11-year-olds are braver than some of the people on the board. She realizes that the board cannot control every parent, but they can control their policy and discipline practices. It can be controlled in a way that says hate does not belong here. Mrs. Gohagon met with the superintendent and a group of parents with children of mixed race and color a year ago when they asked what changes were going to be made and they were told about Reimagining Education. Student-centered learning can still be harmful and racist without training and protecting children. They also asked for a reminder to families that hate does not belong in the community and they were told that that would split these kids and make them go underground. Mrs. Gohagon doesn't care as it will protect her kid. A year later, she is asking the board to do something. She is profoundly disappointed that this was the plan for tonight. Her child hasn't been in school since February 14<sup>th</sup> and has worked every day alone to educate herself.

Heidi Johnson, from Durham, does not want to diminish anything that Mrs. Gohagon stated. She felt that the message tonight is that people in town who oppose EDI continue to engage with everyone every day as do their kids. In terms of liability, Ms. Johnson feels that the district should already be concerned as there is a history of claims here. She would have expected a stronger statement from the board and the superintendent. Kids say racial slurs in her children's classrooms all the time and this has been reported. Accusations of bullying are not being addressed. Ms. Johnson felt that there should be a stronger condemnation of the things that are allowed to go on and she doesn't care if people are uncomfortable. Policies need to be enforced all the time and it just cannot be tolerated. She feels that the district needs to be worried about the liability of not doing enough because the Office of Civil Rights will come in as well as other agencies. She also felt that the incident that went on here is the sort of thing that would be picked up by national news. It is disgusting and needs to be unequivocally denounced.

Jennifer Tomer, from Durham, felt that not saying anything is the wrong thing. Speaking up is a step in the right direction.

James Talbert-Slagle, from Durham, wanted to give the board the chance to do the right thing and felt that they blew it and didn't do anything. No condemnation of racism and no telling teachers to go to the principal. He asked what the board was waiting for to happen. They have created a racist environment, a dangerous place for learners and teachers and they aren't fixing it. Mr. Talbot-Slagle stated that this has happened over and over and the board needs to do something now. He doesn't care what happens in other states. He lives in Connecticut, in the third decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, in a post-George Floyd, post-Ahmaud Arbery world and he expects the board to do something to protect the kids. He stated that the board is failing and should be ashamed.

Moriah Roy, from Durham, felt that the community is falling victim to the Babble effect which is the tendency for people who talk a lot to emerge as leaders, even if the information has low quality. The loud voices in the community perceive themselves as leaders and insist on getting the last word in and use

intimidation tactics to keep individuals from coming forward with their concerns. Ms. Roy photographed the email that the board received from Christine Geraci about the preK ramp to inform community members about the inaccessibility of the preK entrance for students with disabilities. Many community members asked how they could help and offered support, however the loud voices turned it into a complete mockery. It was referred to as the Great Puddle War of 2022 on a forum where one of the Board of Education members is an admin. People are fearful of speaking up on public platforms because they are immediately attacked, questioned and mocked. The drainage issue has been ongoing and there is a huge puddle that develops and restricts access to the ramp. The ramp is not always cleared in inclement weather, but the stairs are. She asked why the ramp can't be repaired so the students can access the area with their peers without having to get carried in and out. Students with mobility issues don't always have cognitive issues and want to socialize. Ms. Roy also asked how these students would safely evacuate the building if the other entrances were blocked. There are also issues with accessibility with the playground. Ms. Roy stated that accessibility is the foundational component of equity, diversity and inclusion and asked how this will be fixed. The racism issue in the district is extremely discouraging. The student at the heart of this issue hasn't been in school since February 14th and there seems to be no urgency for how this will be fixed. Ms. Roy felt that this student should feel safe, welcomed, protected and supported and instead she is missing out on her education. She felt that no one can fathom what this student is going through and, by speaking up, she is paving the way for change. She has great concerns about the board's desire to make a statement about how they don't condone racial bullying only comes after tonight's meeting. Ms. Roy also wanted to let community members know that if they are afraid to speak up for fear of retaliation, intimidation tactics or otherwise, she is happy to listen and advocate. She has made connections with educators and administrators, both nationally and internationally, and no longer wants to sit by and see things fall to the wayside.

Patrick Holden, from Durham, reiterated that this problem existed 10 years ago when he started his freshman year and nothing has changed. There needs to be a plan of how teachers respond to these incidents immediately. Unless policies are enforced, nothing will happen. Teachers and staff need to know what they can do and that they are supported in doing that. In response to the idea that these things originate outside of school, Mr. Holden agreed that they do and they can, but when they happen in the school, it's the school's responsibility. He felt that real action is needed. Mr. Holden noted that he had no plans to speak tonight and was looking forward to hearing plans. He understood that not everything can be talked about, however silence is extremely discouraging. People here want to make change and are behind all of this and he would like to hear and see that more from everybody. He reiterated that his friend was extremely traumatized in the schools and that continues to affect him to this day. Mr. Holden would hate to see that happen to someone else and begged the board to please do something.

John Swift, a member of the Middlefield-Durham Racial Justice Team, felt that so many things have been said tonight that it's difficult to address them all. He wanted to address the issue about the community being divided and polarized. The whole nation is polarized, but that doesn't mean that some things are right and some things are wrong. He sympathizes with the fact that the board members' jobs are hard and they don't get paid, but there is a responsibility here. Policies are one thing, but if they are not enforced by teachers who feel empowered to act on the spot, then there's a disconnect.

Julia Talbert-Slagle, from Durham and speaking on her own behalf, stated that the most basic thing that a school does is to teach. Students learn academics, but also learn how to interact with people around them. It is a failure on the schools' part if the kids do not know how to interact with people around them, especially those who are different. That should be taught and enforced by the schools. She is very

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disappointed and would want to know that the school she goes to is doing its best to teach her everything that she needs to be a functional adult in society and functional adults are not people who say racial or homophobic slurs. She also felt that the board doesn't really care much about the support of the community because the vote passed tonight was clearly not supported by the majority of the community. Ms. Talbot-Slagle is disappointed and saddened by the way that she is learning and it's not working.

Bruce Eidinger, from Middlefield, requested that the board share the contact information for the legislative body that they will be contacting to get permission to override the vote. He asked for that to be publicly shared through the website or a notice.

Dr. Schuch explained that they are in contact with the General Assembly at large which includes every member of the House and Senate who will be considering this if it makes it through the Education Committee. He recommended that everyone go through their local legislators that represented either Durham or Middlefield. Dr. Schuch is not reaching out to specific legislators and this is already in progress. They did not submit a formal request. They engaged with legislators who explained the process and were willing to introduce a validating act of legislation. Dr. Schuch will put together a list of Durham and Middlefield representatives.

Carl Stoup, from Durham, reiterated that the meetings need to have Zoom capability so that the public can participate. He also noted that space is available at Strong and Coginchaug. He felt that if it is approached with the right attitude, things can be consolidated and space utilized efficiently.

## Adjournment

*Mrs.* Booth made a motion, seconded by *Mrs.* Dahlheimer, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of *Education*.

In favor of adjourning the special meeting of the Board of Education: Ms. Adams, Ms. Betty, Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Caramanello, Mrs. Dahlheimer, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback and Mr. Stone. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debi Waz

Debi Waz Alwaz First