

**Regional School District 13 Board of Education
Minutes of the Special Meeting of
Saturday, January 16, 2016**

The Regional District 13 Board of Education met in special session on Saturday-day, January 16, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. in the conference room at the Durham Town Hall, 30 Town House Road, Durham, Connecticut.

Board members present: Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Flanagan, Dr. Friedrich (8:59 a.m.), Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Moore, Dr. Onofreo, Mr. Renninghoff (9:31 a.m.)

Board members absent: Mrs. Boyle, Mr. Willett

Administrators present: Kathy Veronesi, Superintendent of Schools

Others present: Jonathan Costa, Education Connection

Mrs. Flanagan called the meeting to order at 8:43 a.m. after it was determined that a quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Flanagan led the Board of Education in the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Hicks moved that the agenda of the meeting be approved. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion.

In favor of the motion: Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Flanagan, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Moore, Dr. Onofreo

Opposed to the motion: None

Motion passed.

Anticipated Executive Session

Mr. Hicks moved the Board of Education move into executive session for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's informal mid-year evaluation. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion.

In favor of the motion: Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Flanagan, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Hicks, Dr. Onofreo, Mr. Renninghoff, Mr. Willett

In favor of the motion: Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Flanagan, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Moore, Dr. Onofreo

Opposed to the motion: None

Motion passed.

The Board of Education invited Superintendent of Schools Kathy Veronesi to participate in executive session.

The Board of education returned to special session at 10:04 a.m.

Organizational Leadership Structure

Dr. Veronesi spoke regarding organizational shifts regarding the budget presentation scheduled for February 17. The Board also received an update regarding a special education update that was presented to the Board at the last retreat.

The Board of Education recessed at 10:10 a.m.

The Board of Education returned from recess at 10:20 a.m.

Board Self-Evaluation: Indicators of Success, Identification of Priorities, Coherence Planning

Special guest Jonathan Costa of Education Connection spoke to the Board of Education regarding the responsibilities of the BOE, the three statutory functions of the BOE and the authority granted to ensure that the functions of the BOE are fulfilled. In addition, he led a discussion of common and special cause policies and how they drive a school district and at what point do special causes become common causes.

The Board of Education discussed roles and who is responsible for the various tasks. Specific actions: Make the district mission your mission, ask questions about mission progress and demand a balanced report of student performance feedback and put your resources where your mission is. Seek alignment between mission and policy/practice decision-making, always remember the vital few, practice systems/common cause thinking and decision-making.

Another topic of discussion was the evolution of educational reform and what was happening before 1986 (Educational Enhancement Act), Universal access, ESEA (NCLB) Universally proficient and PA12-116 2012 Universal Measures. ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) the new future of public education.

Dr. Costa stressed high leverage goals for student learning. He added that coherence is supported by assessment: Measure what you value, value what you measure. In addition, strategic coherence planning is a process and moving philosophy to practice by committing principles of coherence planning as well as

philosophical foundations for planning. The Board of Education used this as a topic of discussion for the future.

Public Comment

None

Adjourn

Dr. Friedrich moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:24 a.m. Mr. Moore seconded the motion.

In favor of the motion: Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Flanagan, Dr. Friedrich, Mrs. Fronc, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Moore, Dr. Onofreo, Mr. Renninghoff

Opposed to the motion: None Motion passed.

Mrs. Flanagan declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Norm Hicks

Norm Hicks, Secretary, Board of Education