

COMMITTEE FOR SHARED SERVICES

September 18, 2023

Held Remotely Via Google Meet

5:00 P.M.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Barkhamsted Caprice Shaw
Colebrook Alison Jassen
Hartland Amy Levan
Regional #7 Theresa Kenneson, Chairperson
Shared Services Quentin H. Rueckert, Executive Director
Superintendents' Council Steven LePage, Sup't-Regional #7

ABSENT: Norfolk Janet Byrne

1. MEETING CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Kenneson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The meeting was held via teleconference.

2. PUBLIC PORTION:

- a. Special visitors or delegations
None
- b. Opportunity for public to speak on agenda items
None

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF June 12, 2023, meeting:

MOTION by Caprice Shaw, seconded by Amy Levan, to accept the minutes as presented.

In favor: Theresa Kenneson, Amy Levan, and Caprice Shaw

Opposed: None

Abstained: Alison Jassen

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Quentin Rueckert reported that the extended school year went well. Dave Houldcroft and Katie Mello did an excellent job organizing, staffing, and implementing the program.

We were able to secure a lease for at least another year for the Highlander Transition Academy (HTA) program at the St. Anthony's School building. The move to this building has been excellent and has fostered a true community in the program. Maura Viens, who took over for Ashley Holmes last year, has really settled into her job and the program is running well.

We were unable to hire a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) directly so we are contracting again and have another very good BCBA from Connecticut Behavioral Health.

The Bridges and the Shared Services Integrated Preschool (SSIPP) programs are running well.

So far all our new staff are working out well. Vikki Rees in Hartland has been doing a good job so far. We just hired new paraprofessionals for the Bridges and SSIPP programs. We are currently still looking for a job coach/transition assistant to replace Jayne Sholtis who had been with us for 23 years.

Teacher negotiations take place year and start this Thursday.

Overall, Quentin is pleased with the start of the year so far.

5. SUPERINTENDENTS' COUNCIL REPORT:

Steven LePage, the new superintendent for Regional #7, has replaced Judy Palmer as the new Superintendents' Council liaison. Steve reported that he has met all the area superintendents and that the council has met once so far this year. The main topics of discussion were about the recent physical climate issues in the schools (heat wave) and air conditioning. Other topics discussed were recent legislative changes and updates, reading curriculum implementation, and math curriculum. Steve reports that he has enjoyed a smooth start to the year and is settling in and feeling great about the school community.

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

None

7. OLD BUSINESS:

None

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Presentation of the check register to the CSS treasurer: The check register was provided electronically to the Treasurer.
- b. Quentin discussed this year's flexibilities with regard to teacher evaluations.

MOTION by Alison Jassen, seconded by Caprice Shaw, to adopt this year's flexibilities for implementing the CT Guidelines for Educator Evaluation for the 2023-2024 school year.

In favor: Theresa Kenneson, Amy Levan, Alison Jassen, and Caprice Shaw
Opposed: None
Abstained: None

9. OTHER:

None

10. PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

None

MOTION at 5:24 p.m. by Alison Jassen, seconded by Amy Levan, to adjourn the meeting.

In favor: Theresa Kenneson, Amy Levan, Alison Jassen, and Caprice Shaw
Opposed: None
Abstain: None

Respectfully submitted,

Quentin H. Rueckert

Approved: 11-20-2023