

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 20
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2023

1. Call to Order

The Region 20 Board of Education meeting held at Goshen Center School and remotely was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by John Morosani.

Members present: John Morosani, Vice Chair, Alexandria Papp, Secretary, Rob DeLayo, Joanne Moore, Jannelle Carroll, Krista Rizzo, Tiffany Parkhouse, and Jennifer Munson. Also present: Chris Leone, Superintendent, Craig Robillard, Accounting Manager, and Deanna Marchand, Region 20 Project Coordinator.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

John Morosani invited everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Committee Reports

Joanne Moore shared the Long Term Planning Committee met and covered three agenda items; school names, Board of Education Goals, and Bobcat logos. In regard to the school name, we will seek community input by August 21, 2023, for any new submissions with a community message being sent on August 11, 2023. The committee and Board will receive a compiled list of all names for discussion at the August 24, 2023 committee meeting. The committee will deliberate and discuss the names and hope to have a recommendation to the full Board in the December time frame.

There will be a Board Goal from each committee and subcommittee members will work on these goals prior to the next meeting. At the August 24 meeting, there will be a review of 3 committee goals, and at the September 14 meeting a review of the remaining 3 committee goals. The plan is to bring forward a final set of Board Goals to the October Board of Education meeting for approval.

In regard to the Bobcat logo, the committee will receive three versions of the Bobcat logo for consideration: a Bobcat Kitty for elementary schools, a Bobcat Tween for Middle School, and a fierce Bobcat for high school.

4. Chairman's Report

Upcoming Board of Education Meetings

- August 24 – Litchfield Center School – 7:00 p.m.
- September 14 – James Morris School – 7:00 p.m.
- September 28 – Warren School – 7:00 p.m.
- October 19 – Litchfield Intermediate School – 7:00 p.m.

(All meetings will have a remote option)

5. Approval of Minutes

5.1 Policy Committee minutes of July 27, 2023

5.2 ASTE Committee minutes of July 27, 2023

5.3 Long Term Planning Committee minutes of July 27, 2023

5.4 Finance Committee minutes of July 27, 2023

5.5 Communications Committee minutes of July 27, 2023

5.6 Board of Education minutes of July 27, 2023

Tiffany Parkhouse made a motion to agglomerate the minutes of July 27, 2023. Krista Rizzo seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Tiffany Parkhouse made a motion to approve the agglomerated minutes of July 27, 2023. Krista Rizzo seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Public Comment

Individuals offering public comment should please state their first and last name and the town where they reside. Remarks should be limited to no more than three minutes. A maximum time limit of 30 minutes will be allocated for public comment at any one meeting. Individuals representing a common interest or topic may be asked to have one individual speak for the group. Public comments must be relevant to the meeting's agenda. Speakers shall direct all comments to the Board, not to individual BOE members or administrators. Profane or vulgar language, partisan political statements, and comments related to the conduct or performance of staff are not permitted. Public comment is received without Board comment or response, the Board is to keep comments "under advisement." However, BOE members may seek clarification or additional information from speakers through the Chairman.

Matt McDevitt, Bantam read aloud a letter addressed to Superintendent Leone and the Region 20 Board of Education. Mr. McDevitt opened by commending the board for agreeing to go back to the drawing board for the Region 20 high school name. He was unsure if the middle school name stands but shared his thoughts. He questioned the significance of Plum Hill, unaware of the history behind the name other than knowing that LIS and LHS are on it. He said we already have Plum Hill playing fields and can we come up with something different on the topic of a potential new high school name. He has heard many ideas and has his favorites and least favorites. The names Western Hills and Lakeside or Lakeview are popular but he feels we should move away from names that begin with the letters W or L to me. The W will always stand for Wamogo and L will always stand for Litchfield. A new school name should be chosen without those letters, being the first initial. He added he had spoken to the board on May 3, 2023, on the topic of the school names and continues to believe that middle school and high school should both carry the same name, and pride will easily be built and represented. He looks forward to seeing students and families around town with new Region 20 sweatshirts, and hats with the letter. He said we all live in the hills whether that be in Goshen, Litchfield, Morris, or Warren. The name represents all of us including those students and so will the students who attend the agricultural education program at Region, 20, who live in other towns. This area of the state is known as the hills, what better name to represent us? He closed by saying he picked up a local magazine and right on the cover it says, What's happening in the hills? What's happening is this exciting formation of Region 20, He looks forward to hearing the Board's thoughts and views moving forward. And, go bobcats. He thanked the Board for their time.

Joshua Szwed, Bantam appreciated the insight and the decision to revisit the name of the high school. He is recommending that if the Board is going to send out the Google form, please consider including an optional section for people to provide the rationale for their

decision. He went on to say a lot of us have been putting a lot of thought and even some research on the history of the area, into our submissions for names. If there is an opportunity to see the rationale, it may help the subcommittee not to have to do all the research themselves and help the discussion. Mr. Szwed also inquired if the school names already submitted were going to be posted so people would know whether or not they had to resubmit their ideas. He closed by thanking the Board for their time.

Mary Stolle, Dean of Students Wamogo/Athletic Director for Region 6 inquired about the Region 20 Litchfield Hills Rowing Club (LHRC) Varsity Letter requirements for Region 6. Mr. Leone clarified Region 6 has had an agreement with LHRC for about three years and the Action Item on the agenda is that the district is trying to take care of some athletic business for Region 20 ahead of July 1, 2024.

Meg Finn, Litchfield commented that when the District collects the new list of names and rationale for this high school if this would be shared with the public. She understands that you will never make everyone happy, but looking for additional feedback from the community may make more people happy. She commented that she believes people are looking to participate in this a little bit more as this is our branding.

7. Superintendent Update

- Region 20 – Road Map Update

Prior to presenting the Region 20-Road Map, Mr. Leone updated the Board on Convocation being held at Wamogo on August 24, the launch of the Region 20 website, and his schedule for August 25, 2023. He also added updates having Region 20 enrollment numbers, tentative Region 20 teacher placements by September 15, and the Board will receive an agreement with All-Star Transportation at its next meeting.

Mr. Leone presented the Region 20-Road Map.

8. Action Items

8.1 Approval of Policy 9132 Standing Committees (First Read)

Tiffany Parkhouse made a motion to approve Policy 9132 Standing Committees (First Read). Jannelle Carroll seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.2 Approval of ERP Pro Contract

Joanne Moore made a motion to approve the ERP Pro Contract. Alexandria Papp seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.3 Approval of School Security Personnel – Job Description

Tiffany Parkhouse made a motion to approve the School Security Personnel-Job Description. Jannelle Carroll seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.4 Approval of Assistant Superintendent Special Education – Job Description

Tiffany Parkhouse made a motion to approve the Assistant Superintendent Special Education-Job Description. Rob DeLayo seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.5 Approval of Litchfield Hills Rowing Club – Varsity Letter Requirements

Tiffany Parkhouse made a motion to approve the Litchfield Hills Rowing Club-Varsity Letter Requirements. Rob DeLayo seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Executive Session

Alexandrea Papp made a motion to enter Executive Session and invited Chris Leone, Craig Robillard, and Deanna Marchand. Krista Rizzo seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Entered Executive Session: 7:35 p.m.

John Morosani made a motion to exit Executive Session. Tiffany Parkhouse seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Exited Executive Session: 7:46 p.m.

Krista Rizzo made a motion to adjourn. Rob DeLayo seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Adjournment There being no further business to come before this Board the meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Escobar
Secretary, pro-tem

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 20
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
August 10, 2023

Long Term Planning

1. Call to Order The Long Term Planning Committee meeting held at Goshen Center School and via teleconference was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Joanne Moore.

Members present: Joanne Moore, Chairman, Krista Rizzo, Tiffany Parkhouse, and Jennifer Munson. Also present: Chris Leone, Superintendent, John Morosani, Jannelle Carroll, Rob DeLayo, Alexandra Papp, Craig Robillard, Accounting Manager, and Deanna Marchand, Region 20 Project Coordinator.

2. School Name – Discussion and Action Plan

Prior to developing an Action Plan for the high school name Joanne Moore requested each committee and Board member to share their thoughts. Some feedback included but is not limited to there should be no decision made at this meeting, an explanation of how the first name was selected, the number of Board members who voted in support of the original name, and the Board should make the decision on the name and not go to a community vote.

After discussion, the committee decided on the following Action Plan. A community message would be sent on August 11, 2023, that includes prior names submitted, the opportunity to submit new names with rationale, and the acceptance of new submissions would close on August 21, 2023. The Long Term Planning Committee would receive the updated list a few days prior to its next meeting on August 24, 2023. The Long Term planning committee will discuss and deliberate on the naming of the high school with the goal of putting forward a recommendation to the full Board for approval no later than December.

3. Goal Setting – Discussion and Next Steps

There will be a Board Goal from each committee and subcommittee members will work on these goals prior to the next meeting. At the August 24 meeting, there will be a review of 3 committee goals, and at the September 14 meeting a review of the remaining 3 committee goals. The plan is to bring forward a final set of Board Goals to the October Board of Education meeting for approval.

4. Bobcat Logo/Branding Update

The committee reviewed a draft branding sheet that included school colors, font style, and Bobcat paw and Region 20 seal samples. Next steps are for the graphic designer to create three versions of the Bobcat logo: a Bobcat Kitty for elementary schools, a Bobcat Tween for Middle School, and a fierce Bobcat for high school. These new images will be shared with the committee at its August 24, 2023 meeting.

5. Other Business

None

6. Adjourn There being no further business to come before this committee the meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Escobar
Secretary, pro-tem