

**Region One Board of Education
Special Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 4, 2025**

A special meeting of the Region One Board of Education was held on Thursday, December 4, 2025, in HVRHS room 133. A quorum was in attendance: Chair Pat Mechare, Canaan; Craig Whiting, North Canaan; Flora Lazar, Salisbury; Sara Cousins, Sharon. Absent: Ali Lesch, Cornwall; Vacant Kent.

Also in attendance were Melony Brady-Shanley, Superintendent, and Attorney Tom Mooney.

In addition, each of the Region One Boards was in attendance:

Canaan – Pat Mechare and Maria Bulson

Cornwall – Iris Hermann, Rachel Matsudaira, Katherine Scoville

Kent – Cindy Clark, and Tony Dipentima

North Canaan – Brooke Riva, Lindsey Crane, Gina Terwilliger, and Caitlin Tomko

Salisbury – Peter Beckett, Lauren Brown, and Elizabeth Dittmer

Sharon – Nancy Hegy-Martin, Philip O’Reilly, and Catherine Winburn

Chair Mechare called the Region One Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Each of the additional Boards with a quorum in attendance was also called to order.

Attorney Mooney provided training to each board member in attendance.

The Board reviewed roles, responsibilities, and procedures:

- **Responsibilities:** Act as state agents, set district policy, and distinguish governance from administration.
- **Rights:** Authority only in meetings; same rights as citizens otherwise; Chairperson’s role and teamwork emphasized.
- **Duties:** Maintain confidentiality, handle complaints appropriately, serve as impartial decision-makers in hearings, oversee budget, policies, and negotiations.
- **FOI:** Rules for documents, meetings, committees, executive sessions, and email reviewed.
- **Deliberations & Procedure:** Decision-making, conflicts of interest, agenda, motions, committees, and public comment protocols discussed.

A **motion** was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. Each of the additional Boards in attendance adjourned their meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Bentley

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Board Clerk

BOE Approved: _____