REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION –EDUCATION SESSION
June 15, 2021

REVISED

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on June 15, 2021 via Google Hangouts Meet Video Conference (Live Stream). Board of Education Chair, Suzanne Sack, called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Members Present: *Peter Sonski, Jennifer Favalora, Dr. Nelson Rivera, Eileen Blewett, Prem Aithal, Kathleen Zandi, Shawna Goldfarb, Joanne Nesti, Brenda Buzzi, Joel D'Angelo and Suzanne Sack*

Members Absent: *None.*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Holly Hageman, Director of Operations, John Mercier, Director of Finance, Ann Adriani, Interim Superintendent of Schools, JeanAnn Paddyforte, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School, Donna Hayward, Director of Athletics, Lynne Flint, Principal of Burr District Elementary School, Brienne Whidden, Tectron Architects, Justin Hopkins (Arrived at 7:21), and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia*

Guests: *None.*

The Board meetings are videotaped and posted on the RSD17 Website under Board of Education, BOE Meeting Schedules & Minutes for public viewing.
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vIZW1TB4SeqRTCj-7u6bbeE9rF69orIY/view?usp=sharing
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uV-wg9Df6MPz0UIpCaDWH6nmTg83rWCQ/view?usp=sharing

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting: *Board of Education Chair, Suzanne Sack, called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

Report from Chairman about new BOE Meeting Format and Process Under the Governor's Order:
Board Chair, Sack, spoke briefly about still being under the Governor's Order and operating Board meetings in-person and remotely.

Public Comment:
To submit a Public Comment to be read aloud by the Board Secretary and/or the Chair: Send an email that includes your First and Last Name as well as the town in which you reside to:
boepubliccomment@rsd17.org

Steven Banaletti of Haddam addressed the Board. He spoke about eliminating mask wearing for students.
Jessica Abramski of Haddam addressed the Board. She spoke about eliminating mask wearing for students.
Chris Page from Higganum addressed the Board. He spoke about eliminating mask wearing for students.
Lindsay Armstrong of Haddam addressed the Board. She spoke about eliminating mask wearing for students.
Dan Armstrong of Haddam addressed the Board. He spoke about eliminating mask wearing for students.

Tiffany Macauley of Haddam Neck addressed the Board. She spoke about eliminating mask wearing for students.

Superintendent Dr. Hageman spoke briefly about the unknown of the Mitigation Strategies/Reopening Plan for the Fall Academic Year of 2021.

*Brenda Buzzi **MOVED** and Prem Aithal **SECONDED** a motion to move down on the Agenda under Board News/Suggestions, Items 5A, Board Approval for Personnel Vacation Carry-Over* and Item 5B Legal Matter* both set forth under New Business.*

Motion passed unanimously by way of Consent from all Board Members.

*Shawna Goldfarb **MOVED** and Brenda Buzzi **SECONDED** a motion to move up on the Agenda Item 6B, Facilities: Recommendation for Facilities Assessment before Item 6A, Policy: 5000 Series Second Read.*

Motion passed unanimously by way of Consent from all Board Members.

*Eileen Blewett **MOVED** and Shawna Goldfarb **SECONDED** a motion to add onto the Agenda a Finance Subcommittee Report regarding Year-End Position.*

Motion passed unanimously by way of Consent from all Board Members.

*Kathleen Zandi **MOVED** and Brenda Buzzi **SECONDED** a motion to add onto the Agenda Curriculum Subcommittee Report regarding implementation of a new History Course.*

Motion passed unanimously by way of Consent from all Board Members.

Cougar Pride:

A. BES Virtual Learning Fair

Superintendent Dr. Hageman updated the Board. She spoke about the BES Virtual Learning Fair.

B. HKHS Spring Sports:

Superintendent Dr. Hageman updated the Board on the success of Spring Sports that have been going on at the High School Level.

Donna Hayward, Brienne Whidden and Lynne Flint left the meeting at approximately 7:48 p.m.

Old Business:

A. Policy: 5000 Series Second Read

Joanne Nesti updated the Board. She spoke about the policies that are being kept and/or deleted.

*Joanne Nesti **MOVED** and Dr. Nelson Rivera **SECONDED** a motion to accept keeping the following policies as presented: Foreign Exchange Students - Policy 5111.1, Work Permits - Policy 5113.1(a)(b), Student Handbooks - Policy 5114.12, School Attendance Areas - Policy 5117, Nonresident Students Without Tuition Policy 5118(a)(b), Academic Honesty Policy 5121.3, Reporting to Parents - Policy 5124, Bus Conduct 5131.1, Bus Conduct - Video Camera on School Buses - Policy 5131.11, Student Driving and Parking - Policy 5131.3(a)(b), Eligibility to Participate in Extra Curricular Activities - Policy 5135, Students - Accidents - Policy 5141.1, Relations with Non-Custodial Parents - Policy 5141.2(a)(b).*

Motion unanimously passed 11-0-0 with a Voice Vote as follows:

Kathleen Zandi	YES_√_ NO____A___	Shawna Goldfarb	YES_√_NO____A___
Peter Sonski	YES_√_ NO____A___	Jennifer Favalora	YES_√_ NO____A___
Dr. Nelson Rivera	YES_√_NO____A___	Joel D'Angelo	YES_√_ NO____A___
Eileen Blewett	YES_√_ NO____A___	Brenda Buzzi	YES_√_ NO____A___
Joanne Nesti	YES_√_ NO____A___	Prem Aithal	YES_√_ NO____A___
Suzanne Sack	YES_√_ NO___A___		

*Joanne Nesti **MOVED** and Prem Aithal **SECONDED** a motion to accept deleting the following policies as presented: Concepts and Roles in Student Policies - Policy 5000, Goals and Objectives - Policy 5010, Examination/Grading/Report - Policy 5121, New Student Assignment to Teachers and Classes - Policy 5122, Student Safety - Policy 5142, Safety: Student Dismissal Precautions - Policy 5142.2.*

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 with a Voice Vote as follows:

Kathleen Zandi	YES_√_ NO____A___	Shawna Goldfarb	YES_√_NO____A___
Peter Sonski	YES_√_ NO____A___	Jennifer Favalora	YES_√_ NO____A___
Dr. Nelson Rivera	YES_√_NO____A___	Joel D'Angelo	YES_√_ NO____A___
Eileen Blewett	YES_√_ NO____A___	Brenda Buzzi	YES_√_ NO____A___
Joanne Nesti	YES_√_ NO____A___	Prem Aithal	YES_√_ NO____A___
Suzanne Sack	YES_√_ NO___A___		

She briefly spoke about the existing policies under the Governor's Order.

B. Facilities: Recommendation for Facilities Assessment

*Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Eileen Blewett **SECONDED** a motion to approve $61,200 to Tectron Architects from the Capital Fund to provide the District with a Facilities Assessment of the District.*

Consent Agenda:

A. 5000 Policies: First Read

B. Approval of a donation in the amount of $8,702.00 from Burr PTO for the purpose of a purchase of installation of a climbing structure (Jumble Gym) near the existing playground at Burr. Submitted by Brienne Whidden, Principal of Burr District Elementary School.

C. Approval of two donations: 1) in the amount of $68.70 and 2) in the amount $3.40 from Box Tops for Education to be deposited into the Student Activity Fund. Submitted by Brienne Whidden, Principal of Burr District Elementary School.

*Dr. Nelson Rivera **MOVED** and Peter Sonski **SECONDED** a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented with gratitude.*

Finance Subcommittee:

Eileen Blewett updated the Board. She spoke on Covid related expenses and saving funds for the Fall Academic Year.

*Eileen Blewett **MOVED** and Joanne Nesti **SECONDED** a motion to prepay our Insurance Premium by $200,000 by using the Year-to End Balance Fund.*

Motion passed 8-3-0 with a Voice Vote as follows:

Kathleen Zandi	YES_√_ NO____A___	Shawna Goldfarb	YES_√_NO____A___
Peter Sonski	YES____ NO_√_ A___	Jennifer Favalora	YES____ NO__√_A___
Dr. Nelson Rivera	YES_√_NO____A___	Joel D'Angelo	YES_√_ NO____A___
Eileen Blewett	YES_√_ NO____A___	Brenda Buzzi	YES_√_ NO____A___
Joanne Nesti	YES_√_ NO____A___	Prem Aithal	YES_√_ NO____A___
Suzanne Sack	YES____ NO__√_A___		

Curriculum Subcommittee:
Kathy Zandi updated the Board. She spoke about the new Proposal for the History Department around Course Sequel at the High School Level.

From the Director of Fiscal Operations

A. Budget Transfer in the 2021-22 Budget (Additional ESS Clinician)

Superintendent Dr. Hageman updated the Board. She spoke about Additional ESS Clinician needed and moving funds to do so.

*Shawna Goldfarb **MOVED** and Kathleen Zandi **SECONDED** a motion to transfer $117,500 from Tuition and Transportation into the ESS Budget to pay for the additional clinician..*

Motion passed 10-0-1 with a Voice Vote as follows:

Kathleen Zandi	YES_√_ NO____A___	Shawna Goldfarb	YES_√_NO____A___
Peter Sonski	YES_√_NO_ _ A___	Jennifer Favalora	YES_√_ NO__ _A___
Dr. Nelson Rivera	YES_√_NO____A___	Joel D'Angelo	YES_√_ NO____A___
Eileen Blewett	YES_√_ NO____A___	Brenda Buzzi	YES_√_ NO____A___
Joanne Nesti	YES_√_ NO____A___	Prem Aithal	YES_√_ NO____A___
Suzanne Sack	YES____ NO__ _A_√__		

Board Discussion/News/Suggestions
Board Chair, Suzanne Sack, sent good wishes and a final farewell to Superintendent Dr. Hageman since this is her last Board meeting. She also welcomed JeanAnn Paddyforte who will be the Interim Superintendent. Dr. Hageman was presented with a beautiful Vera Wang Vase from the Board.

Superintendent Dr. Hageman updated the Board on a future Agenda item regarding a KES PTO donation to fund certain elements of an installation of the school's backyard playground,

*Brenda Buzzi **MOVED** and Eileen Blewett **SECONDED** a motion to enter into Executive Session regarding personnel matters and also for a legal matter.*

*Brenda Buzzi **AMENDED** and Eileen Blewett **SECONDED** the motion to enter into Executive Session regarding personnel matters and also for a legal matter and to invite JeanAnn Paddyforte into the meeting.*

The Executive Session started at approximately 9:10 p.m.
John Mercier, JeanAnn Paddyforte and Ann Adriani left the meeting at 9:33 p.m.

New Business

A. Board Approval for Personnel Vacation Carry-Over*
B. Legal Matter*

Executive Session:
The Board of Education discussed a Personnel Matter and a Legal Matter.

The Executive Session ended at approximately 9:33 p.m.

John Mercier rejoined the meeting.

*Joel D'Angelo **MOVED** and Kathleen Zandi **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to allow the members of the Administrators Bargaining Unit to carry over vacation days.*

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 with a Voice Vote as follows:

Kathleen Zandi	YES_√__ NO____A___	Shawna Goldfarb	YES_√__NO____A___
Peter Sonski	YES_√__NO_ _ A___	Jennifer Favalora	YES__√ NO__ _A___
Dr. Nelson Rivera	YES_√__NO____A___	Joel D'Angelo	YES_√__ NO____A___
Eileen Blewett	YES_√__ NO____A___	Brenda Buzzi	YES_√__ NO____A___
Joanne Nesti	YES_√__ NO____A___	Prem Aithal	YES_√__ NO____A___
Suzanne Sack	YES_√__ NO__ _A___		

Adjournment:
The meeting adjourned at 9:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Sciascia
Board Clerk

Approval: _____ *Date:* _____
Jennifer Favalora, Secretary