

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
June 7, 2022

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on June 7, 2022 in the Board Room of Central Office. Board of Education Chair, Suzanne Sack, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Members Present: *Dr. Nelson Rivera, Brenda Buzzi, Peter Sonski, Jennifer Favalora, Hamish MacPhail, Shawna Goldfarb, Corey Roberts, Kathleen Zandi, and Suzanne Sack*

Members Absent: *Joel D'Angelo & Lisa Connelly*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Jeffrey Wihbey (Via Remote), Director of Operations, John Mercier, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School, Dolores Bates, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia (Via Remote)*

Visitors: *6*

The Board meetings are videotaped and posted on the RSD17 Website under Board of Education, BOE Meeting Schedules & Minutes for public viewing
<http://reflect-hktv.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/1229?channel=1>

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting: *Board of Education Chair, Suzanne Sack, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

*Dr. Nelson Rivera **MOVED** and Brenda Buzzi **SECONDED** a motion to add to the Agenda as Items F & G under the Consent Agenda as First Read Policies: Policy #6146, High School Graduation Requirements, and Policy #6148, Policy for The Equitable Identification of Gifted and Talented Students.*

Motion unanimously passed By Way of Show of Hands.

Public Comment: *None.*

Superintendent's Report

A. Middle School Student Presentation

Principal Dolores Bates updated the Board. She spoke about how Catherine Nguyen and Tetsuya Imai were recognized by the Scholar Leadership of CT Association of Schools as outstanding students, with A averages, both distinguished with leadership within the Community. They both are noted for their integrity and the positive attitude within the Middle School.

Catherine Nguyen and Tetsuya Imai updated the Board. They each gave a report on

events that are currently happening at HKMS.

Catherine Nguyen and Tetsuya Imai and Principal Bates left the meeting at approximately 7:15 p.m.

Board Committee Reports and Future Meetings

A. Facilities Subcommittee

Peter Sonski updated the Board. The Committee met briefly and had reports from Operations Director, and will also be meeting tomorrow evening with the Town Leadership regarding the Tecton Report.

B. Finance Subcommittee

No Report.

C. Policy Subcommittee

Dr. Rivera updated the Board. He spoke about how the Committee discussed two Policies: Policy #6146, which is existing and had a revision and Policy #6148 which is a new policy and needs to be put in place by July 1st.

D. Personnel and Evaluation Subcommittee

No Report.

E. Strategic Planning Subcommittee

Vice Chair, Favalora, updated the Board. She spoke about how the Committee discussed what is next with the Strategic Plan and how it was passed onto Superintendent Wihbey. He will work with a team of Administrators, Staff and Teachers, on the Strategies which will continue throughout the summer. The SCP will come back to the Board in August to report where they are in their strategies and then this will go in front of the Board for approval in September.

F. Curriculum Subcommittee

No Report.

G. Communications Subcommittee

Shawna Goldfarb updated the Board. She spoke about how the Committee reviewed Feedback regarding the Budget/Budget Process, working on Staff Engagement, recognition of Staff Anniversaries, continuing having the Middle School Students give an update on events once quarterly, new steps on a new Newsletter, and new logo for the Newsletter.

Board Liaison Reports

A. Healthy Communities – Healthy Kids Council

Shawna Goldfarb updated the Board. She spoke about how they will be looking for a new HKYFS Executive Director and Clinical Director. HKYFS is taking over the Christmas Fair in November.

B. LEARN

Jennifer Favalora updated the Board. She spoke about student representatives in terms of policy and best practice are important; also how having students at the table is important. Tecton, who is doing work for LEARN, reported that the lead time for supplies is 50-72 weeks right now.

New Business

A. A Discussion and Consent of New Maintenance Position

Superintendent Wihbey updated the Board. He proposed and discussed with the Board hiring a New Seasonal Maintenance Position to work outdoors for the upkeep of the schools across the District. This would be a 10 month position, with a skilled trade background.

Old Business

A. Policies - Exhibit A - second read and approval

To View Exhibit A:

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1?ui=2&ik=22856b72e5&attid=0.4&permmsgid=msg-a:r4947986222110112715&th=181350f07ac9a371&view=att&disp=inline&realattid=f_l3ytd2pv3

*Shawna Goldfarb **MOVED** and Dr. Kathy Zandi **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Policies as presented.*

Motion unanimously passed 9-0-0 from the following voice votes:

Dr. Kathleen Zandi YES ☒ NO ☐ A ☐ Shawna Goldfarb YES ☒ NO ☐ A ☐ Peter Sonski
YES ☒ NO ☐ A ☐ Jennifer Favalora YES ☒ NO ☐ A ☐ Lisa Connelly Absent Dr. Nelson
Rivera YES ☒ NO ☐ A ☐ Joel D'Angelo Absent Hamish MacPhail YES ☒ NO ☐ A ☐
Brenda Buzzi YES ☒ NO ☐ A ☐ Corey Roberts YES ☒ NO ☐ A ☐ Suzanne Sack YES ☒
NO ☐ A ☐

B. Year-End Equipment Purchases

No Report.

C. Superintendent's Year-End Evaluation*

This item was TABLED for a future meeting.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes from the May 2, 2022 Board of Education Meeting**
- B. Approval of Minutes from the May 17, 2022 Board of Education - Education Session Meeting**
- C. Personnel Report**

D. Enrollment Report

E. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,000 from the Killingworth Lions Club to be deposited into the Student Activity Account - Bill C Scholarship Fund. Submitted by Principal Dennis Reed, Killingworth Elementary School.

F. Policy #6146, High School Graduation Requirements (First Read) G. Policy #6148, Policy for The Equitable Identification of Gifted and Talented Students (First Read)

*Brenda Buzzi **MOVED** and Peter Sonski **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented less Item F, Policy #6146, High School Graduation Requirements (First Read) with great appreciation.*

Motion unanimously passed by Way of Show of Hands from All Board Members.

***F. Policy #6146, High School Graduation Requirements (First Read)** Board Member, Brenda Buzzi, had questions on this policy. Due to time, with the BOE - Special Meeting directly following this one, Dr. Rivera will reach out to Brenda directly to review this policy.*

Board Discussion/Updates: *None.*

Adjournment:

Board Chair, Sack, called for the meeting to adjourn at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jamie Sciascia
Board Clerk*

Approval: _____ Date: _____
Joel D'Angelo, Secretary