

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION
EDUCATION SESSION MEETING
JULY 21, 2020

A regular meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on July 21, 2020 via Google Hangouts Meet Video Conference (Live Stream). Board of Education Chair, Suzanne Sack, called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

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

Members Absent: *Brenda Buzzi & Peter Sonski*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Holly Hageman, Director of Finance, Ann Adriani, Director of Operations, John Mercier, Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia*

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/1IhPIYL3aTNB4rjKA0NvXHyP0_T2SxIU/view?usp=sharing
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tHNv3np9XMT-hToURSD4tw_FevRiG8Mw/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.*

Public Comment: *Jessica Abramski of Haddam addressed the Board. She spoke about her concerns with students wearing masks and the possible risks of using same.*

Krystyna Medina of Killingworth addressed the Board. She spoke about how Branford Public Schools will be opening school in the Fall with AM and PM in-person sessions and inquired whether the District has considered this option.

*Jennifer Favalora **MOVED** and Joanne Nesti **SECONDED** a motion to move Item 4B, Superintendent Year-End Evaluation* and 4C, Superintendent Contract* set forth under Old Business to the last items on the Agenda.*

Motion passed unanimously by a Consensus from all Board Members.

Board Committee Reports and Future Meetings:

A. Policy Subcommittee

Joanne Nesti updated the Board. She spoke about the new COVID-19 Policies that Shipman and Goodwin provided and the Committee's review of Board By-Laws, Section 9000.

B. Finance Subcommittee

Eileen Blewett updated the Board. She spoke about the insurance premium placeholder for the 20/21 Budget, ESY savings from transportation due to virtual learning, and receiving additional Fund Balance Revenue.

Old Business

A. Report from the Public Building Committee

a) High School Field House

b) BES and KES Tanks

John Mercier updated the Board. He spoke about the High School Field House remediation being completed; he will provide the Board with a presentation once the project is done. He further spoke on the BES and KES vendor being chosen for the Oil Tank Replacement Project, the waiving of permit fees, and future timeline.

D. Update, Discussion and Next Steps on School Opening in the Fall

a) School Plan for Opening

Superintendent Dr. Hageman updated the Board. She spoke about the High School Graduation Ceremony that took place on Friday, July 17th.

Superintendent Dr. Hageman reviewed with the Board the three possible scenario plans which will be submitted to the State by Friday, July 24th. Further, she addressed the following: the survey that was submitted to parents, bus transportation, possible bus monitors/staffing, additional staffing for cleaning services, PPE, orientation for students for the use of face masks, mask types, mask breaks and concerns of wearing same. Mitigation for health and safety strategies, school supplies, recess/lunch, cohorts/special education teachers, use of hand sanitizers, same facing direction of student’s desks, use of space. The Pre-K will be moved to KES with a small fenced in playground for the 20/21 academic year. Dr. Kris Lindsay will be sending more information to the families with students with IEPs, a Social/Emotional Subcommittee will be established for students as well as an ally for each student, especially at the 4th Grade level. After school clubs will not be operating in person but at a virtual level, if possible, sports will be addressed at a future date, and the HK Rec after school program will stay in effect. Lastly, Superintendent Dr. Hageman spoke about monitoring any potential COVID-19 cases that could come into the schools.

New Business:

A. 2020/21 School Calendar

Superintendent Dr. Hageman updated the Board. She spoke about Professional Development Days and Safety Protocols and how the State waived the 180-minimum day requirement of school days to 177 days which will allow for the planning and collaborating for next year.

*Joanne Nesti **MOVED** and Eileen Blewett **SECONDED** a motion to accept the REVISED School Calendar for 20/21 as presented.*

Motion passed unanimously 8-0-0 by the following Voice Votes:

Kathleen Zandi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Shawna Goldfarb	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Peter Sonski	Absent			Jennifer Favolora	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Nelson Rivera	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Joel D’Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Eileen Blewett	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	Absent		
Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne Sack	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

Old Business:

B. Superintendent Year-End Evaluation*

C. Superintendent Contract*

Joanne Nesti **MOVED** and Kathleen Zandi **SECONDED** a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of a Personnel Matter.

Motion passed unanimously by Consensus of all Board Members.

The Board went into Executive Session at approximately 9:06 p.m.

The Board discussed the Superintendent's Year-End Evaluation and Contract.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:11 p.m.

Kathleen Zandi **MOVED** and Joanne Nesti **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Superintendent's contract as amended for an extension of one year; terms for salary and insurance coverage to be determined at a future date.

Motion passed unanimously 8-0-0 by the following Voice Votes:

Kathleen Zandi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Shawna Goldfarb	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Peter Sonski	Absent			Jennifer Favalora	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Nelson Rivera	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Joel D'Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Eileen Blewett	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	Absent		
Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne Sack	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

Board Chair, Suzanne Sack, called for the meeting to adjourn at 9:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Sciascia
Board Clerk

Approval: _____ Date: _____
Jennifer Favalora, Secretary