

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**(BUDGET WORKSHOP)**  
**April 14, 2020**

*A special meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on April 14, 2020 via Google Hangouts Meet Video Conference (Live Stream). Board of Education Chair, Suzanne Sack, called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM.*

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

**Members Absent:** *None.*

**Also Present:** *Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Holly Hageman, Director of Finance, Ann Adriani, Director of Operations, John Mercier, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School, Donna Hayward, Assistant Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School, Adam Apicella, Director of Student Services, Dr. Kris Lindsay, Student Services Coordinator, Tonya Gorgone, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School, Dolores Bates, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Intermediate School, Eric Larson, Principal of Burr Elementary School, Brienne Whidden, Principal of Killingworth Elementary School, Dennis Reed, Curriculum Coordinators, Heather Rigatti and Jennifer Beermuender, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia*

**Call to Order/Opening of Meeting:** *Board of Education Chair, Suzanne Sack, called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited during the previous meeting.*

**Report from Chairman and new BOE Meeting Format and Process Under the Governor's Order:**  
*Board Chair, Suzanne Sack, updated the Board.*

**Presentation and Discussion of Superintendent's Budget Adjustments:**

*Superintendent Dr. Hageman went over the Potential Budget Reductions from the Superintendent's 2020-21 Proposed Budget; specifically, the follow up items from the last Budget meeting.*

*She spoke about the HKMS/HKIS PM Monitors coverage reduction. There would be 2 staff present, since there are a large number of students there on a daily basis, but with reduced hours. Further, she spoke about the reduction of HKHS Library After Hours from 12.5 per week to 11 hours per week. Superintendent Dr. Hageman spoke about the reduction of late buses from 5 days a week to 2 days a week. The late buses would run on the two days where the most students would use them, possibly Wednesdays and Thursdays. She went over the associated benefits reduction for the .5 Nurse at the HKIS/HKMS Levels and the .2 FTE Band (Certified Staffing) at the High School Level. Superintendent Dr. Hageman put back in the Proposed Budget the Student Activity Stipend for Unified Sports Coaches at the High School Level. She further spoke on deferring hiring the Senior Accountant position. She addressed moving up the Business/HR Software and Website projects to commence in the Spring of 2020 so they can be taken out of the 2020-21 Budget. Superintendent Dr. Hageman spoke briefly about exchanging 6 early release Professional Development days for two full Professional Development days, and reducing the number of student school days from 182 to 180 days which is the State required amount. There would be no loss of instruction for students but this would decrease transportation and some staffing which would ultimately be a savings. Superintendent Dr. Hageman spoke on the Professional Services – Nursing Audit to now be paid out of the IDEA Grant and the*

*Professional Services – ESS Contract 25% savings from the 19-20 grant to be utilized in 20-21. Dr. Kris Lindsay gave a brief update on the Nurses Audit.*

*Board Member, Eileen Blewett, briefly spoke about the Towns Tax Deferment options. Board Member, Kathy Zandi, shared with the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Killingworth how the Superintendent revisited her proposed budget trying to get to a gross flat budget and also shared the highlighted areas of focus for savings: late buses, PM monitors etc. Board Chair, Sack, will get the same information to Joe Centofanti and First Selectman, Bob McGarry, for the Town of Haddam.*

*Board Chair, Sack, stated that the next steps will be taking a look at any other savings that Ann Adriani and Superintendent Dr. Hageman bring to the table; attend tomorrow's meeting with an open mind, hear what the towns would like to share with the Board and vice versa; and, hold a debrief meeting after the Joint meeting. The Board will hold their Community Input meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup>, followed by a Budget Workshop. She stated after the May 5<sup>th</sup> Budget Workshop the Board needs to start making decisions and preparing their budget to present on May 26<sup>th</sup>.*

*Board Chair, Sack, reminded everyone that the Joint meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. followed by a Budget Workshop. Also, the Community Input meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. All the meetings will be held via Google Hangouts Meet Video Conference (Live Stream).*

*Board Member, Brenda Buzzi, thanked everyone for their hard work and wished Board Chair, Sack, a very Happy Birthday.*

**Adjournment:**

*Board Chair, Suzanne Sack, called for the meeting to adjourn at 7:48 PM.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Jamie Sciascia*

*Board Clerk*

*Approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Favalora, Secretary*