

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
October 1, 2019**

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on October 1, 2019 at Central Office in the Board Room. Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Members Present: *Eric Couture, Maura Wallin, Sue Williams, Eileen Blewett, Brenda Buzzi, Gerry Matthews, Peter Sonski, Kathleen Zandi, Suzanne Sack, Joel D'Angelo (Arrived at 7:06 PM) and Joanne Nesti*

Members Absent: *None.*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Holly Hageman, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School, Donna Hayward, Assistant Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School, Adam Apicella, Director of Operations for RSD 17, John Mercier, Interim Director of Finance for RSD 17, Jason Lathrop, Vice President of Education Association, Robin Duffield, Student Representatives, Lauren Miller and Matthew Jennings, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia*

Visitors: *6*

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting:

Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment: *None.*

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Minutes for the following Board Meetings:

- A. Approval of Minutes for the August 6, 2019 Board of Education Meeting
- B. Approval of Minutes for the August 20, 2019 Board of Education – Education Session Meeting
- C. Approval of Minutes for the September 24, 2019 Board of Education – Special Meeting

*Gerry Matthews **MOVED** and Sue Williams **SECONDED** a motion to approve Minutes A-C as presented.*

Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 by the following Show of Hands:

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Joel D'Angelo	Absent
Peter Sonski	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Eileen Blewett	YES <u>√</u>
Maura Wallin	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>√</u>
Eric Couture	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Gerry Matthews	YES <u>√</u>
Sue Williams	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Kathleen Zandi	YES <u>√</u>
				Joanne Nesti	YES <u>√</u>

Board Chair, Nesti, gave a warm welcome to Student Representatives, Lauren Miller and Matthew Jennings.

Principal Donna Hayward introduced Matthew Jennings as the new Student Representative for Haddam-Killingworth High School.

Student Representatives:

Lauren Miller updated the Board. She spoke on PSAT prep, post-secondary planning/visiting colleges, and the annual lip sync contest which is scheduled for October 25th.

Matthew Jennings updated the Board. He spoke about the Cross Country girls and boys team competing and winning. He also stated that the Swim teams are doing really well.

Principal Donna Hayward, Assistant Principal, Adam Apicella and Student Representatives, Lauren Miller and Matthew Jennings, left the meeting at approximately 7:04 p.m.

Eric Couture **MOVED** and Maura Wallin **SECONDED** a motion to move up on the Agenda Item 9Aa, Superintendent Search.

Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 by the following Show of Hands

Suzanne Sack	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Joel D' Angelo	Absent		
Peter Sonski	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"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Gerry Matthews	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Sue Williams	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
				Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

Suzanne Sack **MOVED** and Maura Wallin **SECONDED** a motion to enter into Executive Session for a Personnel Matter regarding the Superintendent Search.

Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 by the following Show of Hands:

Suzanne Sack	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Joel D' Angelo	Absent		
Peter Sonski	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"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Gerry Matthews	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Sue Williams	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
				Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

Board Member, Joel D'Angelo, arrived at approximately 7:06 p.m.

New Business:

- A. Personnel Matters
 - a) Superintendent Search*

Executive Session started at 7:06 p.m.

Executive Session:

Board Vice Chair, Suzanne Sack, updated the Board on the Superintendent's proposed contract.

Discussion followed about the Superintendent's contract with Board.

Executive Session ended at 7:16 p.m.

Brenda Buzzi **MOVED** and Gerry Matthews **SECONDED** a motion to come out of Executive Session.

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 by the following Show of Hands:

Suzanne Sack	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"/>
Peter Sonski	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"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Gerry Matthews	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Sue Williams	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
				Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

Suzanne Sack **MOVED** and Maura Wallin **SECONDED** a motion to appoint Dr. Holly Hageman as the new Superintendent of Schools for RSD 17.

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	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"/>
Peter Sonski	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"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Gerry Matthews	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Sue Williams	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
				Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

Board Vice Chair, Suzanne Sack, spoke about the appointment of Dr. Holly Hageman to Superintendent of Schools for RSD 17. She spoke about how she received so many letters about Holly from the Community and, from the administrators, about how they would like her as Superintendent. Suzanne read some thoughts of what the Administrators said about Dr. Hageman: She is a strong and effective communicator, she is approachable, values the impact of others, listens first to others and then reflects, she has a strong vision for the Community, and is committed to carrying out District priorities and initiatives to accomplish a desired future. Suzanne stated how the Board spent time to see what they wanted in the next Superintendent, looked at all the Community information in what they wanted as a Leader, and it became exceedingly clear that it was Holly. Suzanne stated how she believes this is the beginning of an exceptionally exciting future for this District. She stated how there will be an upcoming celebration at 5:30 before the next Board meeting to celebrate Holly.

Board Chair, Nesti, gave her warm remarks about Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Holly Hageman and also thanked all Board members and the Search Committees who did a lot of the detailed work behind the scenes. Lastly, Board Chair, Nesti, thanked Suzanne for her leadership on this process.

Superintendent Dr. Holly Hageman spoke to the Board, and to the Community about her newly elected position. She thanked everyone for the acknowledgement of her work; she stated that she was a teacher in this District for 11 years as middle school Science teacher and left to work in several other districts around

the state, but returned because of the fond memories of her time in the District 17 community. She is happy to serve, and step up, in the interests of the students, Community and Board.

Eric Couture **MOVED** and Gerry Matthews **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Superintendent's Contract as presented.

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Peter Sonski	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Eileen Blewett	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Maura Wallin	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Eric Couture	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Gerry Matthews	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Sue Williams	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Kathleen Zandi	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
				Joanne Nesti	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>

Board Vice Chair, Suzanne Sack, spoke about the Superintendent's contract.

Board Committee Reports and Future Meetings

A. Facilities Subcommittee

Eric Couture updated the Board. He said the Committee met two weeks ago, spoke about the progress of the summer projects and will have a new timeline for future capital projects at the next full board meeting. Eric briefly spoke about the KES playground inspection and no safety issues were flagged. Lastly, he stated that the Field House updates that were needed included painting, new equipment and floor replacement.

B. Finance Subcommittee

Superintendent Dr. Holly Hageman welcomed Jason Lathrop as the newly appointed Interim Director of Finance for RSD 17. She stated how he will be replacing Martha Vaughn, and she is very grateful for his service and expertise

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. She spoke how the Committee met and discussed insurance projections and budgeting on the State plan, how the State created regional adjustment rates and more information is to come. She also spoke about school projects and bonding, and evaluating the projection of budget and expanding on a monthly basis.

C. Policy Subcommittee

Eric Couture updated the Board. He spoke about the Committee meeting last Monday; Shipman and Goodwin policy sets to finalize details to bring it to the Board for a first and second read. These policies would include which one the Board wanted to bring over from the old set and what polices didn't apply to the District.

D. Communications Subcommittee

No Report.

E. Personnel and Evaluation Subcommittee

No Report.

Board Liaison Reports

A. Healthy Communities – Healthy Kids Council

Gerry Matthews updated the Board. He spoke about losing a grant and how we need support in our Community to continue vaping awareness.

B. LEARN

No Report.

C. Park & Recreation

No Report.

D. Haddam Board of Selectmen

Brenda Buzzi updated the Board. She briefly spoke about the sale of HES.

E. Killingworth Board of Selectmen

No Report.

Old Business

B. High School Energy and Facilities Upgrade

a) Report from Public Building Committee

Eric Couture updated the Board. He spoke about the punch list items that have been done on the Boiler Project, Auditorium Project and Solar Project. He briefly spoke about commissioning of the boilers and work on in the lobby of the Auditorium. The Board had discussions about always getting an itemized bill from a contractor for the work that is performed.

C. 2020-2021 BOE Meeting Schedule (First Read)

Superintendent Dr. Hageman updated the Board. She spoke about making a recommendation to the Board to add all future budget workshops onto one Calendar. She also stated that April 7, 2020 falls on school vacation so she will look into getting another date for the Annual Hearing.

Board Vice Chair, Sack, spoke about having a second Joint Meeting if not this year but next and making it a formal part of the Budget process.

Board Member, Wallin, inquired whether or not you can change the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day. Superintendent Dr. Hageman will look into it and get back to her.

C. HES Sale Update

Board Chair, Nesti, updated the Board. She spoke about HES Sale being held on September 24th, Attorney Richard Carella was there for the Town, Attorney Brian Lema, the Haddam Land Trust as well as Eileen Blewett representing the District. The transition took place and documents have been signed and sealed. She also spoke about the heating oil left in the tank of approximately 7,000 gallons, which RSD17 asked for reimbursement from the Town of Haddam which have already received a check for same.

Consent Agenda:

The donations on the Consent Agenda are made to the school system as a whole, and the Superintendent may direct any monies to specific schools or programs at his discretion.

- A. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,000 from the HKMS PTO to be used to offset the cost of Grade 6 Field Trips to be deposited in the Student Activity Fund. Submitted by Dolores Bates, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.
- B. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,000 from the HKMS PTO to be used to offset the cost of the Grade 7 Field Trips. Submitted by Dolores Bates, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.
- C. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,000 from the HKMS PTO to be used to offset the cost of Grade 8 Field Trips to be deposited in the Student Activity Fund. Submitted by Dolores Bates, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.
- D. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$2,000 from the HKIS PTO to be used to offset the cost of student field trips (1,000 in Grade 4 account, \$1,000 in Grade 5 account) to be deposited into the Student Activity Fund. Submitted by Eric Larson, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Intermediate Middle School.
- E. Acceptance of a donation of two checks totaling \$161.50 from an anonymous Community member through their Corporate Giving program and deposited into the Student Activity Fund. Submitted by Dolores Bates, Principal Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.
- F. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$100.00 received from the Haddam Junior Women's Club to be deposited into the Student Activity Fund. Submitted by Eric Larson, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Intermediate School.
- G. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$100.00 received from the Haddam Junior Women's Club to be used as scholarship funds for HKMS and to be deposited into the Student Activity Fund. Submitted by Dolores Bates, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.
- H. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$14.35 from Lathrop Vending, Inc to be deposited into the Student Activity Fund. Submitted by Donna Hayward, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School.

Maura Wallin MOVED and Sue Williams SECONDED a motion to approve Item A-H listed on the Consent Agenda with great appreciation.

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 by the following Show of Hands:

Suzanne Sack	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"/>
Peter Sonski	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"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Gerry Matthews	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Sue Williams	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
				Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

From the Superintendent:

A. Legislative Update

Superintendent Dr. Hageman updated the Board. She spoke about attending a workshop at LEARN which highlighted key changes for July 1st affecting Students. Superintendent Dr. Hageman spoke on setting the High School graduation date and the Board can now establish it at any time that way families can plan well in advance. She will discuss it with Principal Hayward and bring it back to the Board for consideration.

Board Member, Maura Wallin, asked if we can take a look at if Vinal's gradation date so we don't plan our day with theirs.

B. Personnel Report

Superintendent Dr. Hageman advised that the Personnel Report has been provided in the BOE Packet. She advised if you have any questions, please feel free to contact her directly.

C. Enrollment Report

Superintendent Dr. Hageman advised that the Enrollment Report has been provided in the BOE Packet. She advised if you have any questions, please feel free to contact her directly.

From the Director of Fiscal Operations:

A. Budget Transfers

No Report.

Board Discussion/News/Suggestions: *Board Member, Brenda Buzzi, inquired about the Bus Contract.*

Public Comment: *None.*

Gerry Matthews MOVED and Kathy Zandi SECONDED a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the HKAA Contract.

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 by the following Show of Hands:

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Joel D' Angelo	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Peter Sonski	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Eileen Blewett	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Maura Wallin	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Eric Couture	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Gerry Matthews	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Sue Williams	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Kathleen Zandi	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
				Joanne Nesti	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>

New Business:

- A. Personnel Matters**
- b) HKAA Contract***

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:10 p.m.

Executive Session:


The Board received an update on Administrator's Contract Negotiations.

The Board ended Executive Session at 8:32 p.m.

Adjournment:

Board Chair, Joanne Nesti, called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


 Jamie Sciascia
 Board Clerk

Approval: 
Eileen Blewett, Secretary

Date: 11/12/19