

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION - SPECIAL MEETING
May 21, 2019

A special meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on May 21, 2019 in the Student Commons of the Haddam-Killingworth Middle School. Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Members Present: Peter Sonski, Eric Couture, Gerry Matthews, Eileen Blewett, Brenda Buzzi, Kathleen Zandi, Maura Wallin, Joel D'Angelo, Suzanne Sack and Joanne Nesti

Members Absent: Sue Williams

Also Present: Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Holly Hageman, Director of Finance, Martha Vaughn, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School, Donna Hayward, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School, Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Principal of Haddam Elementary School, Brienne Whidden, Vice President of HK Education Association, Robin Duffield, Special Education Coordinator, Tonya Gorgone, Killingworth Board of Finance Member, Annie Stirna, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia

Visitors: Approximately 6

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting: Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited during the Annual Meeting held before this meeting.

Review of Community Input of Annual Hearing and Possible Budget Modification:

There were no Community Members that brought forth input at the Annual Hearing regarding the Budget.

Board of Education Adopts 2019-2020 Budget for Annual Meeting:

*Eric Couture **MOVED** and Gerry Matthews **SECONDED** a motion to adopt a Regional Gross Education Budget of \$42,348,913.52 for the fiscal year of 2019-2020 starting July 1, 2019.*

Motion passed 9-1-0 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 type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" 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	Absent	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"/>

Approval of Legal Call for June 3, 2019:

*Joel D'Angelo **MOVED** and Kathy Zandi **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Legal Call as follows below:*

Motion passed 9-1-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack YES NO A
 Peter Sonski YES NO A
 Maura Wallin YES NO A
 Eric Couture YES NO A
 Sue Williams Absent

Joel D'Angelo YES NO A
 Eileen Blewett YES NO A
 Brenda Buzzi YES NO A
 Gerry Matthews YES NO A
 Kathleen Zandi YES NO A
 Joanne Nesti YES NO A

A meeting of Regional School District No. 17 of the State of Connecticut, whose member towns are the towns of Haddam and Killingworth, will be held in the Lower Media Center of Haddam-Killingworth High School on June 3, 2019 at 7:00 PM for the following purposes:

1. To adopt a regional education gross budget of \$42,348,913.52 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019.

The meeting will be adjourned to a yes/no vote on the budget which will take place on the voting machines in each of the member towns on the day following the district meeting; therefore, the vote on voting machines will take place June 4, 2019.

2. To set the voting hours of the referendum vote on the budget for the hours of 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM pursuant to Section 10-51 of the Connecticut General Statutes as amended by Public Act 94-245 and 7-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

A copy of the proposed budget recommended for adoption by the district Board of Education is on file and available for inspection and copies are available for distribution upon request at the office of the Superintendent of Schools at 57 Little City Road, Higganum, CT and at the offices of the town clerks of Haddam and Killingworth.

Old Business:

A. Report from the Public Building Committee

a) Approval of Invoices

Eric Couture updated the Board. He spoke about Boilers 1, 2 & 3 coming online soon since parts have been received. Eric further spoke about the Lighting punch list and about how the lift in Auditorium is moving along. Eric briefly touched on the 20 damaged solar panels out of the 1600 that were delivered and they will be here around the first or second week of June. Superintendent Thiery spoke briefly about the contract of CREC.

*Eric Couture **MOVED** and Kathy Zandi **SECONDED** a motion to approve the invoice from Shea Electric in the amount of \$633,365.00 as presented.*

Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack YES NO A
 Peter Sonski YES NO A
 Maura Wallin YES NO A
 Eric Couture YES NO A
 Sue Williams Absent

Joel D'Angelo YES NO A
 Eileen Blewett YES NO A
 Brenda Buzzi YES NO A
 Gerry Matthews YES NO A
 Kathleen Zandi YES NO A
 Joanne Nesti YES NO A

Brenda Buzzi **MOVED** and Gerry Matthews **SECONDED** a motion to move up Item 6A and 6B on the Agenda, Policy Updates, set forth under New Business.

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	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	Absent	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"/>

Policy Updates:

a. Policy 6146 Graduation Policy (First read and request to waive second read)

Eric Couture updated the Board. He spoke about the implementation of the Mastery Course and the expanded Health Courses at the High School Level and stated that the Graduation Requirements have to be upgraded due to a change in State Statute. The Board briefly looked over the new version of the Policy which included credits and the specific classes the students have to take in order to Graduate.

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He briefly spoke about the new State Statute and the 24 credits a student needs in order to graduate. This is for the class of 2023 which enters into High School This Fall. He briefly spoke about Community Service Hours and how most students exceed the 30-hour amount. Lastly, Superintendent Thiery asked the Board to waive the Second Read of the Policy since June is a busy month for them.

Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Gerry Matthews **SECONDED** a motion to waive the second read of Policy 6146.

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	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	Absent	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"/>

Eric Couture **MOVED** and Joel D'Angelo **SECONDED** a motion to adopt Policy 6146 Graduation Policy as presented.

Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 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	Absent	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"/>

b. Policy 6130 Organizational Plan

Eric Couture updated the Board. He briefly spoke on the Organizational Plan that was put in place a while back.

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He spoke about how this was revised in 2006 and stated that this is not a mandated policy and could be deleted and/or updated. It represents the work that has been done over the District: Burr as PK-3, KES as Kindergarten K-3 with PK option, HK Intermediate 4-5, HK Middle School 6-8 and High School 9-12. Special Education occurs at all schools by statute is not required in the language and is inclusive of our education system. Superintendent Thiery said he is not asking for a waive of the second read of this policy.

*Eric Couture **MOVED** and Joel D'Angelo **SECONDED** a motion to waive the second read of Policy 6130.*

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	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	Absent	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"/>

*Joel D'Angelo **MOVED** and Gerry Matthews **SECONDED** a motion to adopt Policy 6130, Organizational Plan as presented.*

Motion passed 9-1-0 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 type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" 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	Absent	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, Brenda Buzzi, spoke about the wonderful Celebration of Haddam Elementary School that took place on Saturday, May 18, 2019. She thanked Principal Brienne Whidden and staff for doing a phenomenal job in putting the Celebration together.

Old Business:

B. Personnel Matters*

*Eric Couture **MOVED** and Kathy Zandi **SECONDED** a motion enter into Executive Session for Personnel Matters and the Evaluation and Contract of the Superintendent.*

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	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 √ NO A
Sue Williams Absent

Gerry Matthews YES √ NO A
Kathleen Zandi YES √ NO A
Joanne Nesti YES √ NO A

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:02 PM.

Executive Session:

The Board discussed the Superintendent's review and evaluation timeline moving forward. The Board was instructed to be prepared for the upcoming meetings on this topic.

No motions were made.


The Board ended Executive Session at approximately 8:29 PM.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Jamie Sciascia
Board Clerk

Approval:  Date: 7/2/19
Eileen Blewett, Secretary