

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION - SPECIAL MEETING**  
**March 26, 2019**

*A special meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on March 26, 2019 at the Central Office Board Room. Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.*

***Members Present:** Maura Wallin, Joel D'Angelo, Eric Couture, Eileen Blewett, Brenda Buzzi, Kathleen Zandi (Arrived at approximately 6:44 PM), Gerry Matthews, Suzanne Sack and Joanne Nesti*

***Members Absent:** Peter Sonski and Sue Williams*

***Also Present:** Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, 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 Burr Elementary School, Eric Larson, Principal of Haddam Elementary School, Brienne Whidden, Principal of Killingworth Elementary School, Dennis Reed, Director of Student Services, Dr. Kris Lindsay, Student Services Coordinator, Tonya Gorgone, RSD17 IT Director, John Mercier, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia*

***Call to Order/Opening of Meeting:** Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.*

**Discussion of the Superintendent's Proposed 2019-2020 Budget:**

*Director of Finance, Martha Vaughn, handed out a summary of Budget Adjustments as well as combined Accounts for 611 & 690 in the 18/19 Budget versus what is in the Proposed Budget for the 19/20 year which the Board reviewed. The Board discussed Teacher Reductions, possible moves within the District and Insurance. Superintendent Thiery handed out suggested reductions in areas of: Projectors District Wide, Assistant Football Coach, Rower, Pension, 611 Overage, Entry Issue for HKIS Activity, Custodial Supplies for BES/Middle School Levels, Lead Teacher Salary, Library Books, Overtime, PD Curriculum, Substitutes. Further, the suggested areas to Move to Capital where Football Filming Platform, HKMS Auditorium Projector, HKMS Scoreboard and Installation, and HKMS Scoreboard Control. Superintendent Thiery thanked all the Administrators for their hard work in this process. After all adjustments that were made, the Proposed Gross Budget for 2019-2020 is \$42,695,577.01 with an increase in the Budget of 1.21% respectively. There was Board discussion about the possibility of reducing the Proposed Budget to reflect a 1% or less Gross Budget increase and/or reducing Capital Fund. After careful consideration, the Consensus of the Board was to support the Budget as it stands now and bring it to Referendum.*

*Lastly, the Board had discussions about the presentation of the Budget, possibility of a Q&A, and putting information about the Budget on Social Media prior to the Annual Hearing. Superintendent Thiery also went over the Annual Hearing and Special Meeting including the Legal Call process.*

*The Annual Hearing and Special Meeting (directly afterwards) is scheduled for next Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 7 p.m. at the HK Middle School.*

**Adjournment:**

*The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.*

*Respectfully submitted,*



*Jamie Sciascia  
Board Clerk*

Approval:  Date: 5/7/19  
*Eileen Blewett, Secretary*