

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION - SPECIAL MEETING
March 12, 2019**

A special meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on March 12, 2019 at the Central Office Board Room. Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

Members Present: *Maura Wallin, Joel D'Angelo, Eric Couture, Sue Williams, Brenda Buzzi, Kathleen Zandi (Arrived at 6:40 p.m.), Gerry Matthews, Suzanne Sack and Joanne Nesti*

Members Absent: *Peter Sonski and Eileen Blewett*

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, Assistant Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School, Sheila Ward, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School, Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Principal of Haddam Elementary School, Brienne Whidden, Principal of Killingworth Elementary School, Dennis Reed, Director of Student Services, Dr. Kris Lindsay, Town of Haddam Selectwoman, Melissa Schlag, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia*

Visitors: 3

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting: *Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 6:34PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

Haddam Town Selectwoman, Melissa Schlag, raised concerns about the reason for an Executive Session under FOI requirements and also asked about the people who would be present for the Executive Session.

*Gerry Matthews **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to enter into Executive Session for a discussion regarding the Superintendent's job performance.*

Motion passed unanimously 9-0-0 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	Absent	Eileen Blewett	Absent
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"/>

The Board entered into Executive Session at 6:38 p.m.

The Board resumed Public Session at approximately 7:29 p.m.

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

Superintendent Thiery presented to the Board an update on the Gross Budget which increased to 1.83% respectively. He addressed personnel, and the reduction of 14 certified/non-certified staff positions. He also spoke about the 0.5 Art Teacher position available at the High School Level, and 0.5 Math Coach available at the Middle School Level. Superintendent Thiery spoke on State's budget and Teacher Retirement

Contribution. Further, New Positions were reviewed and discussed; specifically, the Math Teacher at the High School Level and the Match Coach at the Middle School Level. In addition, both the Head Indoor Track Coach and the Assistant Football Coach were discussed at length. Superintendent Thiery also confirmed that there will be a Running Club at the new Intermediate School Level including other clubs that are age appropriate for Grades 4 and 5; specifically, set aside in the budget and paid by stipends.

Superintendent Thiery went over the New Equipment portion of the budget: Scoreboard Control System in the Middle School gym, a new Volleyball set up in the Field House of the High School, a new platform filming system for the Football team, new Science equipment at the Middle School Level, new Student Services Adaptive Technology, furniture for the Collaborative Learning Spaces at the Middle School, new furniture at the High School for the Blended Learning Section, and new furniture for the KES seating area. The Board had discussion about creative ways of acquiring these items as well as items that could be moved over from HES. Furniture must meet fire code.

Board Member, Sue Williams, left the meeting at approximately 7:58 p.m.

Board Member, Joel D'Angelo, left the meeting at approximately 8:03 p.m.

Lastly, Superintendent Thiery spoke about the Technology Lease which included the ICloud and Google Software and Licenses. John Mercier will attend the next Budget Workshop for questions and answers on the Technology portion of it.

The Board had a brief discussion about the process of the Community Input meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, 2019. There is also a Budget Workshop that will directly follow.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Jamie Sciascia

Board Clerk

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