

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
August 7, 2018

A regular meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on August 7, 2018 at Central Office in the Board Room. Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Members Present: *Eric Couture, Sue Twachtman, Eileen Blewett, Brenda Buzzi, Gerry Matthews, Suzanne Sack (Arrived 7:10 PM), Joel D'Angelo, Maura Wallin, Kathleen Zandi and Joanne Nesti*

Members Absent: *Peter Sonski*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Holly Hageman, Director of Finance, Martha Vaughn, Principal of Burr Elementary School, Eric Larson, Director of Construction and Facilities for CREC, Doug Rogers, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia*

Visitors: *Approximately 2*

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting:

Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment: *None*

*Brenda Buzzi **MOVED** and Gerry Matthews **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Minutes A-C as presented:*

Motion passed unanimously 9-0-0 by the following show of hands:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Minutes for the following Board Meetings:

- A. Approval of Minutes for the June 19, 2018 Board of Education – Education Session Meeting
- B. Approval of Minutes for the June 26, 2018 Board of Education – Special Meeting
- C. Approval of Minutes for the July 10, 2018 Board of Education Meeting

Joel D'Angelo **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to move up Item 8A Eagle Scout Project set forth under New Business on the Agenda.

Motion passed unanimously 9-0-0 by the following show of hands:

Suzanne Sack	Absent
Peter Sonski	Absent
Maura Wallin	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Eric Couture	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Sue Twachtman	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>

Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Eileen Blewett	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Gerry Matthews	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. Eagle Scout Project: BES Nature Trail

Eagle Scout Candidate, Griffin Alexander Izzo, addressed the Board. He spoke about the Eagle Scout Project in great detail. There is nature trail located at Burr Elementary School, that is utilized by teachers and students. Griffin came to the Board to ask permission to fix the trail which would include, clearing it, fixing the wooden paths, building a kiosk for a map, labeling different types of trees, and making a bench or a picnic table there. Details with pictures of the trail were provided to the Board for approval.

Principal Larson addressed the Board. He briefly spoke on the last Eagle Scout Project how wonderful that was and that the nature trail is still currently being used by teachers and students on a consistent basis. Principal Larson believes that what Griffin is proposing would be usefulness to the nature trail.

Eileen Blewett **MOVED** and Sue Twachtman **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Eagle Scout Project as presented.

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

Suzanne Sack	Absent
Peter Sonski	Absent
Maura Wallin	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Eric Couture	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Sue Twachtman	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>

Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Eileen Blewett	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Gerry Matthews	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>

Eagle Scout Candidate, Griffin Izzo, left the Board meeting at approximately 7:09 p.m.

Maura Wallin **MOVED** and Gerry Matthews **SECONDED** a motion to up Item 6A High School Energy and Facilities Upgrade set forth under Old Business on the Agenda.

Motion passed unanimously 9-0-0 by the following show of hands:

Suzanne Sack	Absent
Peter Sonski	Absent
Maura Wallin	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>

Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Eileen Blewett	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>

Eric Couture YES ✓ NO A
 Sue Twachtman YES ✓ NO A

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

Board Vice Chair, Suzanne Sack, arrived at approximately 7:10 p.m.

Old Business:

A. High School Energy and Facilities Upgrade

- a) Project Update
- b) Financial Update
- c) Building Committee Requests

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He thanked Doug Rogers and Chris Fields for their work in overseeing the projects. Chris Fields is CREC's new project manager. He spoke on the Boiler project being on schedule as well as the Lighting Project. He gave a brief update on the Auditorium Project, the painting is complete, speakers installed, new sound booths installed in the second level. He spoke about a change order coming in for the Auditorium to bring it ADA complaint for a student that will be enrolled this semester. Board Member, Maura Wallin, asked when the seats will be installed/completed which will be August 27th. An update was given on the Photovoltaic Project, and the work of Shea Electric. Board Vice Chair, Suzanne Sack, thanked Superintendent Thiery, CREC, Martha Vaughn and team for all their hard work and ongoing accounting of the projects.

Superintendent Thiery went over the Finance Committee meeting with CREC to acquire cash flow for the current building projects. Board Member, Eileen Blewett, and Vice Chair, Suzanne Sack spoke about keeping track of project debt schedule numbers.

Doug Rogers updated the Board. He briefly updated us on the ongoing PBC projects and advised that his title and role changed at CREC and is the Director of Construction and Facilities.

*Eric Couture **MOVED** and Maura Wallin **SECONDED** a motion to approve the construction of the ADA Stage Bridge in the Auditorium not to exceed \$50,000.*

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

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

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

*Sue Twachtman **MOVED** and Maura Wallin **SECONDED** a motion to approve the invoice to Shea Electric in the amount of \$111,340.*

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

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

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

Gerry Matthews **MOVED** and Kathleen Zandi **SECONDED** a motion to approve the invoice to M.J Daly in the amount of \$359,100.

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

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Peter Sonski	Absent		
Maura Wallin	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Eric Couture	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Sue Twachtman	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>

Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Eileen Blewett	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Gerry Matthews	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>

Eric Couture **MOVED** and Eileen Blewett **SECONDED** a motion to approve the invoice to Mercury Electric, LLC in the amount of \$87,540.38.

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

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Peter Sonski	Absent		
Maura Wallin	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Eric Couture	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Sue Twachtman	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>

Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Eileen Blewett	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Gerry Matthews	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 Committee Reports and Future Meetings:

A. Facilities Subcommittee

Eric Couture updated the Board. He gave an update on the Capital projects that are ongoing within the District. He spoke about the two HKHS scoreboards being replaced, how they weren't in compliance with Title 9 and the project being delayed due to estimated cost. Eric spoke about the Underground Storage Tank Project, that KES will be receiving a 48% reimbursement back from the tank replacement and advised there will be temporary tanks brought into the High School due to the manufacturer timeline. Eric spoke briefly about the Athletic Fields continued improvement, and the poor air quality in the White House due to mold and mildew in the building.

B. Finance Subcommittee

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. Updated above under Old Business Financial Update.

C. Policy Subcommittee

Eric Couture updated the Board. He spoke about the draft Social Media Policy and reviewing it within the next couple of meetings. He also stated how they will be reviewing more policies on a regular basis.

D. Communications Subcommittee

No Report.

E. Personnel and Evaluation Subcommittee

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. She spoke about how Superintendent Thierry finalized his evaluation and negotiations for the coming year. She thanked the Board and Committee for their time and effort on the evaluation process.

Board Liaison Reports:

A. Healthy Communities – Healthy Kids Council

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He spoke about the personnel changes that are continuing through the department, and how they continue to be successful in support to the children and families.

B. LEARN

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. She spoke about the new building they purchased which will be an exciting endeavor.

C. Park & Recreation

No Report.

D. Haddam Board of Selectmen

Brenda Buzzi updated the Board. She spoke about how the Community members expressed how they would like to be a part of what will happen to the vacant HES school.

E. Killingworth Board of Selectmen

No Report. Eric Couture stated that the meeting is scheduled next week and he will have a report at that time.

B. Strategic Capital Planning Committee Report

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. She spoke about how they sent an official letter of interest to the Town of Haddam, to see if they had any interest in the building. Suzanne stressed the importance of the building being the Board's responsibility to take care of it. There is an August 15th deadline asking for the Town to get back to them as to whether or not they have any interest pursuing the HES building. Board Chair, Joanne Nesti, did state that we are still going forward with their continued obligation with pursuing any potential buyer that might be interested in the property.

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 of a Buggy Bubble Car and a Three Wheeled Scooter from Avery Delrippa's Mother, Nicole Tovares, to be used in the Burr's Preschool Program on their playground. Submitted by Eric D. Larson, Principal of Burr Elementary School.
- B. Acceptance of a donation of a Miniature Trampoline with hand bar and a Balance Bike from Avery Delrippa's Mother, Nicole Tovares, to be used for Burr's Physical Therapist during the student's physical therapy sessions. Submitted by Eric D. Larson, Principal of Burr Elementary School.
- C. Acceptance of a donation of a Beginner Trumpet from Marissa Westerbeke's mother, Cindy Westerbeke, to be added to Burr's musical instruments that students can borrow in band. Submitted by Eric D. Larson, Principal of Burr Elementary School.
- D. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Purdy to be used in the Technology Education Department for Project Lead the Way in Auto, Technical Woods for items that didn't make the budget or items on their wish list. Submitted by Donna L. Hayward, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School.
- E. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$23.51 from Lathrop Vending, Inc. to be deposited into the Principal's Discretionary Fund Account. Submitted by Donna L. Hayward, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School.

- F. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,760.92 from the Stop & Shop A+ Rewards Program to be deposited into the Student Activity Account. Submitted by Dennis J. Reed, Principal of Killingworth Elementary School.

Maura Wallin MOVED and Kathleen Zandi SECONDED a motion to accept Items A-F listed on the Consent Agenda with utmost gratitude.

Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 by the following show of hands:

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Peter Sonski	Absent		
Maura Wallin	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Eric Couture	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Sue Twachtman	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>

Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Eileen Blewett	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Gerry Matthews	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:

B. BOE Meeting Calendar

Board Chair, Nesti, updated the Board. She spoke about Election Day and possibly changing the BOE meeting from November 13th to November 6th. Superintendent Thiery spoke about the 2019 BOE meeting schedule. The Board agreed to change the meeting schedule date of November 13th to November 6, 2018 and a motion was later brought to the table.

Gerry Matthews MOVED and Brenda Buzzi SECONDED a motion to change the 2018 Board of Education Meeting Schedule date from November 13, 2018 to November 6, 2018.

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

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Peter Sonski	Absent		
Maura Wallin	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Eric Couture	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Sue Twachtman	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>

Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Eileen Blewett	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Gerry Matthews	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>

From the Superintendent:

A. Legislative Update

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He spoke about how he received the Legislative update this morning, and how it will be affecting children's education.

B. Personnel Report

Superintendent Thiery advised that the Personnel Report has been provided in the BOE Packet. He stated if anyone had any questions on the report, please feel free to contact him directly.

C. Enrollment Report

Superintendent Thiery advised that the Enrollment Report has been provided in the BOE Packet. He stated if anyone had any questions on the report, please feel free to contact him directly.

From the Director of Fiscal Operations:

A. Budget Transfers

No Report.

Board Discussion/News/Suggestions:

Board Chair, Joanne Nesti, updated the Board.

Board Vice Chair, Suzanne Sack, updated the Board.

Public Comments: *None.*

Adjournment:

Board Chair, Joanne Nesti, called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Jamie Sciascia
Board Clerk

Approval:


Eileen Blewett, Secretary

Date:

10/2/12