

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION – EDUCATION SESSION MEETING
May 22, 2018**

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on May 22, 2018 in the Burr Elementary School All Purpose Room. Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

Members Present: *Maura Wallin, Peter Sonski, Eileen Blewett, Joel D'Angelo, Suzanne Sack and Joanne Nesti*

Members Absent: *Eric Couture, Sue Twachtman, Kathleen Zandi, Brenda Buzzi & Gerry Matthews*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Curriculum, Dr. Holly Hageman, Principal of Burr Elementary School, Eric Larson, CAS Assistant Executive Director for Elementary Programs and Services, Jill Hale, Chairman of the Public Building Committee, Tom Hogarty, CREC Constructions Services, Doug Rogers, Public Building Committee Member, Chip Frey, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia*

Visitors: *Pat Zeidler, Jodi Stupakevich, Dawn MacLeod, Cindy Klein, Becky Rodbourn, Becky Harkin, Becky Templeton, Becky Aithal, Jessica DeAngelo, Nancy Lavriha-Smith, Heather Barse, Linda Hansen, Cindy Sadowski, Steve Bayley (BES Parent) and Brienne Whidden (HES Principal)*

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting:

Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

CAS Presentation to BES: CAS Elementary School of the Year:

Board Chair, Nesti, gave a warm welcome and brief introduction to the Connecticut Association of Schools and thanked Principal Larson and team for bringing recognition to Burr Elementary School and to the District.

Jill Hale spoke on behalf of CAS. She spoke about how CAS is a non-profit agency, and gave a brief summary on the what it takes to be the CAS School of the Year. In order to participate in the CAS School of the Year, you have to fill out a very detailed application and then the schools are chosen based on certain criteria that CAS uses. Ms. Hale spoke about when she came to Burr Elementary School she immediately was impressed with many things like their welcoming and accepting environment, focus on meeting the needs of every student, strong communication with family members within the Community, maker space time, family enrichment time, creative scheduling and support enrichment time with the students. CAS met with faculty and staff, and what was most impressive to everyone was the Burr students.

Ms. Hale further stated how honored she was that Burr Elementary School will represent CAS during this year. She congratulated Principal Larson and staff and presented them with a beautiful banner to hang up in Burr Elementary School.

Principal Eric Larson spoke on behalf of Burr Elementary School. He said it was a great honor, and thanked the BOE for volunteering their time, holding the BOE meeting at his school and for the luncheon last week. Further, he thanked Superintendent Thiery and Dr. Holly Hageman for their support and their time, and also gave thanks to CAS.

Principal Larson stated that the faculty and staff of Burr Elementary School are the only reason that we were here; and he thanked them and gave recognition to the ones in the audience. He stated how they work so hard every day and spoke about how together they have built the community that welcomed every child who entered the door as well as worked as a team to support them. He spoke about the teachers' dedication, talents and passion, and also commended them for the hours they work on a daily basis including weekends. He also thanked volunteers and all the parents for their hard work. He briefly spoke about the brass compass at the school entrance, and how it seems to always keep everyone going in the right direction and safe. He congratulated Burr Elementary School and stated how proud he is of all of them.

Superintendent Thiery spoke about Burr Elementary School. He first and foremost thanked CAS. He stated it is a tremendous recognition and not a surprise at all. Burr holds a very special place in the Community; how it has been the standard of excellence for a while and continues to this day. Superintendent Thiery went on to acknowledge their hard work, expertise, and their passion. He further stated how the teachers are passionate about their work, each other and their love for the children. He spoke about how he is very proud of Burr Elementary School representing the District and all the elementary schools across the State. He extended his deepest thanks and congratulations to Burr Elementary School team and said that they will continue celebrating well into the 2018-2019 school year.

The Board recessed at 7:23 p.m. to celebrate the CAS Elementary School of the Year Award with Principal Larson, faculty and parents that were in attendance.

The Board reconvened the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Board Liaison Reports:

A. Curriculum Council
No Report.

B. Curriculum Subcommittee:
No Report.

Old Business:

A. High School Energy and Facilities Upgrade

a. Public Building Committee

Tom Hogarty updated the Board. He spoke about the projects going on until the end of summer. He stated that the roof project came in lower than anticipated, and there are other things that they can do in the District for long term savings like adding a handicap rail to stage, painting the ceiling, etc.

Doug Rogers updated the Board. He spoke on the seating, carpeting and painting of the Auditorium. He went over the process with the State for certain bid items on their approved list that he wants to try to add into the projects. He spoke about two requisitions that need Board approval for the Auditorium seating and carpeting.

The Boiler project is underway, abatement is complete. He briefly spoke about the interior and exterior lighting and the rebates that he will receive from putting in LED lights. There were questions from the Board members about the Change Orders and making sure that we are not spending over what was originally planned on.

Chip Frey updated the Board. He spoke about the educational aspects of the Solar and Auditorium Projects. He spoke about the Lighting Rebate from the State and the potential savings to the District. He further spoke about a job he had at the Higganum Pharmacy putting in LED lights and the savings there was to them.

*Maura Wallin **MOVED** and Eileen Blewett **SECONDED** a motion to accept the requisition for Auditorium Seating in the amount of \$192,257.00 as presented.*

Motion passed unanimously 6-0-0 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	Absent
Eric Couture	Absent	Gerry Matthews	Absent
Sue Twachtman	Absent	Kathleen Zandi	Absent
		Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>

*Maura Wallin **MOVED** and Eileen Blewett **SECONDED** a motion to accept the requisition for Auditorium Carpeting in the amount of \$37,745.74 as presented.*

Motion passed unanimously 6-0-0 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	Absent
Eric Couture	Absent	Gerry Matthews	Absent
Sue Twachtman	Absent	Kathleen Zandi	Absent
		Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>

B. Strategic Capital Planning Committee Report

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. She spoke about how she continues to work on the introduction of the intermediate program and how she made some headway with introducing builders and real estate agents to HES school for repurposing it. She also spoke about putting together task lists for the intermediate program and organization structure associated with that.

New Business:

A. District Security Committee

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He spoke about how this Committee is made up of Board of Education members, parents, teachers, law enforcement, students from the high school who continue to explore items and update the Board as they go. He spoke on the timeline for the Committee to get together which is two weeks from tomorrow and then a meeting before the end of June. This will affirm the processes, short term revisions, upgrades and medium term goals.

B. Capital Plan/Capital Improvement Policy (Second Read)

Board Chair, Nesti, updated the Board. She explained that this is the second read of the Capital Plan/Capital Improvement Policy and wanted to make sure that the Board was comfortable in going forward with a motion to approve it.

Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Maura Wallin **SECONDED** a motion to adopt the Capital Plan/Capital Improvement Policy as presented.

Motion passed unanimously 6-0-0 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	Absent		
Eric Couture	Absent			Gerry Matthews	Absent		
Sue Twachtman	Absent			Kathleen Zandi	Absent		
				Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

C. Trash Hauler Contract

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He briefly spoke about how the Trash Hauler Contract will be going out to bid for the second time at the end of June.

D. June 5th Board Meeting

Board Chair, Nesti, updated the Board. She discussed with the Board the possibilities of have a meeting prior to the Awards celebration on June 5th and anything that is not covered, they will add an additional meeting possibly the Tuesday after the June 19th meeting if need be.

After Board discussion, a business meeting will be held on June 5th at 5:30 p.m. prior to the Awards Celebration for students and teachers scheduled for 7:00 p.m.

E. Social Media Policy (First Read)

Board Chair, Nesti, TABLED the discussion to a later date.

Public Comment:

None.

Adjournment:

Board Chair, Joanne Nesti, called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Jamie Sciascia
Board Clerk

Approval:  Date: 7/10/18
Eileen Blewett, Secretary