

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
May 1, 2018

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on May 1, 2018 at Central Office in the Board Room. Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Members Present: *Eric Couture, Peter Sonski, Sue Twachtman, Eileen Blewett, Brenda Buzzi, Gerry Matthews, and Joanne Nesti*

Members Absent: *Suzanne Sack, Joel D'Angelo, Maura Wallin and Kathleen Zandi*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Curriculum, Dr. Holly Hageman, Director of Finance, Martha Vaughn, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School, Donna Hayward, Haddam-Killingworth High School French Teacher, Christine Kehrley, Public Building Committee Member, Chip Frey, Student Representative, Kate Porter, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia*

Visitors: *Approximately 4*

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting:

Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment: *None*

*Brenda Buzzi **MOVED** and Gerry Matthews **SECONDED** a motion to move up Item 9A set forth under New Business on the Agenda.*

Motion passed unanimously 7-0-0 by the following show of hands:

Suzanne Sack	Absent	Joel D'Angelo	Absent
Peter Sonski	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___	Eileen Blewett	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___
Maura Wallin	Absent	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___	Gerry Matthews	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___
Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___	Kathleen Zandi	Absent
		Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___

New Business:

- A. HKHS Field Trip Request to France – April 13, 2019 – April 21, 2019**
Christine Kehrley addressed the Board.

*Eileen Blewett **MOVED** and Sue Twachtman **SECONDED** a motion to approve the France Trip in April 2019 as presented.*

Motion passed unanimously 7-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	Absent	Joel D'Angelo	Absent
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	Absent	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 Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent
		Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Minutes for the following Board Meetings:

- A. Approval of Minutes for the March 22, 2018 Board of Education Special Meeting (Joint Meeting Workshop)
- B. Approval of Minutes for the March 22, 2018 Board of Education – Special Meeting (Budget Workshop)
- C. Approval of Minutes for the March 27, 2018 Board of Education – Special Meeting (Budget Workshop)
- D. Approval of Minutes for the April 3, 2018 Board of Education - Special Meeting (Annual Hearing)
- E. Approval of Minutes for the April 3, 2018 Board of Education - Special Meeting (Directly After Annual Hearing)
- F. Approval of Minutes for the April 3, 2018 Board of Education Meeting

Gerry Matthews **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to approve Minutes A-F as presented.

Motion passed unanimously 7-0-0 by the following show of hands:

Suzanne Sack	Absent	Joel D'Angelo	Absent
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	Absent	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 Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent
		Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>

Sue Twachtman **MOVED** and Eileen Blewett **SECONDED** a motion to up Item 7A, 7aa & 7b set forth under Old Business on the Agenda.

Motion passed unanimously 7-0-0 by the following show of hands:

Suzanne Sack	Absent	Joel D'Angelo	Absent
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	Absent	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 Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent
		Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>

Old Business:

A. High School Building Project

a) Report from Public Building Committee

Public Building Committee Member, Chip Frey, updated the Board.

a. Interior/Exterior Lighting Project Contract Award

*Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Brenda Buzzi **SECONDED** a motion to award the Interior/Exterior Lighting contract to Mercury Electric, LLC in the amount of \$239,357.84.*

Motion passed unanimously 7-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	Absent	Joel D’Angelo	Absent
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	Absent	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 Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent
		Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>

b. Raising of \$25,000 threshold for Board Approval of Change Orders

*Eileen Blewett **MOVED** and Brenda Buzzi **SECONDED** a motion to require the Public Building Committee to seek approval from the Board of Education for any change orders connected to the high school renovation Project totaling \$50,000 or more.*

Motion passed unanimously 7-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	Absent	Joel D’Angelo	Absent
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	Absent	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 Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent
		Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>

Report from Student Representatives:

Kate Porter updated the Board.

Superintendent Thiery spoke on behalf of the Board regarding Student Representative, Kate Porter.

Student Representative, Kate Porter left the meeting at approximately 7:13 p.m.

Board Committee Reports and Future Meetings:

- A. Facilities Subcommittee**
Eric Couture updated the Board.
- B. Finance Subcommittee**
Eileen Blewett updated the Board.
- C. Policy Subcommittee**
Eric Couture updated the Board.
- D. Communications Subcommittee**
Gerry Matthews updated the Board.

E. Personnel and Evaluation Subcommittee

No Report.

Board Liaison Reports:

A. Healthy Communities – Healthy Kids Council

No Report.

B. LEARN

No Report.

C. Park & Recreation

Peter Sonski updated the Board.

D. Haddam Board of Selectmen

Brenda Buzzi updated the Board.

E. Killingworth Board of Selectmen

Eric Couture updated the Board.

B. Strategic Capital Planning Committee Report

No Report.

Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School, Donna Hayward, left the meeting at approximately 7:29 p.m.

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 in the amount of \$1,000.00 from HKMS PTO to offset the costs of the Grade 8 Field Trips. Submitted by Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.
- B. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$2,000 from the KES PTO to be deposited into the KES Student Activity Account – Field Trips. Submitted by Dennis J. Reed, Principal of Killingworth Elementary School.
- C. Acceptance of a mini-grant in the amount of \$160.00 from Rochester Institute of Technology for Project Lead The Way. Submitted by Donna L. Hayward, Principal of Haddam Killingworth High School.
- D. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,000 from the Jason Lantieri Memorial Foundation to use as Scholarship Funds for the annual 8th Grade Washington D.C. trip. The donation money will be deposited into the Student Activity Fund. Submitted by Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.
- E. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$200.00 from Carol Cieslukowski to be deposited into the Student Activity Account – Bill C Scholarship Fund. Submitted by Dennis J. Reed, Principal of Killingworth Elementary School.
- F. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$23.19 from Lathrop Vending, Inc. Submitted by Donna L. Hayward, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School.
- G. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$53.49 from Coco-Cola vending machine sales to be deposited into the Student Activity Account – Principal Account. Submitted by Dennis J. Reed, Principal of Killingworth Elementary School.

Brenda Buzzi **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to accept Items A-G listed on the Consent Agenda with gratitude.

Motion passed unanimously 7-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	Absent	Joel D'Angelo	Absent
Peter Sonski	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___	Eileen Blewett	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___
Maura Wallin	Absent	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___	Gerry Matthews	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___
Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___	Kathleen Zandi	Absent
		Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___

B. Board Mission Statement and Social Media Policy Discussion

Gerry Matthews updated the Board.

Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Brenda Buzzi **SECONDED** a motion to remand the Social Media Discussion to the Policy Committee for research and proposal.

Motion passed unanimously 7-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	Absent	Joel D'Angelo	Absent
Peter Sonski	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___	Eileen Blewett	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___
Maura Wallin	Absent	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___	Gerry Matthews	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___
Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___	Kathleen Zandi	Absent
		Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___

Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to strike reference to the Board of Education Mission Statement from the Board Handbook entirely.

Motion passed 5-2-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	Absent	Joel D'Angelo	Absent
Peter Sonski	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___	Eileen Blewett	YES ___ NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A ___
Maura Wallin	Absent	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___
Eric Couture	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___	Gerry Matthews	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___
Sue Twachtman	YES ___ NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A ___	Kathleen Zandi	Absent
		Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ___ A ___

C. Nurses' Union Contract

Board Chair, Joanne Nesti, **TABLED** the Nurses' Union Contract discussion for a later time.

From the Superintendent:

A. Legislative Update

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board.

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 Member, Sue Twachtman, brought a suggestion to Board. Superintendent Thiery spoke about Wilton High School.

Public Comments: *None.*

The Board went into Recess at 8:21 p.m.

The Board went into a Non-Meeting regarding Nurses' Negotiations at 8:24 p.m.

The Board reconvened the regular meeting at 8:32 p.m.

*Eric Couture **MOVED** and Sue Twachtman **SECONDED** a motion to accept the Nurses' Contract as presented.*

Motion passed unanimously 7-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	Absent	Joel D'Angelo	Absent
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	Absent	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 Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Kathleen Zandi	Absent
		Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>

Adjournment:

Board Chair, Joanne Nesti, called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jamie Sciascia
Board Clerk*

Approval: _____ Date: _____
Eileen Blewett, Secretary