

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION - SPECIAL MEETING
March 27, 2018

A special meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on March 27, 2018 at the Central Office Board Room. Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

Members Present: *Peter Sonski, Eric Couture, Gerry Matthews, Eileen Blewett, Brenda Buzzi, Kathleen Zandi, Maura Wallin, Joel D'Angelo, Sue Twachtman and Joanne Nesti*

Members Absent: *Suzanne Sack*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Curriculum, Dr. Holly Hageman, Director of Finance, Martha Vaughn, Assistant Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School, Sheila Ward, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School, Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Assistant Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School, Ryan Mackenzie, Principal of Burr Elementary School, Eric Larson, Principal of Haddam Elementary School, Brienne Whidden, Principal of Killingworth Elementary School, Dennis Reed, Special Education Coordinator, Tonya Gorgone, RSD17 IT Manager, Scott Butson, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia*

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting: *Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.*

High School Energy and Facilities Upgrade--Auditorium Renovation Scope of Work:
Board Chair, Joanne Nesti, updated the Board. She stated that this Agenda Item would be discussed at a later date.

The Board entered into a non-meeting regarding contract negotiations at 6:38 p.m.

The Board came out of the non-meeting at 6:51 p.m.

The special meeting resumed at 6:52 p.m.

Discussion of the Superintendent's Proposed 2018-2019 Budget:

The Board reviewed and discussed the remaining items within the Proposed Budget. They discussed propane/hot water heater systems and elevator repairs at length. Projector replacements at the Middle School Levels are continuing. The Board further discussed iPads for Special Education and briefly went over the Annual Membership for Science Teachers and professional development conferences. Vaccines, specifically, Heb B, is offered to all new hires in the nurse and custodian fields within the RSD17 District. Board Members raised questions if insurance would be able to cover that portion of the vaccines so the monies could be eliminated from the Budget. Superintendent Thiery addressed dues and fees and stated we are no longer a part of CABE. Further, the Board discussed unaffiliated salary increases. Purchase services for art was addressed; specifically, for KES and the repair of the kiln. Certain Board Members suggested a 0% gross budget increase for this year and discussions furthered. Insurance was brought up and removal of funds from HES Library books was another item of discussion and decided this would be eliminated from the Budget. Superintendent Thiery gave a brief update on Athletic Equipment. Further, the Board discussed at length the gross budget percentage increase of 0.38% once the reductions were adjusted. The Board went over all line items thoroughly, and did not touch any programs which supported the children's education. Lastly, the Board spoke about their presentation for the Annual Hearing and

Special Meeting which is scheduled for next Tuesday, April 3rd. A regular Board Meeting will be held directly following those two meetings.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Jamie Sciascia
Board Clerk

Approval:  Date: 5/1/18
Eileen Blewett, Secretary