

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**March 6, 2018**

**REVISED**

*A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on March 6, 2018 in the Haddam-Killingworth High School Lower Media Center. Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.*

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

***Members Absent:** Suzanne Sack and Joel D'Angelo*

***Also Present:** Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Holly Hageman, Director of Finance, Martha Vaughn, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School, Donna Hayward, Assistant Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School, Shelia 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 Killingworth Elementary School, Dennis Reed, Principal of Haddam Elementary School, Brienne Whidden, Director of Student Services, Dr. Kris Lindsay, Special Education Coordinator, Tonya Gorgone, Seward & Monde Partner, Michele Loso, Vice President of HK Education Association, Robin Duffield, Student Representatives, Kate Porter and Nolan Serbent, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia*

***Visitors:** Approximately 5*

**Call to Order/Opening of Meeting:**

*Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

**Public Comment:**

*James Clemente of Killingworth addressed the Board. James came to a Board meeting a few months prior regarding his son Jimmy. This was over an incident that happened involving his son and James believes his family had been disrespected by the HKHS on many different levels. He left his letter of concern with the Board for further review.*

**Approval of Minutes:**

*Approval of Minutes for the following Board Meetings:*

- A. Approval of Minutes for the Board of Education Meeting held on February 6, 2018
- B. Approval of Minutes for the Board of Education – Special Meeting held on February 8, 2018
- C. Approval of Minutes for the Board of Education – Special Meeting held on February 14, 2018
- D. Approval of Minutes for the Board of Education – Special Meeting held on February 21, 2018

*Sue Twachtman **MOVED** and Brenda Buzzi **SECONDED** a motion to approve Minutes A-D as presented.*

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



Suzanne Sack	Absent
Peter Sonski	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"/>
Eric Couture	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"/>

Joel D'Angelo	Absent
Eileen Blewett	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"/>
Gerry Matthews	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"/>

**Report from Student Representatives:**

*Kate Porter updated the Board. She spoke about how she met with Principal Hayward, staff and faculty about the tragedy with the school shooting in Florida. The HKHS would like to feel united as a school; therefore, feel strongly about participating in the March 14<sup>th</sup> walk out event regarding gun control.*

*Nolan Serbent updated the Board. He spoke about what recently happened in Florida with the school shooting, and they have looked at the door security, lock down protocols of the HKHS.*

*Superintendent Thiery did state that he supports his students and stated that what they care about is what we care about.*

*Student Representatives, Kate Porter and Nolan Serbent, left the meeting at approximately 7:13 p.m.*

*Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Gerry Matthews **SECONDED** a motion to move up Items 9A, 9B and 9C under New Business in the Agenda.*

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

Suzanne Sack	Absent
Peter Sonski	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"/>
Eric Couture	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"/>

Joel D'Angelo	Absent
Eileen Blewett	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"/>
Gerry Matthews	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"/>

**New Business:**

**A. Fiscal Year 2017 Audit Presentation by Michele Loso of Seward & Monde**

*Michele Loso addressed the Board. She spoke about meeting with the RSD17 Finance Department and addressed the governmental and business activities; and stated that there was no deficiency or weakness that the Board needed to look at. She further addressed the Federal and State Single Audit, Pilot Program, ED01 Procedures mandated by the State. Also, she stated that any leftover monies at the end of the year, unexpected funds this year, will get returned in the 19/20 budget.*

*Some members of the Board didn't receive a copy of the Audit Financial Report and Superintendent Thiery will be getting them a copy as soon as possible.*

**B. Field Trip Request Form for HKHS Football - August 22, 2018-August 24, 2018 to St. Thomas Seminary**

*Coach Mike Baklik addressed the Board. He spoke about the HKHS Football team trip in August to St. Thomas Seminary and how this trip has been an ongoing event for the past 8 years. It helps bond the teammates together and costs approximately \$175.00 for each student to attend.*



Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Kathy Zandi **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Field Trip Request for HKHS Football as presented.

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

Suzanne Sack	Absent
Peter Sonski	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"/>
Eric Couture	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"/>

Joel D'Angelo	Absent
Eileen Blewett	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"/>
Gerry Matthews	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"/>

### C. Computer Programming Course – MS

Dr. Jennifer Olsen addressed the Board. She spoke about the Computer Science and Coding Course Proposal specifically for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Level. This will be for a trimester course, approximately 30 class meetings. The course is Problem Solving, Website Development and Administrations and Games. There is no pre-requisite, 20-24 class size and that would also depend on who is interested in taking the course at the time. The HK Library Media Specialist would be teaching the course, there is no cost for this course, need for additional teachers or equipment needed. Also, in the future the possibility for all students to enroll in the course is an option.

Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Brenda Buzzi **SECONDED** a motion to approve the MS Computer Programming Course as presented.

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

Suzanne Sack	Absent
Peter Sonski	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"/>
Eric Couture	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"/>

Joel D'Angelo	Absent
Eileen Blewett	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"/>
Gerry Matthews	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"/>

### Board Committee Reports and Future Meetings:

#### A. Facilities Subcommittee

Eric Couture updated the Board. He spoke about the Tier A projects; specifically, that need to be addressed and fixed this year at all schools across the HK District. He also stated that there is monies left over in the Capital Fund balance which will be used for these purposes. He further spoke about the removal and replacements of the underground oil tanks in both Killingworth and Haddam Elementary Schools, the pool painting at HKHS and the van and plow truck that is 12 years old at the District that needs to be replaced. Lastly, Eric stated that they are replacing the two scoreboards at HKHS. Board Member, Kathy Zandi did ask if the name that is dedicated on one of the scoreboards will also be replaced when they get a new one. Superintendent Thiery did state that it will and Principal Hayward has been in touch with the Lentini Family letting them know of the scoreboard replacement.

Brenda Buzzi **MOVED** and Maura Wallin **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Capital Expenditures from the Capital Fund 06' for the amount of \$453,900.00.



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

Suzanne Sack	Absent
Peter Sonski	YES <u>√</u> NO <u>   </u> A <u>   </u>
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	Absent
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>

**B. Finance Subcommittee**

*Eileen Blewett updated the Board. She spoke about the General Fund, Year-to-date Activity, Account Payable Transactions over \$5,000 and stated that there were no Budget Transfers.*

**C. Policy Subcommittee**

*No Report.*

**D. Communications Subcommittee**

*Gerry Matthews updated the Board. He presented the Board with a draft for review and discussion of the Board's Mission Statement which he is proposing for consideration and guidance hopefully by the next BOE meeting. Gerry also briefly spoke about use of social media, and lobbying on behalf of the District to the legislators.*

**E. Personnel and Evaluation Subcommittee**

*No Report. Superintendent Thiery stated that they are entering into Nursing Negotiations this month.*

**Board Liaison Reports:**

**A. Healthy Communities – Healthy Kids Council**

*No Report.*

**B. LEARN**

*No Report.*

**C. Park & Recreation**

*Peter Sonski updated the Board. He stated that he met with the Committee last Wednesday, and they spoke about what a monetary loss they had since the HKHS campus was closed due to the Roofing Project in the summer. They stated that they were concerned about any projects for this summer; however, it doesn't seem like any scheduled projects will disrupt the summer programs.*

**D. Haddam Board of Selectmen**

*No Report.*

**E. Killingworth Board of Selectmen**

*No Report.*

**Old Business:**

**A. High School Energy and Facilities Upgrade**

**a) Report from Public Building Committee**



Joanne Nesti updated the Board. She spoke about bids going out last week regarding the Boiler Project, and stated that all the renovations projects scheduled will not interfere with any summer programs.

**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 \$147.90 from General Mills for the Box Tops Collection. Submitted by Principal Brienne Whidden, Haddam Elementary School.
- B. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$13.34 from Lathrop Vending Inc. Submitted by Principal Donna L. Hayward, Haddam-Killingworth High School.

Maura Wallin **MOVED** and Eileen Blewett **SECONDED** a motion to accept Items A-B listed on the Consent Agenda.

Motion passed unanimously 9-0-0 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	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 Twachtman	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"/>

**New Business:**

**D. District Restructuring Proposal: Discussion and Possible Vote:**

Gerry Matthews **MOVED** and Eileen Blewett **SECONDED** a motion to accept the Strategic Capital Planning Committee's proposal as follows: To create two Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Primary Schools, one to be housed at Killingworth Elementary School, the other at Burr District Elementary School; to create a 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Intermediate School, to be housed at Haddam-Killingworth Middle School; to designate the Middle School as Grades 6 through 8, to be housed at Haddam-Killingworth Middle School; and to close Haddam Elementary School, all of the above effective at the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

Motion passed 8-1-0 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	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Buzzi	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" 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	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"/>

**From the Superintendent:**

**A. Legislative Update**

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He spoke on the new ECS Formula and bills being brought forward for future.

**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:** *None.*

**Public Comments:** *None.*

**Adjournment:** *Board Chair, Joanne Nesti, called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:55 PM.*

*Respectfully submitted,*



*Jamie Sciascia  
Board Clerk*

*Approval:*

  
Eileen Blewett, Secretary

*Date:*

11/6/18