

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
September 5, 2017

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on September 5, 2017 in the Central Office Board Room. Board of Education Chair, Joel D'Angelo, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Members Present: *Kathy Brown, Maura Wallin, Peter Sonski, Sue Twachtman, Suzanne Sack, Jeannie Young, Dan Chase, Susan Dean, Eric Couture, Joanne Nesti and Joel D'Angelo*

Members Absent: *None.*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Curriculum, Dr. Holly Hageman, Director of Finance, Martha Vaughn, Representative from Capital Region Education Council, (CREC) Doug Rogers, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia*

Visitors: *Approximately 6*

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting:

Board of Education Chair, Joel D'Angelo, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment:

None.

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Minutes for the following Board Meetings:

- A. Approval of Minutes for the August 1, 2017 Board of Education Meeting
- B. Approval of Minutes for the August 15, 2017 Board of Education – Education Session Meeting

*Maura Wallin **MOVED** and Susan Dean **SECONDED** a motion to approve the minutes as presented.*

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 by the following votes:

Kathy Brown	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Joanne Nesti	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Dan Chase	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Peter Sonski	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
Maura Wallin	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Suzanne Sack	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>
Susan Dean	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>	Jeannie Young	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>
				Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u> </u>	A <u> </u>

Board Committee Reports and Future Meetings:

A. Facilities Subcommittee

No Report.

B. Finance Subcommittee

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. She spoke on the Budget to date, looking at Vendors over \$5,000 and the executed Technology Lease.

C. Policy Subcommittee

Kathy Brown updated the Board. She stated the Subcommittee met in August with representatives from Shipman & Goodwin, with whom we have a policy subscription, about what policies they recommended. The Subcommittee made a plan for going forward to review our policies.

D. Communications Subcommittee

Susan Dean updated the Board. She stated the Subcommittee met tonight and briefly spoke on putting together a new Board in December.

E. Personnel and Evaluation Subcommittee

Sue Twachtman updated the Board. She spoke on Support Staff Contract, Teachers Union Negotiations next month and looking at Superintendent's goals.

F. Strategic Capital Planning Subcommittee

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. She stated the Subcommittee met today regarding Next Steps, scheduling the two 2-hour meeting periods to revisit all data with the Board and then present those scenarios to the Board for use of Capital Assets.

Board Liaison Reports:

A. Healthy Communities – Healthy Kids Council

No Report.

B. LEARN

No Report.

C. Park & Recreation

No Report.

D. Haddam Board of Selectmen

No Report.

E. Killingworth Board of Selectmen

Eric Couture updated the Board. He said the Committee met and spoke on the Budget impact in the Towns and holding meetings in the future to discuss what they are going to do.

Old Business:

A. High School Energy and Facilities Upgrade:

a) Report from the Public Building Committee

Joanne Nesti updated the Board. She spoke on the 1st State reimbursement check that was received in the amount of \$802,000. She spoke on the roof project and how the old roof had some issues with the fireproofing that was dislodged. They needed to get it rectified as soon as possible so the project went out to bid. One firm responded, Protect of Waterbury, where they quickly came and completed the job. The invoice for services rendered was \$64,375.00 so a motion was brought to the Board for approval.

She spoke on Silktown's invoice in the amount of \$306,296.96 for services rendered. A motion was brought to the Board for approval.

In addition, Joanne spoke on Silktown's request to have their retainage reduced by 50% which would reflect a payment of \$68,888.78. Suzanne Sack and Dan Chase did raise some concerns about releasing those retainage funds until we receive the inspection warranty in hand stating that their work has been completed. A motion was made and an amended motion was further brought to the Board for approval.

Lastly, Joanne welcomed the newest member of the Public Building Committee, Chip Frey, who is an electrical contractor and is a great addition to the team. Chip was not in attendance at the meeting.

Doug Rogers updated the Board. He spoke on how the retainage held is what they typically use as leverage and it is a standard operational procedure for the contractor to request half the amount once work is completed. He did state that Silktown owed one ladder back and the inspection has been completed.

*Joanne Nesti **MOVED** and Jeannie Young **SECONDED** a motion to pay Pro-Tect of Waterbury in the amount of \$64,375.00 for the fireproofing replacement work performed on the roofing project.*

Motion passed 10-0-1 by the following votes:

Kathy Brown	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"/>
Dan Chase	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"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne Sack	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input checked="" 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"/>
Susan Dean	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jeannie Young	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"/>

*Joanne Nesti **MOVED** and Maura Wallin **SECONDED** a motion to approve the \$306,296.96 invoice from Silktown Roofing.*

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 by the following votes:

Kathy Brown	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"/>
Dan Chase	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"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne Sack	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"/>
Susan Dean	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jeannie Young	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"/>

*Joanne Nesti **MOVED** and Jeannie Young **SECONDED** a motion to reduce Silktown's retainage by 50% reflecting a payment to Silktown in the amount of \$63,888.78.*

*Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Dan Chase **SECONDED** a request to amend the motion as follows: Silktown's retainage will be reduced by 50% and funds will be released in the amount of \$63,888.78 once the Firestone Warranty is received in hand. No further Board action will be required.*

Joanne Nesti and Jeannie Young accepted the change reflected in the amended motion as stated above; therefore, the amended motion was made.

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 by the following votes:

Kathy Brown	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"/>
Dan Chase	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"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne Sack	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"/>
Susan Dean	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jeannie Young	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"/>

b) Auditorium Renovation Project Management Proposal

This matter was moved down to discuss during Executive Session.

B. 2017/18 Budget Update:

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He spoke on being in limbo with the State and discussed the second Executive Order which will become effective on October 1st.

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 \$1,160.36 from the Burr PTO (Student Talent Show Fundraiser) to be deposited in the Student Council line in the Student Activity Account. Submitted by Eric D. Larson, Burr Elementary School.
- B. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$150.00 from Killingworth Elementary School Faculty and Staff (June Dress Down Days) to be deposited into the Student Activity Account – Bill C Scholarship. Submitted by Principal Dennis J. Reed, Killingworth Elementary School.

*Susan Dean **MOVED** and Peter Sonski **SECONDED** a motion to accept Items A-B listed on the Consent Agenda with great appreciation.*

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 by the following votes:

Kathy Brown	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"/>
Dan Chase	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"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne Sack	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"/>
Susan Dean	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jeannie Young	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"/>

New Business:

A. Opening of Schools Update from the Superintendent

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He spoke on how fantastic the Opening of Schools went. He thanked faculty, staff, and the BOE members for all their hard work in making that happen. Also, he thanked parents and students for making the day go so smoothly. He spoke on the Killingworth Parade and fun activities, upcoming Open House and Curriculum night. Board Chair D'Angelo and Suzanne Sack thanked Superintendent Thiery for his hard work.

B. General Update-Enrollment and Hiring

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He spoke on the 3rd Kindergarten Section at the Haddam Elementary School and thanked staff and faculty for putting it together in a short period of time. Also, he thanked all the schools for their contributions of supplies, etc. in order to get that class up and running for Opening of School Day.

C. Strategic Capital Planning Committee Update

Update was discussed in under E--October Board Meeting Schedule.

D. Executive Session for Legal Matter

*Maura Wallin **MOVED** and Suzanne Sack **SECONDED** a motion to move down to place last on the Agenda the Executive Session for a Legal Matter.*

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 by the following votes:

Kathy Brown	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"/>
Dan Chase	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"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne Sack	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"/>
Susan Dean	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jeannie Young	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"/>

E. October Board Meeting Schedule

Board Chair D'Angelo updated the Board. He spoke on the proposed dates for the Board of Education Workshops and gave October 17th and November 14th both starting at 5:30 p.m. He also advised that Superintendent Thiery will be out of the Country on October 3rd.

F. Executive Session for Legal Matter

From the Superintendent:

A. Legislative Update:

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He stated they are still waiting on budget numbers to come in. He spoke on the hiring freeze, non-critical positions left vacant and spending cap across the schools. He further spoke on setting a meeting up with the Boards of Finance and Selectman for Town of Haddam and Killingworth to make sure we are on the same page. This budget impact will affect both the District and the Towns but doesn't want to overreact at this time.

B. Personnel Report:

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

C. Enrollment Report:

Superintendent Thiery provided the Enrollment Report in the BOE Packet. He advised 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.

Executive Session:

*Suzanne Sack **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to enter into Executive Session regarding a contractual legal matter.*

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 by the following votes:

Kathy Brown	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"/>
Dan Chase	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"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne Sack	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"/>
Susan Dean	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jeannie Young	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"/>

The Board went into Executive Session at 9:23 PM.

*Joanne Nesti **MOVED** and Sue Twachtman **SECONDED** a motion to amend CREC's contract with the district to make them the Owner's Project Manager for the auditorium renovation at a cost of \$30,732.*

Motion passed 6-5-0 by the following votes:

Kathy Brown	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Joanne Nesti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Dan Chase	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Peter Sonski	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Maura Wallin	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne Sack	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"/>	Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Susan Dean	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jeannie Young	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"/>

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:44 PM. Public Session Resumed.

Adjournment:

Board Chair, Joel D'Angelo, called for the meeting to adjourn at 9:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



*Jamie Sciascia
Board Clerk*

Approval: 
Kathy Brown, Secretary

Date: 10/3/17