# REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17 BOARD OF EDUCATION - EDUCATION SESSION June 20, 2017

A special meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on June 20, 2017 in the Haddam-Killingworth Middle School Media Center. Board of Education Chair, Joel D'Angelo called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Members Present: Kathy Brown, Dan Chase, Maura Wallin, Sue Twachtman, Suzanne Sack, Susan Dean (Arrived at 7:34 PM), Eric Couture, Joanne Nesti, Peter Sonski and Joel D'Angelo

Members Absent: Jeannie Young

Also Present: Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Holly Hageman, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia

Visitors: Approximately 1

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 May 16, 2017 Board of Education Education Session Meeting
- B. Approval of Minutes for the June 6, 2017 Board of Education Meeting (Recognition Ceremonies)
- C. Approval of Minutes for the June 13, 2017 Board of Education Special Meeting

Sue Twachtman MOVED and Maura Wallin SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

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

Kathy Brown	YES √ NO A_	Joanne Nesti	YES_√_NOA
Dan Chase	YES √ NO A	Peter Sonski	YES_√_ NOA
Maura Wallin	YES_√_NOA	Suzanne Sack	YES <u>√</u> NOA
Eric Couture	YES_ √_ NOA	Sue Twachtman	YES_√_ NOA
Susan Dean	YES_√_NOA	Jeannie Young	Absent
		Joel D'Angelo	YES_√_NOA

## **Board Liaison Reports:**

A. Curriculum Council

No Report.

B. Curriculum Subcommittee

No Report.

Suzanne Sack **MOVED** and Joanne Nesti **SECONDED** a motion to move up in the Agenda Item 6D, A&B set forth under New Business.

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

Kathy Brown	YES <u>√</u> NOA	Joanne Nesti	YES_√_ NOA
Dan Chase	YES_√_ NO A	Peter Sonski	YES √ NO A
Maura Wallin	YES_√_NOA	Suzanne Sack	YES_√_NOA
Eric Couture	YES_√_NOA	Sue Twachtman	YES_√_ NOA
Susan Dean	YES_√_ NOA	Jeannie Young	Absent
		Joel D'Angelo	YES_√_NOA

### **Healthy Food Certification:**

### a) Healthy Food Certification Program

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He spoke on how we participate in the Healthy Food Certification Program and that every meal that is sold we get \$0.10 paid back from the State. Sharon Shettleworth, the Director of Food Services, was present to answer any questions.

# b) Exemptions Outside of School Day

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He spoke on how we participate in the Exception Outside of School Program which is set up for selling food for things like outside activities and plays. Sharon Shettleworth, the Director of Food Services, was present to answer any questions.

Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to accept the Healthy Food Certification Program with Exemptions Outside of the School Day.

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

Kathy Brown	YES √ NO A_	Joanne Nesti	YES_√_ NOA
Dan Chase	YES_ √_ NO A	Peter Sonski	$YES_{}NO_{A}$
Maura Wallin	YES_√_ NOA	Suzanne Sack	YES_√_ NOA
Eric Couture	YES_√_ NOA	Sue Twachtman	YES_√_ NOA
Susan Dean	YES_√_ NOA	Jeannie Young	Absent
		Joel D'Angelo	YES_√_NO A

#### **Old Business:**

## A. High School Energy and Facilities Upgrade

#### a) Report from Public Building Committee

Joanne Nesti updated the Board. She spoke on the ongoing Roof Project at the Haddam-Killingworth High School. She stated that Silktown has been working on vacuuming the ballast up on the existing roof. The debris is being brought to East Coast Salvage off of Route 81. She further spoke on how Paul Drummey is no longer the point of contact; Doug Rogers who is from CREC is now the Senior Project Manager. She addressed two invoices being active and paid: roughly \$19,000 to Silver Petrucelli and roughly \$48,000 to DTC for the Lighting and Boiler project. Obviously, there will be more invoices especially from Silktown as the roof project progresses.

Superintendent Thiery addressed the current processing of invoicing. He further spoke on how there needs to be a standard process in which these get paid. Receiving them, they get

authorized, CREC signs off on them and the invoice then goes to Martha Vaughn for payment. This way she will be able match the invoice with the work that was completed.

Susan Dean spoke on Imperial's letter to the Board advising them that they hired an attorney to represent them in what they believe is a small company discrimination lawsuit. Superintendent Thiery addressed this and said that our attorney, Floyd Dugas, stated that our decisions in hiring are sound and no response is needed to Imperial at this time.

A few questions were raised by the Board regarding the roof. Sue Twachtman asked about shutting the school down to the public if there has been anyone on the school since the project commenced and Superintendent Thiery said that folks are listening and there are signs posted not to enter but will be posting more. Second, Peter Sonski asked if everyone was happy with the new Senior Project Manager and Joanne Nesti said that they are keeping a closer eye on everything and asking more questions. Superintendent Thiery brought up how CREC is now sitting at Central Office to observe and supervise the roof project as it moves forward. Sue Twachtman spoke briefly on how the criteria changed at the State level and it was not necessarily at the fault of CREC.

### b) Report from Facilities Subcommittee

a) Tour Discussion

Dan Chase updated the Board. He said the Committee met and took a tour of the barn. The barn is used for storage purposes for things like tractors, water equipment, lime and old records. Superintendent Thiery spoke on how we keep records for a certain period of time and there are statutes in place for those purposes. Dan continued and said the barn is not in particularly good shape. He mentioned there are issues with the floor joists and beams. He said there are other signs of deterioration. Director of Facilities, Mike Distefano, will be taking photos of the barn's condition. They would like safety engineers to assess what kind of condition it is in and if it is even safe to enter. This project will ultimately go out to bid. Peter Sonski raised the question on whether or not it is even practical to fix and keep the barn and Joanne Nesti furthered by saying this is a Historical Property and we have obligations to keep it and maintain it according to the Haddam Historical Society. Eric Couture did advise that the barn is completely shut with a padlock so there is no risk to students during the academic year.

Joel D'Angelo asked about the pond area and the sludge. Dan Chase advised that the area has been steadily improving; the oxygen in the pond has gone up, water is improving in the field and the roots that are growing into the soil are healthier. Mike Distefano will be putting together a spreadsheet in September which will be brought to the Board addressing all these concerns and improvements.

# c) Report from the Strategic Facilities Planning Committee

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. She spoke on how the Committee met and came up with 5 scenarios regarding Capital Asset utilization, they discussed them and used the data to eliminate one of those scenarios. She said the next step is to bring the 4 scenarios to the Board. She asked to schedule two separate meetings in September. The first meeting the Committee will present the information and discuss it, and the second meeting they will see how to move forward. The dates that were raised and agreed upon by the Board are September 5<sup>th</sup> and September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 starting at 5:30 p.m. which is two hours before our regular scheduled BOE meeting.

#### **New Business:**

A. Discussion and Approval of the 17/18 Assessment Invoice for the Towns of Haddam and Killingworth

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. She spoke on the 17/18 Assessments that were provided in the BOE packet. She said that this is an outlined assessment of both Towns, that were audited and had a balance of monies left over. Superintendent Thiery clarified that this is a budget of two years ago and an audit of last year that is presented in the spreadsheet. Joanne Nesti briefly spoke on State revenues, Town of Haddam's Budget, ECS and ECG funds. Superintendent Thiery spoke on how ECG is now being directed to the District. He also briefly spoke on how we probably won't get any State's numbers until the end of August or even October timeframe.

Suzanne Sack **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to approve the 17/18 Assessment Invoice for the Towns of Haddam and Killingworth as presented.

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

Kathy Brown	YES √ NO A_	Joanne Nesti	YES_√_ NOA
Dan Chase	YES_√_NOA	Peter Sonski	YES √ NO A
Maura Wallin	YES_√_ NOA	Suzanne Sack	YES_√_ NOA
Eric Couture	YES_√_ NOA	Sue Twachtman	YES_√_ NOA
Susan Dean	YES_√_ NOA	Jeannie Young	Absent
		Joel D'Angelo	YES_√_ NOA

# B. End of Year Budget Projection and Fund Balance Discussion

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. She spoke on the funds left over from the current year and where to allocate them. She said Martha Vaughn estimated the monies to be around \$124,891.57. She also addressed the ECG grant, State transportation grant and PO's. Lastly, she spoke about taking any remaining year-end balance to fund the Capital Account up to the amount that is equal to 1% of our Operating Balance and if anything is remaining, it will get refunded back to the Towns.

Peter Sonski MOVED and Eric Couture SECONDED a motion to take any remaining year-end balance and fund the Capital Account up to the amount equal to 1% of our Operating Budget. Any balance remaining, if any, will get refunded back to the Towns at the percentage it was paid.

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

Kathy Brown	YES_√_ NOA	Joanne Nesti	YES <u>√</u> NOA
Dan Chase	YES_√_ NO A	Peter Sonski	YES_√_ NOA
Maura Wallin	YES_√_NOA	Suzanne Sack	YES_√_ NOA
Eric Couture	YES_√_NOA	Sue Twachtman	YES_√_NOA
Susan Dean	YES <u>√</u> NOA	Jeannie Young	Absent
		Joel D'Angelo	YES_√_ NOA

# C. Superintendent's Contract\*

Moved down to Executive Session.

- E. Inventory Disposal Request-Haddam-Killingworth High School:
  - a) Special Request to sell books being disposed of to Cromwell High School in the amount of \$392.00

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He said the Haddam-Killingworth High School made a request to dispose of the old Pre-Calculus Trigonometry Books. In addition, there is a second request made by Cromwell High School asking to buy these same books for their classrooms. These books have already been replaced by new ones at HKHS. Board Chair D'Angelo raised the question if we should just donate the disposed books to Cromwell High School instead of them buying same. The Board agreed to this action and a motion was made.

Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Maura Wallin **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Inventory Disposal of the Pre-Calculus Trigonometry books and donation of those same books to Cromwell High School.

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

Kathy Brown	YES √ NO A_	Joanne Nesti	YES <u>√</u> NOA
Dan Chase	YES_√_ NO A	Peter Sonski	YES_√_ NOA
Maura Wallin	YES_√_ NOA	Suzanne Sack	YES <u>√</u> NOA
Eric Couture	YES_√_NO A	Sue Twachtman	YES_√_NOA
Susan Dean	YES √ NO A	Jeannie Young	Absent
		Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>√</u> NOA

### F. Director of Pupil Services Search Update

Moved down to Executive Session.

#### 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 \$436.80 from General Mills Box Top Program. Submitted by Principal Bryan Kerachsky, Haddam Elementary School.
- B. Acceptance of an award in the amount of 5,000.00 from Travelers for several video communications students making a public service video on teen safe driving. Submitted by Principal Donna L. Hayward, Haddam-Killingworth High School.
- C. Acceptance of a donation of several rolls of paper for the art classrooms valued at approximately \$116.00 from The Bennett Family. Submitted by Principal Donna L. Hayward, Haddam-Killingworth High School.
- D. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$42.00 from Coco-Cola vending machine sales to be deposited into the Student Activity Account. Submitted by Principal Dennis J. Reed, Killingworth Elementary School.
- E. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,825.48 from the Stop & Shop A+ Rewards Program to be deposited into the Student Activity Account. Submitted by Principal Dennis J. Reed, Killingworth Elementary School.
- F. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,529.97 from the Stop & Shop A+ Rewards Program to be deposited into the Principal's Discretionary Fund. Submitted by Principal Donna L. Hayward, Haddam-Killingworth High School.
- G. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,133.64 from the Stop & Shop A+ Rewards Program. Submitted by Principal Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.
- H. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,058.55 from the Stop & Shop A+ Rewards Program to be deposited into the Student Activity Donation Fund. Submitted by Principal Eric D. Larson, Burr Elementary School.
- I. Acceptance of a mini-grant in the amount of \$400.00 from Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). Submitted by Principal Donna L. Hayward, Haddam-Killingworth High School.

J. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,000.00 from Kathy Godrick to be deposited in KES Student Activity – Bill C Scholarship Account. Submitted by Principal Dennis J. Reed, Killingworth Elementary School.

Maura Wallin **MOVED** and Susan Dean **SECONDED** a motion to accept Items A-J on the Consent Agenda with great appreciation.

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

Kathy Brown	YES √ NO A	Joanne Nesti	$YES_{}NO_{A}$
Dan Chase	YES_ √_ NO A	Peter Sonski	YES_√_ NOA
Maura Wallin	YES_√_ NOA	Suzanne Sack	YES_√_ NOA
Eric Couture	YES_√_ NOA	Sue Twachtman	YES_√_ NOA
Susan Dean	YES $\sqrt{\ }$ NO A_	Jeannie Young	Absent
		Joel D'Angelo	YES_√_ NOA

### From the Superintendent:

# A. Legislative Update

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He spoke on how he is still tracking what is happening up at the State and will continue to do so.

# **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 updated the Board. He spoke on how the Kindergarten numbers are increasing and he is continuing to monitor them for the Fall academic school year.

# From the Director of Fiscal Operations:

#### A. Budget Transfers

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. She spoke on the Budget Transfers presented in the BOE Packet. She addressed project improvements to the schools, expenditures approved by the Board and transferring money from W/C fund.

Eric Couture MOVED and Susan Dean SECONDED a motion to accept the Budget Transfers as presented.

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

Kathy Brown	YES <u>√</u> NOA	Joanne Nesti	YES_√_ NOA
Dan Chase	YES $\sqrt{\ }$ NO $A$	Peter Sonski	YES_√_ NOA
Maura Wallin	YES_√_NOA	Suzanne Sack	YES_√_ NOA
Eric Couture	YES_√_ NOA	Sue Twachtman	YES_√_NOA
Susan Dean	YES <u>√</u> NOA	Jeannie Young	Absent
		Joel D'Angelo	YES_√_ NOA

### **Board Discussion/News/Suggestions:**

Board Chair Joel D'Angelo asked the Board since the Summer months have started, to please alert him on their schedules as soon as possible to make sure they have a quorum before a scheduled meeting.

Public Commen	Pi	ih	lic	Co	mı	me	ents	•
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None.

**Executive Session:** 

Sue Twachtman MOVED and Eric Couture SECONDED a motion to enter into Executive Session regarding personnel issues.

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

Kathy Brown	YES <u>√</u> NOA	Joanne Nesti	YES √ NO A
Dan Chase	YES <u>√</u> NOA	Peter Sonski	YES <u>√</u> NOA
Maura Wallin	YES_√_NOA	Suzanne Sack	YES_√_ NOA
Eric Couture	YES_√_ NOA	Sue Twachtman	YES_√_ NOA
Susan Dean	YES_√_ NOA	Jeannie Young	Absent
		Joel D'Angelo	YES_√_NOA

The Board went into the Executive Session at 8:27 PM to discuss personnel issues.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:02 PM.

Suzanne Sack MOVED and Eric Couture SECONDED a motion to approve the Superintendent's Contract.

*Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 by the following votes:* 

Kathy Brown	YES_√_ NOA	Joanne Nesti	YES √ NO A
Dan Chase	YES_√_NOA	Peter Sonski	YES_√_ NOA
Maura Wallin	YES_√_NOA	Suzanne Sack	YES_√_ NOA
Eric Couture	YES_√_NOA	Sue Twachtman	YES_√_ NOA
Susan Dean	YES √ NO A	Jeannie Young	Absent
		Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>√</u> NOA

Adjournment:

Board Chair D'Angelo called for the meeting to adjourn at 9:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamié Sciascia

Board Clerk

Approval: Kathy Brown, Secretary