

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION - EDUCATION SESSION**  
**May 16, 2017**

*A special meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on May 16, 2017 in the Haddam-Killingworth Middle School Media Center. Board of Education Chair, Joel D'Angelo called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM.*

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

**Members Absent:** *None*

**Also Present:** *Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Holly Hageman, Director of Facilities, Michael Distefano, Representative from Capital Region Education Council (CREC) Doug Rogers, Student Representatives, Kate Porter and Luke Bauer 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 7:36 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

**Public Comment:**

*Gail Hanson, 14 Foot Hills Road, Higganum addressed the Board. She spoke on the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Field Trip to Castle Craig. She came to the Board to ask for approval to take her students on this trip. She recently learned that she won't be able to go and doesn't understand what the resistance is since she has gone every year. She further spoke that she is in attendance tonight for her students because she believes that it is the parents and school's responsibility to provide an excellent education for them. She further spoke on how beneficial this field trip is as far as the amazing hike and having the kids see the topography.*

*Jake Frith, 13 Coughlin Road, Killingworth addressed the Board. He spoke on the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Field Trip to Castle Craig. He spoke on how he was Ms. Hanson's student years ago. He said that the field trip was excellent and brought students closer together.*

*Sadie Strom, 134 Grapevine Road, Higganum addressed the Board. She spoke on the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Field Trip to Castle Craig. She said she was a student of Ms. Hanson 4 years ago and went on this field trip. It taught her about geology and was able to apply it to real life.*

*Luke Lamontagne, 22 Laurel Grove Drive, Higganum addressed the Board. He spoke on the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Field Trip to Castle Craig. He loved the view, being with friends, and applying what he learned in the classroom.*

*Suzanne Guica, 166 Filley Road, Haddam addressed the Board. She spoke on the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Field Trip to Castle Craig. She was a former Science Teacher and also doesn't understand what the resistance is*

on not being able to accommodate this field trip. She stated that the students benefited from this trip not only educationally but socially as well.

Board Chair D'Angelo commended and admires Ms. Hanson for being so dedicated and passionate for her students. He asked Superintendent Thiery to address the field trip process.

Superintendent Thiery started off by stating he is a big supporter of field trips and is also a former Science Teacher. He spoke on how there are endless amounts of field trips that the students can go on in an academic year. He addressed the Field Trip request process and how around the spring time of each year, the teachers submit the field trips requests for the next year which then goes to the administration for approval. He spoke on the key elements of the field trip process and stressed the fact that it is all about balance.

Suzanne Sack asked Ms. Hanson if she received any feedback as to why her field trip was denied for this year. Ms. Hanson addressed her request was sent in last year on April 27<sup>th</sup> and she has gotten numerous answers as to why she couldn't take her students this year but she still doesn't know for certain why it was denied. Superintendent Thiery made the Board aware that this wasn't the case.

Suzanne Sack spoke to the students that came to speak on behalf of the Castle Craig field trip, and said that they raised an issue, had it heard and now can learn from it for the future. She thanked them for being in attendance.

Jeannie Young asked if this was the only traditional field trip taken away and learned that there were others like the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Nature Classroom trip.

### Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Minutes for the following Board Meetings:

- A. Approval of Minutes for the May 1, 2017 Board of Education Special Meeting (Annual District Meeting)
- B. Approval of Minutes for the May 1, 2017 Board of Education Special Meeting
- C. Approval of Minutes for the May 2, 2017 Board of Education Meeting

Maura Wallin **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

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

Kathy Brown	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Dan Chase	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input checked="" 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"/>
Susan Dean	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"/>
Peter Sonski	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"/>
Sue Twachtman	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"/>

### Report from Student Representatives:

Kate Porter and Luke Bauer updated the Board. They spoke on Mindset and Grit meeting with the Leadership team. They addressed the World Language Department holding their Honor Society Inductions on May 15<sup>th</sup> which went extremely well. They further spoke on the Upper Class Award Ceremony scheduled for May 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 a.m. and the Spring Concert scheduled for Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. They addressed AP Testing how it was over and everyone was well prepared and received positive feedback. Junior Prom is scheduled for Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> and Senior Prom will be held at St. Clemens Castle on June



3<sup>rd</sup>. Scholarship Night is scheduled for May 30<sup>th</sup> for the Senior Class and National Honor Society Induction is scheduled for June 7<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, the HKYFS Coalition aligned with Balancing the Ride to schedule events prior to the final exams to reduce stress. These activities included Yoga, Mediation, and Therapy Dogs.

Luke Bauer thanked the Board for having him for the last two years. He said during his experience with the Board, that he learned a lot and was thankful. Luke is off to UConn next year.

Board Chair Joel D'Angelo and Superintendent Thiery thanked Luke for his hard work during the last two years. Board Chair D'Angelo stated how their student reports were the highlights of the Board Meeting. They wished him the best of luck at UConn. He also thanked Kate Porter who is a Junior this year entering into her last year at Haddam-Killingworth High School next year. They each were each presented with an Amazon Gift card on behalf of the Board for their dedication and hard work.

#### **Board Liaison Reports:**

##### **A. Curriculum Council**

*No Report.*

##### **B. Curriculum Subcommittee**

*No Report.*

#### **Old Business:**

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

###### **a) Report from Public Building Committee**

Joanne Nesti updated the Board. She spoke on how the Public Building Committee was held on May 10<sup>th</sup> and there were 4 bids which the Committee narrowed it down to the two best. These two bids were from Imperial Roofing of Cromwell, Connecticut and Silktown of Manchester, Connecticut. She stated that Tom Hogarty presented his review of both construction firms, and found that Silktown was more professional, experienced and gave an impressive presentation. Also, stated that the difference between these two firms bids was roughly \$24,000 on a \$9M project. She spoke on how the Public Building Committee recommends to award the contract for the High School Roofing Project to Silktown. Doug Rogers from CREC quickly addressed that they are waiting for documentation that shows the grant numbers releasing the funding. Suzanne Sack asked to have updates as the project moves along and thanked the Public Building Committee for their hard work on the project. Mike Distefano said that the High school campus will be closed for the summer due to traffic as well as the removal of hazardous materials on site.

###### **b) Roof Contract Recommendation and Award**

Joanne Nesti **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to award the contract for the roofing project at Haddam-Killingworth High School to Silktown Roofing Company of Manchester, Connecticut, contingent upon the finalization of the state school construction grant and the issuance of the permanent project number by the Office of School Construction Grants.

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

Kathy Brown	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"/>
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"/>
Susan Dean	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"/>
Peter Sonski	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"/>
Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>
Jeannie Young	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joel D'Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>



Sue Twachtman **MOVED** and Maura Wallin **SECONDED** a motion to move Item 8-A (Formal Appropriation of Funds for High School Construction Project) up on the Agenda to be placed under Item 6-C.

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>

### c) Formal Appropriation of Funds for High School Construction Project

Superintendent Thiery spoke briefly on the fact that the State grant couldn't move forward until the Board finalized the Appropriation of Funds for the High School Project. Superintendent Thiery stated that this week it will be finalized which will be contingent upon completion of the grant.

Eric Couture **MOVED** and Joanne Nesti **SECONDED** a motion for Regional School District No. 17, based on voter approval at the referendum on December 13, 2016, hereby authorizes project appropriations as follows: 1) The Regional School District No. 17 hereby authorizes the appropriation of \$810,000 for the Planning, Design And Construction of Renovations to the Haddam-Killingworth High School Auditorium; 2) The Regional School District No. 17 hereby authorizes the appropriation of \$3,677,463 for the Planning, Design, Engineering, and Construction of the **'Roof Project'** at the Haddam-Killingworth High School; 3) The Regional School District No. 17 hereby authorizes the appropriation of \$2,322,537 for the Planning Design, Engineering, and Construction of the **'Solar Photovoltaic System'** at the Haddam-Killingworth High School; 4) The Regional School District No. 17 hereby authorizes the appropriation of \$2,380,000 for the Planning, Design, Engineering, and Construction of the **'Heating Plant/Domestic Hot Water'** at the Haddam-Killingworth High School; and, 5) The Regional School District No. 17 hereby authorizes the appropriation of \$300,000 for the Planning, Design, Engineering, and Construction of the **'Exterior & Interior Lighting'** at the Haddam-Killingworth High School.

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>

### 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 \$150.00 from Marcia Cieslukowski to be deposited into the KES Student Activity–Bill C. Scholarship account. Submitted by Principal Dennis Reed, Killingworth Elementary School.
- B. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$250.00 from the KES PTO to be deposited in the KES Student Activity –Bill C. Scholarship account. Submitted by Principal Dennis Reed, Killingworth Elementary School.
- C. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$533.30 from the Top Box Program to be deposited in the BES Student Activity Account. Submitted by Principal Eric D. Larson, Burr Elementary School.

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

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

Kathy Brown	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>   </u>	A <u>   </u>
Dan Chase	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>
Susan Dean	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>   </u>	A <u>   </u>

Joanne Nesti	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>   </u>	A <u>   </u>
Peter Sonski	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>   </u>	A <u>   </u>
Suzanne Sack	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>   </u>	A <u>   </u>
Sue Twachtman	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>

#### **New Business:**

##### **HKHS Football Field Trip August 23-25, 2017:**

*Mike Baklik, the Head Football Coach, sent a request into the Board asking for the Boards approval for the Haddam-Killingworth Football team to stay overnight for a preseason football camp at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield, Connecticut from August 23-25, 2017. There were multiple questions raised about how the groups of students were paying for the trip for things like hotel accommodation and buses. Also, Dan Chase raised concerns about the rowdiness of the football groups in previous years. They do know based on Coach Bakik's paper request that there are 41 kids attending and 5 coaches. Coach Bakik was not present to answer these questions.*

*Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Susan Dean **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Haddam-Killingworth High School Football Team Field Trip scheduled for August 23-25, 2017.*

*Motion passed 8-0-3 by the following votes:*

Kathy Brown	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>   </u>	A <u>   </u>
Dan Chase	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>
Susan Dean	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>   </u>	A <u>   </u>

Joanne Nesti	YES <u>   </u>	NO <u>   </u>	A <u>√</u>
Peter Sonski	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>   </u>	A <u>   </u>
Suzanne Sack	YES <u>   </u>	NO <u>   </u>	A <u>√</u>
Sue Twachtman	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>

#### **Public Comments:**

*None.*

**Adjournment:**

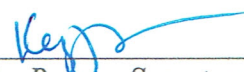
*Board Chair D'Angelo called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:39 PM.*

*Respectfully submitted,*



*Jamie Sciascia  
Board Clerk*

*Approval:*

  
*Kathy Brown, Secretary*

*Date:*

6/20/17