

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
April 4, 2017

A special meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on April 4, 2017 in the Haddam-Killingworth Middle School Students Commons Area. Board of Education Chair, Joel D'Angelo called the meeting to order at 8:02 PM.

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

***Members Absent:** Dan Chase*

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

***Visitors:** Approximately 16*

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting:

Board of Education Chair, Joel D'Angelo called the meeting to order at 8:02 PM.

Review of Community Input of Annual Hearing and Possible Budget Modification:

The Board reviewed the input from members of the Community. The Board spoke on the Budget Workshop process and how they reviewed different types of scenarios and data to bring the budget as low as possible. Although the decisions to reduce certain parts of the proposed budget were not easy, they believed that the budget recommendation was appropriate. They further stressed the importance of children's education and believed that they stayed away from reducing anything that would affect their education at the Elementary, Middle and High School levels. Superintendent Thiery spoke about the demographic shift of roughly 125-130 students moving out of the school system. He further spoke on teacher retirements, the set of core teachers being reduced and addressed the French and Spanish class sizes/sections at the Middle School level. Jeannie Young raised her concerns about how we should be looking at taking funds from the Capital Funding account first since there are always monies left over at the end of the fiscal year. Suzanne Sack acknowledged the Communities Input at the Annual Hearing and spoke on how we do live in two small communities and reducing staff in any way is very personal to everyone. Sue Twachtman addressed the Board acknowledging how hard they have worked to get this budget as low as possible. She raised the question on the voting process and wanted an explanation of why board members vote no on adopting the budget if there are no further suggestions on the table. Lastly, The Board agreed that there should be more communication to the Community about the budget process. The Board made no further modifications to the budget.

Board of Education Adopts 2017-2018 Budget for Annual Meeting:

*Suzanne Sack **MOVED** and Sue Twachtman **SECONDED** a motion to adopt a Regional Gross Education Budget of \$42,026,428.84 for the fiscal year of 2017-2018 starting July 1, 2017.*

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

Kathy Brown	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>	A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dan Chase	Absent					
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"/>

Approval of Legal Call for May 1, 2017:

*Kathy Brown **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Legal Call as follows below:*

A meeting of Regional School District No. 17 of the State of Connecticut, whose member towns are the towns of Haddam and Killingworth, will be held in the Auditorium of Haddam-Killingworth High School on May 1, 2017 at 7:00 PM for the following purposes:

1. To adopt a regional education gross budget of \$42,026,428.84 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017.

The meeting will be adjourned to a yes/no vote on the budget which will take place on the voting machines in each of the member towns on the day following the district meeting; therefore, the vote on voting machines will take place May 2, 2017.

2. To set the voting hours of the referendum vote on the budget for the hours of 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM pursuant to Section 10-51 of the Connecticut General Statutes as amended by Public Act 94-245 and 7-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

A copy of the proposed budget recommended for adoption by the district Board of Education is on file and available for inspection and copies are available for distribution upon request at the office of the Superintendent of Schools at 57 Little City Road, Higganum, CT and at the offices of the town clerks of Haddam and Killingworth.

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

Kathy Brown	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>	A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dan Chase	Absent					
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"/>

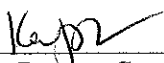
Adjournment

Board Chair, Joel D'Angelo called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



*Jamie Sciascia
Board Clerk*

Approval: 
Kathy Brown, Secretary

Date: 5/2/17