

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION – EDUCATION SESSION**  
**September 20, 2016**

*A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on September 20, 2016 in the Haddam Killingworth Middle School Media Center. Board of Education Chair, Joel D'Angelo called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM.*

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

**Members Absent:** *Dan Chase, Neal Perron*

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

**Visitors:** *10*

**Call to Order/Opening of Meeting**

*Board of Education Chair, Joel D'Angelo called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

**Public Comment**

*None.*

**Board Liaison Reports**

**A. Curriculum Council Update**

*The Council had no report*

**B. Curriculum Subcommittee**

*The Subcommittee had no report*

**Old Business**

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

*Superintendent of Schools Howard Thiery discussed the flyer that will be going out before the Public Hearing being held on October 25, 2016. The flyer is being worked on and will focus on the solar aspect of the project.*

## New Business

### A. Annual Student Achievement Presentation

*Superintendent Thiery presented the Regional School District No. 17 Student Achievement 2015-2016 report, followed by HKHS Principal Donna Hayward who gave the Haddam Killingworth High School Class of 2016 Graduate Report, and Dr. Holly Hageman who gave the Regional School District 17 2016 State Testing Report.*

*Mr. Thiery presented a chart displaying the "Percentage of Students Meeting Grade Level Reading Standards (DRA/DRP+TC)," in grades K-4, highlighting third grade, where 85% in third grade read at grade level in 2014 and 90% read at grade level in 2015, and 92% read at grade level in 2016. The overall range in students reading at grade level was between 82% and 90% across grades K-4 in 2016. He also reported on Fact Fluency rates in Mathematics. In 2016, 89% of students in Grade 1 and 76% of students in Grade 2 met grade-level standards for Fact Fluency in Addition, and 68% of students in Grade 1 and 58% of students in Grade 2 met grade-level standards for Fact Fluency in Subtraction. For Fact Fluency in Multiplication, 49% of students in Grade 3 and 79% of students in Grade 4 met grade-level standards, and 47% of students in Grade 3 and 81% of students in Grade 4 met grade-level standards for Fact Fluency in Division. Superintendent Thiery also reported on the Spring Benchmark Assessment that was part of the new mathematics curriculum at the elementary level reporting that 58%-78% of students met goal.*

*For Elementary Writing, 82% of students in Grades 2-4 met grade-level standards in Narrative Writing, 84% of students met grade-level standards in Informational Writing, and 83% of students met grade-level standards in Opinion Writing.*

*Superintendent Thiery also reported on survey results from Elementary school parents, where parents gave the elementary schools high marks for school safety, learning environments and communication.*

*At the middle school level, Superintendent Thiery presented a chart displaying the "Percentage of Students Meeting Grade Level Reading Standards (DRP)," The overall range in students reading at grade level was between 77% and 86% across grades 5-8 in 2015. Superintendent Thiery also presented a chart representing students meeting report card standards for writing in grades 5-8, and a chart representing students meeting report card standards for Pre-Algebra and Algebra in grade 8 and mathematics for grades 5-7. He also reported on survey results from middle school students where students gave high marks for feeling safe at school and understanding of school expectations.*

*At the high school level, Superintendent Thiery reported on SAT scores for the graduating classes 2012-2015. For the class of 2015, the average SAT score in Critical Reading was 558 the average score for Math was 548, and the average score for Writing was 564. Superintendent Thiery also reported data on students taking Advanced Placement (AP) courses and tests. The number of students taking AP exams dropped in the year of 2016, this is due to the change in prerequisites in science and no AP Biology or AP Chemistry was offered in the 2015-2016 school year. The percentage of students with Postgraduate Experience 2015-2016 has increased over prior years from 58% in 2012 to 100% in 2016. Superintendent Thiery presented a breakdown of what percentages of students participated in several categories of post-secondary experiences. He also presented data on scores from Career and Technical Education testing from 2013 through 2016. He then presented feedback from a Student/Parent Survey from the high school.*

*Superintendent Thiery then presented Celebrations in Student Achievement, Numeracy and Literacy, and Internal and External Community.*

*Principal Donna Hayward presented the "Haddam-Killingworth High School Class of 2016 Graduate Report." She reported that in 2016, there were 139 graduates, and of which 73.4% were headed to a four-year college, 17.3% were headed to a two-year college, 2.9% went to trade school/joined the military, and 6.5% entered the workforce. She reported that altogether, the class of 2016*

completed more than 17,276 hours of community service. The total scholarships awarded were \$7,204,430. She also reported on the application and acceptance rates differentiating by competitiveness of the college admission process. For the Class of 2016, 36% of students who applied were accepted at the most competitive colleges, 64% of students who applied were accepted at highly competitive colleges, and 70% of students who applied were accepted to very competitive colleges. She also presented information on which schools the students applied to and chose to attend, as well as some information on their selection of majors.

Assistant Superintendent Hageman presented the "Regional School District 17 2016 State Testing Report." She gave an introduction to Annual State Testing and explained that annual state assessments are meant to give a snapshot of student achievement and provide data regarding student achievement and growth but should not be used as the sole measure of student achievement, program evaluation or district continuous improvement. For the Connecticut Mastery Test in Science, 81.5% of students in Grade 5 scored "At or Above Goal," and 80.4% of students in Grade 8 scored "At or Above Goal." 72.8% of students in Grade 10 in 2015 scored "At or Above Goal" on the Connecticut Academic Performance Test in Science.

Assistant Superintendent Hageman then presented on the Smarter Balanced Assessment results for Grades 3-11 in English Language Arts and Mathematics, and explained how these tests differed from the CMT and CAPT exams. In English Language Arts, 67% of students in Grade 3 score at Level 3 or above, 77% of students in Grade 4 scored at Level 3 or above, 68% of students in Grade 5 scored at Level 3 or above, 82% of students in Grade 6 scored at Level 3 or above, 71% of students in Grade 7 scored at Level 3 or above, and 76% of students in Grade 8 scored at Level 3 or above. In Mathematics, 76% of students in Grade 3 score at Level 3 or above, 73% of students in Grade 4 scored at Level 3 or above, 57% of students in Grade 5 scored at Level 3 or above, 69% of students in Grade 6 scored at Level 3 or above, 45% of students in Grade 7 scored at Level 3 or above, and 53% of students in Grade 8. She also reported that the junior class took the first state wide SAT and that 86% met or exceeded the state goal for evidence based reading and 54% met or exceeded the state goal for math. She then presented on Interpretations for Curriculum and Instruction.

Superintendent Thiery concluded the presentations and Board Chair Joel D'Angelo thanked everyone for their presentations.

## Public Comment

None

## Adjournment

Board Chair Joel D'Angelo called for the meeting to adjourn at 9:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Kati Mohr  
Board Clerk

Approval:  Date: 11/1/16  
Kathy Brown, Secretary