

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
June 7, 2016**

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on June 7, 2016 in the Central Office Board Room. Board of Education Chair, Joel D'Angelo, called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Members Present: *Kathy Brown, Maura Wallin, Eric Couture, Joanne Nesti, Suzanne Sack, Jeannie Young, Susan Dean, Dan Chase, Sue Twachtman, Neal Perron (arrived at 8:19 PM), and Joel D'Angelo*

Members Absent: *None*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Holly Hageman, Director of Fiscal Operations, Martha Vaughn and Board Clerk Larissa Johnson*

Visitors: *10*

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting

Board of Education Chair, Joel D'Angelo called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Audience of Citizens

None

*Maura Wallin **MOVED** and Suzanne Sack **SECONDED** a motion to move New Business Item 8.A – "Eagle Scout Project at Killingworth Elementary School" up in the agenda to follow the Audience of Citizens. Motion passed 10-0-0 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"/>	Neal Perron	Absent
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. Eagle Scout Project at Killingworth Elementary School

Dan Chase presented information on a proposed Eagle Scout project at Killingworth Elementary School. Doug Brown of Killingworth would like to erect a trailhead sign behind the KES playground at the beginning of a 3-4-mile trail behind the school. He presented his proposal to the Facilities Subcommittee earlier this evening. The sign will be 6'x8' with a plexiglass case for trail and community information which he will update periodically. The cost is \$1,100 that will be paid for by donations from members and organizations in the community.

Susan Dean **MOVED** and Dan Chase **SECONDED** a motion to accept the donation of a trailhead kiosk at Killingworth Elementary School to be built by Doug Brown, future Eagle Scout. Motion passed 10-0-0 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"/>	Neal Perron	Absent
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"/>

Sue Twachtman **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to move Old Business Item 6.A – “High School Energy and Facilities Upgrade” up in the agenda to follow the New Business Item 8.A. Motion passed 10-0-0 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"/>	Neal Perron	Absent
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"/>

Old Business

A. High School Energy and Facilities Upgrade

Carmelo Rosa of Hibbard & Rosa Architects, LLC and Kenneth Biega of O&G Industries, Inc. presented three possible schematics for moving the high school maintenance entrance from the center turret under the catwalk to an existing rear entrance across from the baseball field and tennis courts. The first proposal represented a relocation of the administrative offices to the new entrance location and a transfer of the currently existing classrooms to the former administrative office location on the catwalk. This would require approximately 6,720 square-feet of renovation at a cost of approximately \$1.792 million. The second proposal would relocate both the administrative and guidance offices from the catwalk to the new entrance location and relocate the associated classrooms to the original administrative office and guidance spaces. This would require approximately 11,720 square-feet of renovation at a cost of approximately \$2.791 million. The third proposal would relocate the administrative offices, guidance offices, and nurse’s office to the new entrance location, and relocate the associated classrooms to those original office spaces. This would require approximately 14,000 square-feet of renovation at a cost of approximately \$3 million.

Mr. Rosa explained that these estimates are based on line-item calculations rather than a per square-foot baseline calculation. Mr. Biega explained that approximately 50% of this project would be reimbursable at a rate of approximately 44% based on what would be involved in the project, however he added the caveat that the project would have to be submitted to the state for consideration by June 30 in order for renovations to be done in the summer of 2017. He further explained that a referendum need not take place by June 30, but the paperwork for the project would need to be submitted to the state by June 30. They also discussed that a new HVAC system for these areas represents approximately \$750,000 of the cost because there would need to be additional airflow in the former office spaces.

The Board discussed its interest in pursuing the entrance relocation project and there was consensus among the members of the Board that the project should not be pursued alongside the infrastructural upgrades that are needed that may be put forward in a referendum this fall.

Joanne Nesti **MOVED** and Dan Chase **SECONDED** a motion to move New Business Item 8.B – “Healthy Food Certification” up in the agenda to follow the Old Business Item 6.A. Motion passed 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"/>	Neal Perron	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"/>

New Business – Continued

B. Healthy Food Certification

Sharon Shettleworth presented the Connecticut State Department of Education Healthy Food Certification Statement. She explained that as the gap between federal and state standards for healthy have been closing, she would now like to participate in the program which gives participating school districts a reimbursement at a rate of \$0.10 per meal. Sales have decreased and the additional revenue from the healthy food certification would represent an increase of \$20,000. The certification now offers an exception for after-school activities which allows for the sale of food after the regular school day, which previously impinged upon the cafeteria program’s ability to sell food at afternoon events.

Sue Twachtman **MOVED** and Dan Chase **SECONDED** a motion to participate in the Connecticut State Department of Education Healthy Food Certification program with the exemption for after-school activities. Motion passed 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"/>	Neal Perron	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"/>

Approval of Minutes

- A. Approval of Minutes for the May 2, 2016 Board of Education Special Meeting – Annual Meeting
- B. Approval of Minutes for the May 3, 2016 Board of Education Meeting
- C. Approval of Minutes for the May 10, 2016 Board of Education Special Meeting – Budget Workshop
- D. Approval of Minutes for the May 12, 2016 Board of Education Special Meeting – Annual Hearing
- E. Approval of Minutes for the May 12, 2016 Board of Education Special Meeting
- F. Approval of Minutes for the May 17, 2016 Board of Education -- Education Session Meeting
- G. Approval of Minutes for the May 25, 2016 Board of Education Special Meeting – Annual District Meeting

Dan Chase **MOVED** and Neal Perron **SECONDED** a motion to approve all minutes items A-G as presented. Motion passed 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"/>	Neal Perron	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"/>

Board Committee Reports and Future Meetings

A. Facilities Subcommittee

Dan Chase updated the Board. He reported that items discussed by the committee in Items 8.A and 6.A, and the committee also discussed that there will be an update on water testing and field conditions forthcoming.

B. Finance Subcommittee

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. She reported that the subcommittee met on June 2 and looked at year-end projects for the annual budget. They also reviewed the pre-buys and vendor checks cut for over \$4,000. They noticed that in looking at checks cut over \$4,000 instead of \$5,000 there was not a huge difference in the number of payments made. They also discussed how they would like to improve upon the year-end balance projection process to encourage better transparency.

C. Policy Subcommittee

Kathy Brown had no report.

D. Communications Subcommittee

Susan Dean updated the Board. She reported that the subcommittee hasn't met but she is looking at how to communicate with members of the community who do not have computer access, such as leaving materials at the Jensen Center and Senior Center in Haddam. She would also like to suggest that the Board put together a brochure regarding the renovation project to help communicate regarding the referendum.

E. Personnel and Evaluation Subcommittee

Sue Twachtman updated the Board. She reported that the Negotiations Committee has been meeting with the custodians' union and there is an upcoming meeting Thursday.

Board Liaison Reports

A. Healthy Communities – Healthy Kids Council

Susan Dean updated the Board. She reported that on May 19, there was a celebration for graduating seniors with Youth & Family Services. A Family Olympics event will be held on June 17, and the council is working on updating its website. There will also be a Family Dinner on September 26 and the annual fundraising event at the Gelston House will be on September 11, where they will once again raffle off a Harley Davidson.

B. LEARN

Maura Wallin did not have a report.

C. Parks & Recreation

Sue Twachtman did not have a report.

D. Haddam Board of Selectmen

Neal Perron reported that the town budget passed.

E. Killingworth Board of Selectmen

Eric Couture reported that he spoke with Cathy Iino and that she has some questions regarding Region 17 facilities.

Consent Agenda

- A. Acceptance of a donation of a Kawai upright piano valued at \$950.00 from Maria Roche. Submitted by Principal Donna Hayward, Haddam-Killingworth High School.
- B. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$100.00 from Middlesex Hospital for Sponsorship of Project Graduation 2016. Submitted by Principal Donna Hayward, Haddam-Killingworth High School.
- C. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$50.00 from Target 2016 Take Charge of Education. Submitted by Principal Donna Hayward, Haddam-Killingworth High School.
- D. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$12.24 from Target 2016 Take Charge of Education. Submitted by Principal Donna Hayward, Haddam-Killingworth High School.
- E. Acceptance of a mini-grant from the Rochester Institute of Technology in the amount of \$460.00 for the Project Lead the Way program. Submitted by Principal Donna Hayward, Haddam-Killingworth High School.
- F. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$25.00 from Target 2016 Take Charge of Education. Submitted by Principal Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.
- G. Acceptance of donation in the amount of \$1,000.00 from the KES PTO. Submitted by Principal Dennis Reed, Killingworth Elementary School.
- H. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,200.00 from Carol Cieslukowski and Kathy Godrick. Submitted by Principal Dennis Reed, Killingworth Elementary School.
- I. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$50.00 from Target 2016 Take Charge of Education. Submitted by Principal Eric Larson, Burr District Elementary School.
- J. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$58.53 from Target 2016 Take Charge of Education. Submitted by Principal Eric Larson, Burr District Elementary School.
- K. Acceptance of a donations in the amount of \$50.00 and \$11.36 from Target 2016 Take Charge of Education. Submitted by Principal Bryan Kerachsky, Haddam Elementary School.
- L. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$8.30 from General Mills’s Box Tops for Education program. Submitted by Principal Bryan Kerachsky, Haddam Elementary School.

*Suzanne Sack **MOVED** and Joanne Nesti **SECONDED** a motion to approve the consent agenda items A-L and noted that the Superintendent is in support of the acceptance of these donations and that any donations for direction to special locations are directed as noted. Motion passed 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"/>	Neal Perron	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"/>

From the Superintendent

A. Legislative Update

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. Board Member Eric Couture also gave an update regarding the state of the legislature.

B. Personnel Report

Superintendent Thiery presented the Personnel Report.

C. Enrollment Report

Superintendent Thiery presented the Enrollment Report.

From the Director of Fiscal Operations

A. Budget Transfers

Director of Fiscal Operations Martha Vaughn presented a list of transfers required to account for items to be pre-bought out of the 2015-2016 fund balance. Board Member Suzanne Sack complimented Vaughn's hard work in preparing these transfers noting that the transfers were carefully made from related budget lines. The Board also discussed that these items were carefully selected and reflect items that are non-recurring and therefore will not create a cliff for future budgets. One example includes the new World Language textbooks for World Language Level I. These will only be purchased every 8 or 9 years. Similarly, some technology items were purchased that are also non-recurring.

Jeannie Young **MOVED** and Maura Wallin **SECONDED** a motion to accept the budget transfers 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"/>	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"/>	Neal Perron	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"/>

Board Discussion/News/Suggestions

Board Chair Joel D'Angelo mentioned that at the next meeting, the Board can begin thinking about how they want to move forward in discussing items relating to strategic planning and goal-setting for the district.

The Board also discussed adding the Capital Plan Development Committee to the Board Liaison Reports and changing "Audience of Citizens" to "Public Comment" to encourage more members of the community to come and address the Board.

Audience of Citizens/Public Comment

Earle Decker of Higganum thanked the Board for tonight's meeting and said it was very informative.

Adjournment

Board Chair Joel D'Angelo called for the meeting to adjourn at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Larissa B. Johnson
Board Clerk

Approval:  Date: 7/12/16
Kathy Brown, Secretary