

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION – EDUCATION SESSION
February 25, 2014

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on February 25, 2014 in the Haddam-Killingworth Middle School Media Center. Board of Education Chair, Sue Twachtman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Members Present: Susan Dean, Kathy Brown, Becky Valenti, Joel D'Angelo, Michele Amendola, Brian Gamache, Dan Chase, Karen Perry, Jeannie Young, and Sue Twachtman

Members Absent: Amy Jacques-Purdy

Also Present: Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Interim Board Clerk Dawn MacLeod

Visitors: 2

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting

Board of Education Chair, Sue Twachtman called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Superintendent's Cup Challenge

Superintendent Thiery announced the recipient of the Superintendent's Cup Challenge trophy for the Haddam-Killingworth Youth and Family Services 5K Pumpkin Run fundraiser held in October. This has promoted great community involvement and is their biggest fundraiser annually. For the past three years RSD17 has participated in the Superintendent's Cup Challenge which has raised over \$23,000.00. Teams of five people across the district get together and pledge to raise money on behalf of Haddam-Killingworth Youth and Family Services. The fundraiser is based around the walk or run event. The winning team who raises the most money wins the Superintendent's Cup Challenge trophy. The Board of Education was one out of ten teams who participated in this year's event. Superintendent Thiery couldn't be more pleased and proud to announce this year's recipient of the Superintendent's Cup Challenge to the Board of Education's team named "Board to Run". They out fundraised all the other teams in the district. A location to display the trophy will be determined.

Board of Education chair, Sue Twachtman stated how much fun it was to participate in such a good cause with family and friends. Some of the Board of Education team members were Susan Dean, Amy Jacques-Purdy, Karen Perry and Sue Twachtman. She asked everyone to save the date for next year's Pumpkin Run on October 26, 2014. Registration is open on the Haddam-Killingworth Youth and Family Services website.

Board Liaison Reports

A. Curriculum Council Update

Susan Dean gave the Curriculum Council Update. She reported that there were two sets of minutes for January and February. She said that our district is doing a tremendous job introducing our students to college and career readiness opportunities. The presentation at the February meeting of the Intern Opportunities at HKHS was very impressive. The HKHS is planning to host a breakfast for the Killingworth Business Leaders so that students can speak to business owners. Workforce Alliance is a

summer Youth Employment and Training Program which gives students work experience that may lead to employment opportunities. The College Readiness Internships allow students to target interests and strengths. She reported that there will be a meeting at the HKMS February 26th at 6:30 p.m. on the Common Core State Standards. Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Field testing will begin in March and there was also a School Roundup in which the Principals report some of the things that they are doing in their school. The Curriculum Council Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 3:30 PM in Central Office.

Old Business

None

Karen Perry **MOVED** and Susan Dean **SECONDED** a motion to move Item B New Business up in the agenda ahead of Item A New Business. Motion passed 10-0-0 by the following votes:

Michele Amendola	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Amy Jacques-Purdy	Absent
Kathy Brown	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Karen Perry	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"/>	Becky Valenti	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"/>	Jeannie Young	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"/>	Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Brian Gamache	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		

New Business

A. Connecticut Core State Standards and Smarter Balance Assessment Update

Bryan Kerachsky and Sheila Ward gave a power point presentation to the Board. Since July 2010, Connecticut and 46 other states have adopted Common Core State Standards (CCSS) which will provide consistent focus on high level skills such as reading, writing, speaking, listening and language. Bryan Kerachsky explained that the CCSS outline what students should know and be able to do by the end of each grade. He also said that the CCSS has much in common with Connecticut's previous standards. Sheila Ward outlined the eight K-12 Math Practice Standards necessary to become successful problem solvers. These practices are the same from grades K-12, but are applied to more demanding problems as students move up to each grade. The Big Picture for Curriculum is based on Instruction "how"(methods, activities, resources), Assessment "measure"(local, state), and Standards "what"(content, skills).

RSD17's transition plan CCSS outline:

- 2011-2012 – Focus on Building Awareness of CCSS
- 2012-2015 – Alignment of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment:
- 2012-2013 – K-4 Implementation & Participation in SBAC Pilot
- 2013-2014 – 5-10 Implementation & SBAC Field Test (3-11)
- 2014-2015 – K-12 Full Implementation & Operational SBAC Testing (3-8, 11)

RSD17's participation in the 2014 Smarter Balanced Field Test focuses on Teacher/Students format, exposure and practice. It also focuses on Technology/Logistics scheduling of tests, test the network, and learning curve for the district. It also emphasizes Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.

There will be universal accessibility tools available for all students. Embedded tools (calculators will be available) and Non-Embedded tools (scratch paper and breaks will be available). Other accommodations will be available to students with documented needs or a need determined by educators.

Sheila Ward presented the Mathematics Summative Assessment. The overall claim for grades 3-8 is for students to demonstrate progress toward college and career readiness in mathematics. The overall claim for grade 11 is for students to demonstrate college and career readiness in mathematics. There are four claims that outline the overall claim:

Claim # 1: Concepts & Procedures: students can explain and apply mathematical concepts and interpret and carry out mathematical procedures with precision and fluency.

Claim # 2: Problem Solving: students can solve a range of complex well-posed problems in pure and applied mathematics, making productive use of knowledge and problem solving strategies.

Claim # 3: Communicating Reasoning: students can clearly and precisely construct viable arguments to support their own reasoning and critique the reasoning of others.

Claim # 4: Modeling and Data Analysis: students can analyze complex, real-world scenarios and can construct and use mathematical models to interpret and solve problems.

Bryan Kerachsky presented the ELA/Literacy Summative Assessment. The overall claim for grades 3-8 is for students to demonstrate progress toward college and career readiness in ELA/Literacy. The overall claim for grade 11 is for students to demonstrate college and career readiness in ELA/Literacy. There are four claims that outline the overall claim:

Claim # 1: Reading: students can read closely and analytically to comprehend a range of increasingly complex literary and information texts.

Claim # 2: Writing: students can produce effective and well-grounded writing for a range of purposes.

Claim # 3: Listening: students can employ effective listening skills for a range of purposes and audiences.

Claim # 4: Research/Inquiry: students can engage in research and inquiry to investigate topics, and to analyze, integrate, and present information.

Test samples were displayed for both Mathematics and ELA/Literacy using drag and drop, fill-in tables, matching tables, hot spots, short text, and paired text.

Students can visit the website: <https://sbacpt.tds.airast.org/student/> to take training tests and practice how to manipulate the screen. The training test is only to get familiar with the commands on the test. There are no answers to the questions.

*If you would like more information you can visit the district website:
<http://www.rsd17.org/parents4.shtml>*

B. Budget Process Introduction and Review

Superintendent Thiery presented information regarding the Budget Process and asked the Board for guidance in creating a new look for the Superintendent's proposed budget by creating an informal ringed binder with cover letter that states "Superintendent's Proposed Budget" which will be distributed to the Town Halls, schools and Central Office, in anticipation that the new informal look

won't be perceived as the Board of Education's adopted budget. The Superintendent's proposed budget will be presented to the Board of Education on Tuesday, March 4, 2014. Superintendent Thiery will work with the Board through the month of March and consider community input on the budget and attend numerous meetings throughout the district presenting the Superintendent's proposed budget at the schools, PTO meetings and Senior Center. The Board refers to the State Statue pertaining to the minimum budget requirement for how low a budget can be. After the Board adopts the budget, the adopted Board of Education Budget will be published and presented to the community in the beginning of April. It will be printed for the first time in a formal covered spiral binder and distributed throughout the community as the final budget. Also discussed was an increase in the Budget presentations in April.

Adjournment

Becky Valenti **MOVED** and Susan Dean **SECONDED** a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 PM. Motion passed 10-0-0 by the following votes:

Michele Amendola	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Amy Jacques-Purdy	Absent
Kathy Brown	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Karen Perry	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"/>	Becky Valenti	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"/>	Jeannie Young	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"/>	Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Brian Gamache	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		

Respectfully submitted,



Dawn I. MacLeod
Interim Board Clerk

Approval: Becky Valenti Date: April 1st
Becky Valenti, Secretary