

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
September 3, 2013

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on September 3, 2013 in the Central Office Board Room. Board of Education Chair, Karen Perry, called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM.

Members Present: *Amy Jacques-Purdy, Susan Dean, Becky Valenti, Joel D'Angelo, Steven Banaletti, Sue Twachtman, Jamie Lehane and Karen Perry*

Members Absent: *Jonathan Wintsch, Chet Harris and Jeannie Young*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery and Director of Fiscal Operations, Martha Vaughn, and Board Clerk Larissa Johnson*

Visitors: *0*

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting

Board of Education Chair, Karen Perry called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Audience of Citizens

None

Approval of Minutes

- A. Approval of Minutes for the August 6, 2013 Board of Education**
- B. Approval of Minutes for the August 30, 2013 Board of Education – Education Subcommittee Meeting**

*Susan Dean **MOVED** and Becky Valenti **SECONDED** a motion to approve the minutes for the August 6, 2013 Board of Education meeting and the minutes for the August 30, 2013 Board of Education – Education Subcommittee meeting. Motion passed 8-0-0 by the following votes:*

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	Absent
Becky Valenti	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"/>
Chet Harris	Absent	Steven Banaletti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Jamie Lehane	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	Absent	Karen Perry	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 and Transportation Subcommittee

Jamie Lehane updated the Board. The next meeting will be October 1, 2013 at 6:30 PM. Mr. Lehane reported that committee reviewed the security enhancement work and completed capital projects. Mr. Lehane also stated that the committee discussed creating a routine scheduling of painting and carpeting maintenance throughout the district. The committee also discussed the low bids on carpeting in the HKHS guidance room, seminar room, and three classrooms as well as painting the HKHS field house and the seminar room. The Board discussed this proposal at some length.

*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Joel D'Angelo **SECONDED** a motion to approve the following Capital Projects, at a cost not to exceed the following amounts: carpet in the High School Guidance Department in the amount of \$6,869.55, carpet in the High School Seminar Room in the amount of \$14,664.96, carpeting in three High School classrooms in the amount of \$7,680.32, Painting in the High School Field House in the amount of \$7,850.00 and painting in the High School Seminar Room in the amount of \$3,270.00, to be paid from the Capital Fund. Motion passed 8-0-0 by the following votes:*

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	Absent
Becky Valenti	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"/>
Chet Harris	Absent	Steven Banaletti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Jamie Lehane	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	Absent	Karen Perry	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"/>		

Mr. Lehane also discussed the remediation of mold at HES in the Resource Room. Michael Distefano had air testing performed and the carpets were cleaned. He mentioned the drinking water matter at HKHS which had been treated and that Mr. Distefano was waiting for the results from testing submitted that day. The committee also discussed the irrigation project at HKMS. He explained that work is proceeding at the cost of approximately \$331,999 because the work required was not able to be re-engineered. Board Chair Karen Perry added that the cost of that project would be funded by the remaining balance of the construction fund for the middle school building. The Board briefly discussed the building subcommittee process. Mr. Lehane also mentioned the lightning project at HKMS and that they have received a \$70,000 bid and a \$40,000 bid.

B. Building Subcommittee (HKMS)

Jamie Lehane updated the Board during his Facilities and Transportation Subcommittee report. Building Subcommittee liaison Amy Jacques-Purdy had no additional report.

C. Finance Subcommittee

Martha Vaughn updated the Board. The next meeting will be October 1, 2013 at 6:30 PM. Martha Vaughn stated that the committee reviewed the 2014 meeting schedule, vendor checks for the month of August, the contract timeline and discussed the upcoming audit for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

D. Policy Subcommittee

Amy Jacques-Purdy updated the Board. Next meeting date is to be determined. The committee met on August 21, 2013 and worked on the 6000 series.

E. Communications Subcommittee

Karen Perry updated the Board. The next meeting will be September 17, 2013. The committee sent out a Board Update.

F. Personnel and Evaluation Subcommittee

Karen Perry updated the Board. The committee met on August 7, 2013 and discussed the Superintendent's Evaluation.

Board Liaison Reports

A. Healthy Communities – Healthy Kids Council

Susan Dean updated the Board. She reported that the first meeting will be on September 12, 2013 at 8:00 AM at the MS Lower Media Center. On September 15, 2013 there will be a fund raiser at the Gelston House with a drawing for Harley Davidson motorcycle. There is also a Family Dinner proposed for September 23, 2013 at 5:30 PM (contact katheryn@hkyfs.org to RSVP) and the Pumpkin Run will be October 27, 2013, which is the same day as the Drug Take-Back in Killingworth.

B. LEARN

Sue Twachtman reported that LEARN did not meet. She reported that the next meeting will be on September 12, 2013.

C. Parks & Recreation

Amy Jacques-Purdy updated the Board. She reported that Parks & Recreation met last week, but she had nothing additional to report.

D. Haddam Board of Selectmen

Steven Banaletti updated the Board. He reported that he spoke with Paul DeStefano, who had some questions about Special Education. Mr. Banaletti added that he had not been able to attend a recent meeting, but that he speaks with Mr. DeStefano a couple of times per month to update him on the Board's activity.

E. Killingworth Board of Selectmen

Susan Dean updated the Board. She reported that she attended the meeting on August 26, 2013. She gave them information on the CMT and CAPT scores and forwarded the Board Update to the Town Hall.

Old Business

A. Policy 6142.102 – Concerning Physical Activity

Amy Jacques-Purdy reintroduced Policy 6142.102. This policy requires that elementary level students get 20 minutes of recess daily, regardless of weather and prohibits the use or withholding of physical activity as punishment and withholding of recess to complete academic work.

Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Steven Banaletti **SECONDED** a motion to approve Policy 6142.102 – Daily Recess. Motion passed 8-0-0 by the following votes:

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	Absent
Becky Valenti	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"/>
Chet Harris	Absent	Steven Banaletti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Jamie Lehane	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	Absent	Karen Perry	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"/>		

B. Policy 9110 – Bylaws of BOE – Concerning the Rotation of the Board Chair Position

Amy Jacques-Purdy reintroduced Policy 9110. The policy requires that the Board Chair position alternate between Haddam and Killingworth every two years. Board Chair Karen Perry brought this proposed policy forward to codify the tradition of the rotation of the position and the balance between the school district and the two towns. The Board discussed this policy at some length. There was some concern that a board member who might be very well-qualified or more willing may not be able to be Board Chair because of this new policy, if it was out of turn. However, Superintendent Thiery reminded the Board that they could vote to overrule this policy if needed.

Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Steven Banaletti **SECONDED** a motion to approve the amendments to Policy 9110 – Members of the Board Terms of Office and Oath of Office. Motion passed 8-0-0 by the following votes:

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	Absent
Becky Valenti	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"/>
Chet Harris	Absent	Steven Banaletti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Jamie Lehane	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	Absent	Karen Perry	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"/>		

C. 2014-2015 Calendar

The Board discussed the four calendar options presented at length. The traditional calendar specifies that students would return from summer break before Labor Day and have a full February break, and end of the school year date of June 15. Alternate B features a return to school before Labor Day and a long weekend in February in lieu of a full vacation, and specifies June 10 as the last day of school (before snow days). Alternate C is a version of the traditional calendar with a specification that school cancellations prior to January 30 will be deducted from the February break, up to four days. Alternate D specifies September 2 as being the opening day of school, a long weekend in February and specifies June 17 as the last day of school. The Board discussed these calendar options at length.

Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Steven Banaletti **SECONDED** a motion to approve the traditional calendar option labeled Item 6.C. Motion withdrawn by Amy Jacques-Purdy.

The Board continued its discussion of the calendar options.

Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Becky Valenti **SECONDED** a motion to approve calendar Alternate C as presented. Motion defeated 4-4-0 by the following votes:

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	Absent
Becky Valenti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Sue Twachtman	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Chet Harris	Absent	Steven Banaletti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Jamie Lehane	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Susan Dean	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Jeannie Young	Absent	Karen Perry	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Joel D'Angelo	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		

D. BOE 2014 Meeting Schedule

Superintendent Thiery introduced the 2014 Board of Education Meeting Schedule.

Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Steven Banaletti **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Board of Education 2014 Meeting Schedule as presented. Motion passed 8-0-0 by the following votes:

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	Absent
Becky Valenti	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"/>
Chet Harris	Absent	Steven Banaletti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Jamie Lehane	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	Absent	Karen Perry	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"/>		

E. Bus Contract Proposal

Superintendent Thiery reported that he had no update.

Consent Agenda

A. Acceptance of a donation from William Bowles of two (2) storage sheds to be located at Burr school for use by the little league.

Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Susan Dean **SECONDED** a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Superintendent Thiery proposed an amendment to the motion to specify that the storage sheds will be placed at Burr Elementary School and Haddam-Killingworth Middle School. Amy Jacques-Purdy accepted the amendment. Motion passed 8-0-0 by the following votes:

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	Absent
Becky Valenti	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"/>
Chet Harris	Absent	Steven Banaletti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Jamie Lehane	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	Absent	Karen Perry	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 Chair Karen Perry thanked Mr. Bowles for his donation.

New Business

None

From the Superintendent

A. Legislative Update

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He stated that there are no major developments and that he would give a more full report in October.

B. Personnel Report

Superintendent Thiery presented the Personnel Report.

C. Enrollment Report

None

From the Director of Fiscal Operations

A. Budget Transfers

*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Steven Banaletti **SECONDED** a motion to approve the budget transfers as presented. Motion passed 8-0-0 by the following votes:*

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>	Jonathan Wintsch	Absent
Becky Valenti	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>	Sue Twachtman	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Chet Harris	Absent	Steven Banaletti	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Jamie Lehane	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>	Susan Dean	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Jeannie Young	Absent	Karen Perry	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>		

From the Board Chair

A. Board of Education Self-Evaluation

Board Chair Karen Perry stated that she would email them to the Board members and they could discuss the Self-Evaluations in Executive Session in on October 1, 2013.

Board Discussion – Areas of Opportunities for District Improvement

None

Adjournment

*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Joel D'Angelo **SECONDED** a motion to go into Executive Session for the purposes of personnel matters. Motion passed 7-0-0 by the following votes:*

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	Absent
Becky Valenti	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"/>
Chet Harris	Absent	Steven Banaletti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Jamie Lehane	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	Absent	Karen Perry	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"/>		


The Board went into Executive Session at 8:50 PM.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Larissa B. Johnson
Board Clerk

Approval:  Date: 10/1/2013
Susan Dean, Secretary