

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION – EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE
August 20, 2013**

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on August 20, 2013 in the Haddam-Killingworth Middle School Media Center. Board of Education Chair, Karen Perry, called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM.

Members Present: Chet Harris, Steven Banaletti, Jonathan Wintsch, Jaime Lehane, Susan Dean, Joel D’Angelo, Amy Jacques-Purdy, Becky Valenti (arrived at 7:33 PM) and Karen Perry

Members Absent: Sue Twachtman

Also Present: Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery and Board Clerk Larissa Johnson

Visitors: 4

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting

Board of Education Chair, Karen Perry called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Susan Dean **SECONDED** a motion to add New Business Item F, a policy concerning physical activity and a policy concerning the rotation of the Board Chair position between the two towns. Motion passed 9-0-0 by the following votes:*

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Becky Valenti	Absent	Sue Twachtman	Absent
Chet Harris	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	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	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"/>
Joel D’Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		

New Business

Legal Services Interviews: Executive Session

*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Susan Dean **SECONDED** a motion to go into Executive Session for the purposes of contract negotiation. Motion passed 10-0-0 by the following votes:*

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	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"/>	Sue Twachtman	Absent
Chet Harris	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	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	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"/>
Joel D’Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		

A. Murtha Cullina

B. Berchem, Moses & Devlin

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:23 PM.

Chet Harris **MOVED** and Joel D'Angelo **SECONDED** a motion to add move New Business Item C up to current position. Motion passed 10-0-0 by the following votes:

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	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"/>	Sue Twachtman	Absent
Chet Harris	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	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	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"/>
Joel D'Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		

C. HKHS Cheerleading Team Trip to New Orleans 12/28/13-1/3/14

HKHS Cheerleading Coach Mary Wittington presented the Team Trip to New Orleans from December 28, 2013 through January 3, 2014. The Cheerleading team has the opportunity to perform at half-time at the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans and work with a well-known coach to put together a performance. Coach Wittington explained that twenty high school teams of varying skill levels are ask to participate. The team would take Amtrak to and from New Orleans. The estimated cost per student is \$1400-\$1500, which includes five nights in a hotel and food. She stated that they are planning on having 6-7 chaperones and 15 students attending. She also mentioned that the team was considering the possibility of postponing the trip until 2014-2015, so that they can fundraise more in preparation so that more students can attend.

Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Chet Harris **SECONDED** a motion to approve the HKHS Cheerleading Team Trip to New Orleans from December 28, 2013 through January 3, 2014. Motion passed 10-0-0 by the following votes:

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	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"/>	Sue Twachtman	Absent
Chet Harris	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	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	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"/>
Joel D'Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		

A.-B. Legal Services – Continued

Steven Banaletti **MOVED** and Jonathan Wintsch **SECONDED** a motion to hire Bercham, Moses & Devlin as legal counsel, except to retain Shipman & Goodwin for Pupil Services matters. Motion passed 6-3-1 by the following votes:

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

Following the motion made by Mr. Banaletti, Mr. Lehane asked that any board members who had not been able to attend both sets of interviews recuse themselves from voting. Ms. Dean agreed. Mr. Banaletti responded by stating that he believed this motion represented a compromise as it allows for the District to retain Shipman & Goodwin for pupil services. The Board then proceeded with the vote.

D. Technology Grant Application

Superintendent Thiery presented the Technology Grant Application. He explained that this grant supports the implementation of the Smarter Balance testing system. He said that if the District were to receive this grant, it could offset the E-rate reimbursement the district receives, so that those funds could be used towards other projects.

Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Chet Harris **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Technology Grant Application as presented. Motion passed 10-0-0 by the following votes:

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	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"/>	Sue Twachtman	Absent
Chet Harris	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	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	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"/>
Joel D'Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		

E. Bus Contract Proposal

Superintendent Thiery stated that STA is looking to extend their contract with the District because they are looking to perform some work in their yard. He said that there are still two years remaining on the current contract and that the District is under no obligation to extend the contract at this time. He also said that the bus sale revenue is expiring soon, but that it is a favorable market to negotiate and asked if the Board would be open to hearing offers and negotiating with STA, understanding that the District and the Board are under no obligation to accept any offers at this time.

Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Susan Dean **SECONDED** a motion to have Superintendent Howard Thiery continue to meet with STA regarding the extension of the bus contract to determine the best offer. Motion passed 10-0-0 by the following votes:

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	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"/>	Sue Twachtman	Absent
Chet Harris	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	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	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"/>
Joel D'Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		

F. A Policy Concerning Physical Activity and A Policy Concerning the Rotation of the Board Chair Position

Amy Jacques-Purdy introduced two proposed policies: a policy concerning Physical Activity and a policy concerning the Rotation of the Board Chair position between the two member towns. The policy concerning physical activity requires that all elementary school level students be allowed 20 minutes daily of physical activity, such as during recess and that recess must be held outside within the temperatures of 20 degrees Fahrenheit with wind chill and 95 degrees Fahrenheit. This policy also states that physical activity cannot be denied as punishment nor given as punishment. She stated that this is in-line with the state guidelines and the policy examples provided by CABE. Superintendent Thiery also added that this policy allows for consistency and will be helpful in the implementation of the state requirement. The Board briefly discussed this new policy.

The policy concerning the Rotation of the Board Chair position requires that the Board Chair position alternate every two years between the two member towns. Amy Jacques-Purdy explained that this policy codifies the current practice of alternating the position based upon the member's town of residence.

Board Liaison Reports

A. Curriculum Council Update

Susan Dean presented the Curriculum Council minutes from the June 11, 2013 meeting.

Old Business

A. Policy 5000 Series

Amy Jacques-Purdy reintroduced the Policy 5000 series. The Board Chair recommended that the phrase "all handbook revisions are to be reviewed by legal counsel and approved by the school board prior to publication," to Policy 5114.12. The Board briefly discussed this change.

The Board Chair also suggested that "volunteer" be removed from Policy 5125, as this policy currently allows volunteers to have access to confidential student records, which she said shouldn't be necessary. The Superintendent agreed and the Board briefly discussed this change.

Superintendent Thierry also mentioned that the policies under Section D, Welfare, relating to nursing, suicide prevention, seclusion and restraint have all been reviewed by the District staff in those areas. He said that he did not consult the State Troopers regarding the "Police in Schools" policy, however because that policy is pretty standard and resembles most policies relating to police in schools in the state.

*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Joel D'Angelo **SECONDED** a motion to approve Policy 5000 series with the following changes: removal of the word "volunteers" from Policy 5125 and insert "All hand books and any revisions are to be reviewed by legal counsel and approved by the school board prior to publication," in Policy 5114.12. Motion passed 10-0-0 by the following votes:*

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

B. 2014-2015 Calendar

The Board Chair recommended discussion be tabled until the following meeting.

Adjournment

*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Becky Valenti **SECONDED** a motion to go into Executive Session for the purposes of personnel and student matters. Motion passed 10-0-0 by the following votes:*

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Wintsch	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"/>	Sue Twachtman	Absent
Chet Harris	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	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	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"/>
Joel D'Angelo	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		

The Board went into Executive Session at 10:05 PM.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 10:19 PM and Board Chair Karen Perry adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Larissa B. Johnson
Board Clerk

Approval:  Date: 9/3/2013
Susan Dean, Secretary