

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**July 10, 2012**

*A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on July 10, 2012 in the Central Office Board Room. Board of Education Chair, Karen Perry, called the meeting to order at 7:29 PM.*

**Members Present:** *Sue Twachtman, Joel D'Angelo, Chet Harris, Amy Jacques-Purdy, Becky Valenti, Jaime Lehane, Susan Dean (arrived at 7:33 PM), and Karen Perry*

**Members Absent:** *Peggie Bushey, Steven Banaletti and Jonathan Wintsch*

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

**Visitors:** *2*

**Call to Order/Opening of Meeting**

*Board of Education Chair, Karen Perry called the meeting to order at 7:29 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

**Audience of Citizens**

*Mark P. Lundgren of Haddam addressed the Board. He thanked the Board for fully funding the Capital Account and expressed his concern about the planning of the bus routes for the upcoming school year and the preparation of the buses.*

**Approval of Minutes**

- A. Approval of minutes for the June 5, 2012 Board of Education Meeting**
- B. Approval of minutes for the June 26 2012 Board of Education Special Meeting**

*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Becky Valenti **SECONDED** a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed 8-0-0 by the following votes:*

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <u>√</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Peggie Bushey	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	YES <u>√</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Steven Banaletti	Absent
Jaime Lehane	YES <u>√</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Susan Dean	YES <u>√</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>√</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Karen Perry	YES <u>√</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
Jonathan Wintsch	Absent		

**Board Committee Reports**

**A. Facilities and Transportation Subcommittee**

*Chet Harris updated the Board. The committee met July 9, 2012 and discussed the window replacement bids. Chet reported that Mike Distefano, Director of Facilities recommended Meriden Glass based on its bid. The committee also discussed organizing the Capital Projects list so that there would be a clear-cut progression, and resolving the playing field issue for the field hockey team. Jaime Lehane also mentioned that if the committee is also responsible for*

*transportation issues, if the committee could also meet with a liaison from the district who could advise them on transportation matters.*

**B. Building Subcommittee (new school)**

*Amy Jacques-Purdy reported that the committee did not meet.*

**C. Finance Subcommittee**

*Karen Perry updated the Board. Karen reported that the committee went over Summary by Object budget items and budget transfers, and the committee also discussed Worker's Compensation. Martha Vaughn explained that the Worker's Compensation insurance contract went out for renewal. The district's current provider, The Hartford, will no longer be providing this type of coverage, thus the district put the contract out for renewal. A renewal came back from MEMIC, a specialty company in Maine that is proactive on safety and preventative awareness, however the renewal came in \$100,000 higher than the amount budgeted for due to a correction in the market and as a reflection of anticipated changes in health care costs.*

**D. Policy Subcommittee**

*Amy Jacques-Purdy reported that the committee did not meet.*

**E. Communications Subcommittee**

*Karen Perry reported that the committee did not meet.*

**Board Liaison Reports**

**A. Building Committee (Solar/Alternative energies)**

*No report.*

**B. Healthy Communities – Healthy Kids Council**

*Susan Dean reported that the committee did not meet.*

**C. LEARN**

*Sue Twachtman updated the Board and reported that LEARN met on June 14, 2012. Patrice McCarthy of CABE presented on the recent state legislative action regarding the teacher evaluation system.*

**D. Park & Recreation**

*Jaime Lehane had no report.*

**E. Haddam Board of Selectmen**

*No report.*

**F. Killingworth Board of Selectmen**

*Susan Dean updated the Board. Although, she was unable to attend the meeting, she spoke with the selectmen and they were very interested in student rankings and college acceptances.*

**Old Business**

**A. Capital Project Item – Replacement Windows**

*Jaime Lehane **MOVED** and Amy Jaques-Purdy **SECONDED** a motion to approve the window replacement and accept the bid from Meriden Glass in the amount of \$11,755.00 for Haddam-Killingworth High School and \$2,990.00 for Killingworth Elementary School to be paid out of the Capital account. 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"/>	Peggie Bushey	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	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Steven Banaletti	Absent
Jaime 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"/>
Joel D'Angelo	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"/>
Jonathan Wintsch	Absent		

**New Business**

**A. Health Insurance Cost Savings Options (presentation by Bob Lindberg)**

*Bob Lindberg made a presentation to the Board explaining the fixed and variable costs of the district health insurance coverage and proposed beginning a competitive market study to determine if there is another provider who can offer coverage with comparable network coverage at a lower cost to the district. The study would begin in August with a target date of January 2013. Mr. Lindberg also reported that in response to an increase in fixed costs, Anthem, the district's current provider agreed to issue a \$10,000 credit to the district for 2012-2013.*

*Mr. Lindberg also presented scenarios for increasing the district's Individual and Aggregate Stop Loss Limit. He reported that if the district increased its Individual Stop Loss Limit from \$150,000 to \$175,000 the district could expect a savings of \$55,743 in premiums and a net change in expected cost as a savings of \$27,555 based on claim history or an increase from \$150,000 to \$200,000 with an expected savings of \$86,999 in premiums and a net change in expected cost as a savings of \$30,587 based on claim history. The Board discussed these two options and the relative risk of each based on the anticipated savings. Any expense not covered would need to be paid from the Fund Balance of approximately \$4.4 million, which Mr. Lindberg considered to be a healthy balance in relation to the \$2.4 million recommended amount. He also suggested that the Board consider increasing the Aggregate Stop Loss Limit from 120% to 125% for an expected savings of \$35,000 in premiums. The Board briefly discussed this option.*

*Jaime Lehane **MOVED** and Sue Twachtman **SECONDED** a motion to increase the Health Insurance Individual Stop Loss Limit from \$150,000 to \$175,000 and maintain the 120% Aggregate Stop Loss Limit. Motion passed 8-0-0 by the following votes:*

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Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Peggie Bushey	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	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Steven Banaletti	Absent
Jaime 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"/>
Joel D'Angelo	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"/>
Jonathan Wintsch	Absent		

**B. Board Discussion: Areas and Opportunities for Improvement 2012-2013**

*The Board discussed that it would like to have this agenda item be included in Board meeting agendas regularly for an on-going discussion and opportunity to bring new suggestions on a regular basis.*

**From the Director of Fiscal Operations**

**A. Budget Transfer**

*Martha Vaughn presented three budget transfers: 1) A transfer in the amount of \$20,349.28 from General Instruction Supplies to Language Arts Supplies requested by Haddam-Killingworth Middle School, 2) A transfer in the amount of \$7,013.60 from General Instruction Supplies to Art Supplies requested by Haddam-Killingworth Middle School, and 3) A transfer in the amount of \$116,150 from General Ed to Various requested by Haddam-Killingworth High School. The Board discussed the transfers and Howard Thiery explained that based on the new budget, each school was given a budget based on a per student cost with which they are able to allocate the funds to each account as required, however the Board is required to approve any transfers over \$5,000.*

*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Sue Twachtman **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Budget Transfers as presented on July 10, 2012. 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"/>	Peggie Bushey	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	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	Steven Banaletti	Absent
Jaime 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"/>
Joel D'Angelo	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"/>
Jonathan Wintsch	Absent		

**Future Meetings**

- A. Facilities and Transportation:** July 31, 2012 at 6:30 PM
- B. Building Subcommittee (new school):** To Be Determined
- C. Building Subcommittee (solar/alternative energies):** To Be Determined
- D. Communications Subcommittee:** August 21, 2012 at 6:30 PM
- E. Finance Subcommittee:** September 4, 2012

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- F. Policy Subcommittee:** July 30, 2012 and July 31, 2012 at 8:30 AM

**Adjournment**

*Karen Perry called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:40 PM.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Larissa B. Johnson*

Larissa B. Johnson  
Board Clerk

Approval: *Susan Dean* Date: *Aug. 7, 2012*  
*Susan Dean, Secretary*