

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
May 1, 2012

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on May 1, 2012 in the Central Office Board Room. Board of Education Chair, Karen Perry, called the meeting to order at 7:29 PM.

Members Present: *Susan Dean, Jonathan Wintsch, Sue Twachtman, Joel D'Angelo, Chet Harris, Amy Jacques-Purdy, Becky Valenti, Peggine Bushey, Steven Banaletti and Karen Perry*

Members Absent: *Jaime Lehane*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Director of Facilities, Mike Distefano and Director of Fiscal Operations, Martha Vaughn, and Student Representatives Erin Buckley and Emily Meredith*

Visitors: *5*

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 stated that he was surprised to hear about the proposed contract with Kelly Services and made several suggestions to abate the issues in the hiring and management of substitute teachers, such as requiring sick students to stay home, increase incentives for substitutes, conduct surveys to determine current substitutes needs and wants, offer unemployment compensation, and advertise locally for substitutes.

Approval of Minutes

- A. Approval of minutes for the March 26, 2012 Board of Education Special Meeting**
- B. Approval of minutes for the March 28, 2012 Board of Education Special Meeting**
- C. Approval of minutes for the April 2, 2012 Board of Education Annual Hearing**
- D. Approval of minutes for the April 2, 2012 Board of Education Special Meeting**
- E. Approval of minutes for the April 3, 2012 Board of Education Meeting**
- F. Approval of minutes for the April 24, 2012 Board of Education – Education Subcommittee Meeting**

*Susan Dean **MOVED** and Becky Valenti **SECONDED** a motion to approve the minutes for the March 26, 2012 Board of Education Special Meeting, the March 28, 2012 Board of Education Special Meeting, the April 2, 2012 Board of Education Annual Hearing, April 2, 2012 Board of Education Special Meeting, the April 3, 2012 Board of Education Meeting and the April 24, 2012 Board of Education – Education Subcommittee Meeting. 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"/>	Peggie Bushey	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"/>	Steven Banaletti	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"/>	Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Jaime Lehane	Absent	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	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		

Report from Student Representatives

Erin Buckley and Emily Meredith updated the Board. Erin discussed that over the April Break, two groups of students traveled abroad – one group to Greece and Italy and another to France. She reported that last week, the sophomores attended a career fair at Wesleyan University and that the high school extra-curricular clubs have begun planning for this year's Street Fest in June. She added that this is the first year Haddam-Killingworth has held Street Fest since the school switched from block scheduling, which the Spirit Club lobbied heavily for. She also reported that AP registration will begin May 2, 2012 and AP testing for this year's AP courses will also begin in May.

Emily Meredith reported that the National Honors Society cookie dough scholarship fundraiser made approximately \$400. She also reported on AP testing, and that prom tickets have gone on sale -- \$20 for seniors and \$45 for underclassmen. Also the school production of "Arsenic and Old Lace" will be held on May 4 and May 5, 2012.

Board Committee Reports

A. Facilities and Transportation Subcommittee

Chet Harris reported that the committee did not meet.

B. Building Subcommittee (new school)

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

C. Finance Subcommittee

Jonathan Wintsch updated the Board that the subcommittee approved one transfer.

D. Policy Subcommittee

Amy Jacques-Purdy updated the Board. The subcommittee met on April 23, 2012 and reviewed the 5000 series.

E. Communications Subcommittee

Karen Perry updated the Board. The subcommittee met on April 24, 2012 and discussed an update going out May 2, 2012.

Board Liaison Reports

A. Solar/Alternative Energies Committee

Erin Buckley updated the Board. The committee met May 1, 2012. This was the first opportunity for Board member Sue Twachtman to meet with the students and they went over what the committee has been doing. The committee feels that this have been a learning year with the audit and that they decided to postpone the energy competition until next year.

B. Healthy Communities – Healthy Kids Coalition

Susan Dean updated the Board. The coalition met April 11, 2012 and discussed the drug take-back program it is planning, as well as grants and the resource surveys they are conducting. The coalition also discussed the Lions Quest Program.

C. LEARN

Sue Twachtman updated the Board. LEARN announced that three new magnet schools are due to open in September 2012 and that an executive search committee has been formed to help find Dr. Seccombe's replacement. LEARN is looking for input from students, parents, teachers, etc. on what key qualifications the new executive director should possess and is hosting a focus group May 1 and 2 and a survey is available on the LEARN website through May 8.

D. Park & Recreation

No report.

E. Haddam Board of Selectmen

Steven Banaletti had no report.

F. Killingworth Board of Selectmen

Susan Dean updated the Board. The Board of Selectmen discussed the new town hall building project and discussed making the temporary buildings operable.

Consent Agenda

A. Acceptance of a donation, from General Mills Box Tops for Education in the amount of \$241.40 to be deposited in our student activity account. Submitted by Eric Larson, Principal of Burr Elementary School.

*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Sue Twachtman **SECONDED** a motion to approve the consent agenda 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"/>	Peggie Bushey	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"/>	Steven Banaletti	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"/>	Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Jaime Lehane	Absent	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	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		

New Business

A. Capital Project List

The Board discussed the Capital Project List in detail with Director of Facilities Mike Distefano and Superintendent Howard Thiery. Board Chair Karen Perry asked for clarification on the bidding and RFP process. Following discussion, Board Chair Karen Perry requested that Mr. Distefano and Superintendent Thiery please present her with several quotes before asking the Board to consider a project.

The Board also discussed the requested pool timing system for Haddam-Killingworth High School on the Capital Project List. They discussed the estimated cost, and that there is very limited

offering of systems on the market, and that the proposed Colorado timing system is pretty much the only system on the market.

The Board also discussed the resurfacing of the roof over Central Office, which is also on the Capital Project List. The Board discussed the price estimates and the necessity of the project and the project's timing to have a better understanding of what is required for the project. The Board also discussed the possibility of completing the roof in sections. By having the whole roof resurfaced versus having it resurfaced in thirds, the District would save approximately fifty cents per square foot.

The Board also discussed the proposed sidewalk repairs on the Capital Project List. Board Chair Karen Perry asked how does Mike Distefano know if and when the sidewalks need to be prepared and Mike Distefano explained that he walks the property, and has included for repair the sidewalks in the worst condition which create safety concerns. He has presented only the minimum sidewalk repairs he would like to perform. Karen Perry asked for quotes on the sections which need to be repaired.

Board Chair Karen Perry also brought up the window repair for discussion. Mike Distefano explained that these windows were installed with faulty glass and for twenty years the windows were eligible for free replacement, however we are now outside of that warranty thus as the thermal barrier seals fail, the District needs to replace the failed glass windows. The estimated cost discussed is \$32,000.

Board Chair Karen Perry also brought up Capital Projects List item Haddam-Killingworth Clock System. The school requires 170 clocks and currently the clocks are displayed in each classroom via television broadcast, and this system is quickly failing and televisions are burning out. Howard Thiery also explained that this has been costly in terms of electricity. The company that the District proposes to use, Valley is on the state bid list, thus the District does not need to put out for a bid. The proposed clock system is wirelessly synched on real-time. Emily Meredith, student representative mentioned that during the school day the HKTV announcements run on the TVs, but these announcements are also made through the digital projectors which are turned on during specific times of day. Erin Buckley also mentioned that the broadcast of the time on classroom televisions was energy-inefficient. Chet Harris suggested that in an effort to save cost, the school use regular individual clocks in each classroom, rather than implement an expensive system, especially because the school already has a bell system.

Karen Perry also asked Mike Distefano to explain why the dump truck beds needed replacing. He explained that the beds have rusted due to sanding and salting. Chet Harris asked if the trucks could simply use liners, but Mike Distefano explained that the entire bed has rusting. Mike Distefano also explained that once these beds are replaced, they should last for the remaining life of the dump trucks themselves.

Karen Perry also asked about the stage curtain replacement. Mike Distefano explained that the curtains have reached their fire retardant life expectancy. Howard Thiery added that they had a 20 year warranty, and Mike Distefano explained that the curtains are 22 years old.

Karen Perry asked for three quotes on the windows, roof and clocks.

Howard Thiery explained again the differences between an RFP and bids, explained that in an RFP the Board is allowed to consider more than just price, but also services and quality offered. Another distinguishing difference is that if a bid is not given to specifications, it is disqualified, but in an RFP the vendor has more latitude to provide different suggestions for methods of accomplishing the project.

Karen Perry thanked Mike Distefano.

B. Healthy Foods Certification

The Board briefly discussed the Healthy Foods Certification. Howard Thiery advised that when agreeing to the certification the District could lose money on ancillary sales, outweighing the

financial benefit of agreeing. The Board had no questions for Sharon Shettlesworth regarding the certification.

Jonathan Wintsch **MOVED** and Steven Banaletti **SECONDED** a motion not to sign the Connecticut State Department of Education Addendum to Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs (ED-099) Healthy Food Certification Statement. 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"/>	Peggie Bushey	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"/>	Steven Banaletti	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"/>	Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Jaime Lehane	Absent	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	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		

C. Calendar 2013-2014

Susan Dean asked if the District is synched with other towns and districts. Howard Thiery responded that it is with some Middlesex County schools, particularly for February and April vacations, and that the District has 182 student days, and other surrounding towns and districts have 180 to 185 student days (Middletown having 185).

Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Steven Banaletti **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Regional School District No. 17 Calendar 2013-2014 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"/>	Peggie Bushey	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"/>	Steven Banaletti	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"/>	Sue Twachtman	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>
Jaime Lehane	Absent	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	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		

From the Superintendent

A. Enrollment Report

Superintendent Thiery presented an Enrollment Report to the Board. Howard Thiery explained that every month his office tracks the enrollment figures. Karen Perry noted that there has been an increase in the pre-kindergarten enrollment, and Howard Thiery explained that this is likely due to the Child Find process.

B. Personnel Report

Superintendent Thiery presented a Personnel Report to the Board. Howard Thiery explained that retirements will be honored at the June meeting of the Board. Susan Dean wished to thank the five retirees for their years of service to RSD 17 and wished them well in their retirement on behalf of the Board. The retirees are Sandra Brown, Hans Strilbyckij, Larry Leone, Margaret French, and Pat McLaughlin. Howard Thiery also mentioned that Jeanmarie Foisie, who is listed as a resignation is also retiring and Susan Dean remarked that she is sad to see Ernest Nagler go, who is also resigning.

From the Director of Fiscal Operations

A. Budget Transfer

Martha Vaughn presented a transfer from Bus Sale Proceeds, Cash Account to the Transportation, Special Ed., STA Account in the amount of \$276,666.67. The transfer is required per the terms of the contract executed at the time of the bus sale. The Board discussed the transfer.

*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Peggie Bushey **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Budget Transfers as presented on May 1, 2012. Motion passed 10-0-0 by the following votes:*

Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>	Peggie Bushey	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Becky Valenti	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>	Steven Banaletti	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Chet Harris	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>	Sue Twachtman	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>
Jaime Lehane	Absent	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	YES <u>√</u> NO <u> </u> A <u> </u>		

Future Meetings

- A. Facilities and Transportation:** To Be Determined
- B. Building Subcommittee (new school):** To Be Determined
- C. Building Subcommittee (solar/alternative energies):** To Be Determined
- D. Communications Subcommittee:** May 15, 2012 at 6:00 PM
- E. Finance Subcommittee:** June 5, 2012 at 6:30 PM
- F. Policy Subcommittee:** May 10, 2012 at 6:30 PM

Adjournment

Karen Perry adjourned the meeting to Executive Session at 8:56 PM.

Meeting returned to Executive Session at 9:27 PM.

*Amy Jacuques-Purdy **MOVED** and Susan Dean **SECONDED** a motion to accept the MOU between the Board of Education of Regional School District 17 and the Haddam-Killingworth Administrators Association as presented. Motion passed 9-1-0 by the following votes:*

Amy Jacques-Purdy YES NO A
Becky Valenti YES NO A
Chet Harris YES NO A
Jaime Lehane Absent
Joel D'Angelo YES NO A
Jonathan Wintsch YES NO A

Peggie Bushey YES NO A
Steven Banaletti YES NO A
Sue Twachtman YES NO A
Susan Dean YES NO A
Karen Perry YES NO A

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Larissa B. Johnson
Board Clerk

Approval: Susan Dean Date: 6/5/2012
Susan Dean, Secretary