

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

*A meeting of the Regional School District 17 Board of Education was held on January 10, 2012 in the Central Office Board Room. Keith Kelsey, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.*

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

**Also Present:** *Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery and Martha Vaughn, Director of Fiscal Operations, and Erin Buckley– Student Representative*

**Visitors: 1**

**Call to Order/Opening of Meeting**

*Keith Kelsey, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

**Audience of Citizens** - *A letter was received by Mr. Ed Munster a Haddam resident and read aloud to the Board. In his letter, Mr. Munster suggested the Board should exercise discipline and not increase the budget. He would like to see the current budget decreased by 2%. Mr. Munster would also like to see RSD17 district facilities offered to community groups at no cost.*

**Approval of Minutes**

A. Approval of minutes for the December 20, 2011 Education committee of the Board of Education.

*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Becky Valenti **SECONDED** a motion to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2011 Board of Education – Education Subcommittee Meeting as presented. Motion passed by the following*

Steven Banaletti	YES <u>  √  </u>	NO <u>  A  </u>	Amy Jacques-Purdy	YES <u>  √  </u>	NO <u>  A  </u>
Peggie Bushey	YES <u>  √  </u>	NO <u>  A  </u>	Karen Perry	YES <u>  √  </u>	NO <u>  A  </u>
Susan Dean	YES <u>  √  </u>	NO <u>  A  </u>	Sue Twachtman	YES <u>  √  </u>	NO <u>  A  </u>
Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>  √  </u>	NO <u>  A  </u>	Becky Valenti	YES <u>  √  </u>	NO <u>  A  </u>
Chet Harris	YES <u>  √  </u>	NO <u>  A  </u>	Jonathan Wintsch	YES <u>  √  </u>	NO <u>  A  </u>
			Keith Kelsey	YES <u>  √  </u>	NO <u>  A  </u>

**Report from Student Representatives**

*Erin Buckley reported that December was a busy month especially for the HKTV crew and students who put on the Holiday Show for "Team Avery". Avery is a child who suffers from seizures. She has a rare genetic mutation of CDKL5. As of last week, over \$22,000 had been raised and they are still counting. Students were encouraged to donate in homeroom, and in return students received green wristbands. When Avery and her family arrived at the High School, they could see student support evident everywhere by all the students with wristbands. Mr. Mackenzie's class raised over \$1300.*

*In follow up to Rachel's Challenge, student council made a paper chain. Each link contains a random act of kindness performed. The chain now lines the walls in the High School outside the main office and is a perfect reminder of the assembly.*

Erin stated that Mid Terms begin on the 24<sup>th</sup>. High School students will have ½ days during exams. Also juniors have begun to talk about colleges and Naviance accounts have been set up for them. This website, similar to College Board, offers information and lists about colleges that fit specific criteria such as major, size, and location. A group of juniors will have the opportunity to take online courses through Middlesex College in varying subjects.

The drama department is busy with auditions for this year's play, Arsenic and Old Lace.

### Board Committee Reports

- A. Facilities and Transportation Subcommittee – *Has not met*
- B. Building Subcommittee (new school) – *Scheduled to meet on 1/25/12*
- C. Finance Subcommittee – *Jonathan reported the committee met this evening, discussed transfers and restructuring the debt. Martha will contact Dennis Dix, our financial consultant and arrange a meeting.*
- D. Policy Subcommittee – *Amy reported the committee met and reviewed the function and structure of the committee. The committee reviewed the 5000 Series specifically the State mandated Bullying Policy and Regulation. This item is number 9B on the agenda.*
- E. Communications Subcommittee – *Karen reported this committee will meet next week at the Middle School before the Board Education Session*

### Board Liaison Reports

- a) Building Committee (Alternative Energies) – *Erin reported this committee met today and is preparing a PowerPoint describing what the competition is about and to use for proposals. The Task Force is in full support. The task force plans to do mini audits of some public facilities in Killingworth, much like the energy audit done here at school. They welcomed representatives from our committee to join them. The next meeting is scheduled for January 26<sup>th</sup>. The energy audits will take place February 12<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>.*
- b) Healthy Communities – Healthy Kids Council – *Susan reported the discussion was on inhalants and bath salts. There is concern throughout the community on how deadly just one use of these products can be.*
- c) LEARN – *Sue reported their first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>.*
- d) Park & Recreation – *Has not met.*
- e) Haddam Board of Selectmen- *Steven attended; there was no discussion about education.*
- f) Killingworth Board of Selectmen – *Susan attended and presented the December update Howard prepared.*

### Consent Agenda

- A Acceptance of donation from Webster Bank in the amount of \$25.00 submitted by Janice Harris, Principal of Haddam Elementary School
- B. Acceptance of donation from General Mills Box Tops for Education in the amount of \$256.40 submitted by Eric Larson, Principal of Burr Elementary School

Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Steven Banaletti **SECONDED** a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion passed by the following:

Steven Banaletti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	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"/>	Karen Perry	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"/>
Joel D'Angelo	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"/>
Chet Harris	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"/>
		Keith Kelsey	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>

**New Business**

- A. Discussion and possible approval of the Board of Education’s Regular and Education Session Meetings for 2012

*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Sue Twachtman **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Board of Education’s Regular and Education Session Meetings for 2012 with the following changes “cancel the meetings of July 3<sup>rd</sup> and July 17<sup>th</sup> and schedule a regular meeting of the Board on July 10th.”*  
*Motion passed by the following:*

Steven Banaletti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	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"/>	Karen Perry	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"/>
Joel D’Angelo	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"/>
Chet Harris	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"/>
		Keith Kelsey	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>

- B. Policy: P-5131.911 Bullying Policy and R-5131.911 Safe School Climate Plan (first read)  
*The new policy and regulation was discussed by the board. Amy Jacques-Purdy asked that all changes be sent to her. The policy will come back to the Board for approval.*

- C. Discussion and possible approval of revised budget referendum date  
*Mr. Thiery explained that a State Statute specifies that “The regional school district annual meeting at which the annual budget is first presented for adoption shall be held the first Monday or Tuesday in May.” Since the first Monday of the scheduled week is April, he recommended moving the annual meeting date to Monday, May 7, 2012.*

*Karen Perry **MOVED** and Jonathan Wintsch **SECONDED** a motion to approve the revised budget referendum date as presented. Motion passed by the following:*

Steven Banaletti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>	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"/>	Karen Perry	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"/>
Joel D’Angelo	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"/>
Chet Harris	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"/>
		Keith Kelsey	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>

**From the Superintendent**

- A. Board In Service (CABE) – *Mr. Robert Rader, President of CABE (Connecticut Association of Boards of Education) will provide in-service for Board members on January 31, 2012 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., in the Board Room at Central Office. Mr. Rader will share his expertise on Roles and Responsibilities of Board Members. All Board members are invited to attend.*
- B. Board Property and Facilities Tour – *Mr. Thiery spoke about the Board of Education being caretakers of extensive property here at RSD17. The tour, directed by Mike Distefano will help new members gain an overview and understanding of all the various facets of running facilities this size. Mr. Thiery noted that this much property always has budget implications. He encouraged all to attend. Board members requested several optional dates to choose from. The Superintendent will ask Mike Distefano to email members some dates and times to choose from for the tour.*

C. Chinese Sister School Visit (HKHS) – *Mr. Thiery announced that we will have visitors from the Shang Dong Province of China. Ten Chinese teachers will visit our district and our classrooms from January 24<sup>th</sup> – February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Howard will set up a meet and greet for our guests to meet the Board.*

D. Enrollment Report – *The report was reviewed by the Board.*

E. Personnel – *The report was reviewed by the Board.*

**2. From the Director of Fiscal Operations**

A. Transfers

*Martha explained the transfers are a result of staff changes i.e. resignations, new hires and position changes.*

*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Jonathan Wintsch **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Budget Transfers as presented on January 10, 2012. Motion passed by the following:*

Steven Banaletti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	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"/>	Karen Perry	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"/>
Joel D'Angelo	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"/>
Chet Harris	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"/>
				Keith Kelsey	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

**3. Future meetings**

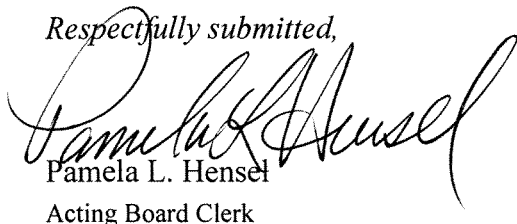
- A. Facilities and Transportation: *T/B/D*
- B. Building Subcommittee (new school): *1/25/12 6:30 p.m. at Central Office*
- C. Communications Subcommittee: *1/17/12 at 6:00 p.m. at the Middle School*
- D. Finance Subcommittee: *2/7/12 at 6:30 p.m. at Central Office*
- E. Policy Subcommittee: *1/18/12 at 6:30 p.m. at Central Office*


*Amy Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Susan Dean **SECONDED** a motion to go into executive session at 8:40 p.m. Motion passed by the following:*

Steven Banaletti	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>	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"/>	Karen Perry	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"/>
Joel D'Angelo	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"/>
Chet Harris	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"/>
				Keith Kelsey	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	A <input type="checkbox"/>

*Meeting returned to public session at 9:08 p.m. and adjourned.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

  
Pamela L. Hensel  
Acting Board Clerk

Approval:  Date: 2-7-2012  
Susan Dean, Secretary