

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION – Education Subcommittee**  
**November 15, 2011**

*A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education - Education Subcommittee was held on November 15, 2011 in the Haddam-Killingworth Middle School Media Center. Board of Education Chair, Amy Jacques-Purdy, called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM.*

***Members Present:** Amy Jacques-Purdy, Colleen Fitzpatrick, Robin Chasse, Jo Ferjak, Steven Banaletti, Susan Dean, Jonathan Wintsch and Chet Harris*

***Members Absent:** Keith Kelsey, James Lippert, and Mark Almeida*

***Also Present:** Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery*

***Visitors:** Approximately 35*

**Call to Order/Opening of Meeting**

*Board of Education Chair, Amy Jacques-Purdy called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

**Approval of Minutes**

**A. Approval of minutes for the November 1, 2011 Board of Education Meeting**

*Colleen Fitzpatrick **MOVED** and Susan Dean **SECONDED** a motion to approve the minutes for the November 1, 2011 Board of Education meeting. Motion passed 8-0-0.*

**B. Approval of minutes for the November 2, 2011 Special Meeting**

*Robin Chasse **MOVED** and Chet Harris **SECONDED** a motion to approve the minutes for the November 2, 2011 Special Meeting. Motion passed 7-0-1.*

**Changes to the Agenda for November 15, 2011**

**A. Addition of “Approval of Electrical Service Contract” as Item 4.A and movement of Agenda Items 4.A-4.C down to 4.B -4.D**

*Robin Chasse **MOVED** and Colleen Fitzpatrick **SECONDED** a motion to approve the addition of “Approval of Electrical Service Contract” to the agenda as item 4.A and movement of Agenda Items 4.A-4.C down to 4.B -4.D. Motion passed 8-0-0.*

**Old Business**

**A. Approval of the Policy Series 4000**

*Jonathan Wintsch **MOVED** and Susan Dean **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Policy Series 4000 as presented. Motion passed 8-0-0.*

## New Business

### **A. Approval of Electrical Service Contract**

*The Board of Education reviewed the Electrical Service Contract as presented by Mike Distefano. Distefano explained that RSD 17's attorneys have been able to introduce RSD 17 to a consortium of other school boards for electrical service. The new contract could potentially yield a savings of \$590,617 over the three year term of the contract compared to the expiring contract the district is currently under. Distefano advised that this opportunity has only come up recently and the presentation of the contract to the Board was delayed due to Winter Storm Alfred. Distefano also explained that if the Board was not able to approve the contract, there was a risk that the District would lose the rate lock on the contract and that the pricing would be subject to change. The Board discussed the matter and decided to vote on approval of the contract at this Board meeting.*

*Robin Chasse **MOVED** and Susan Dean **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Constellation New Energy Consortium Electrical Service for 3 years, from January 2012 to January 2015. Motion passed 8-0-0.*

### **B. Approval for a Change of Authorized Signers of the ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition**

*Jo Ferjak **MOVED** and Chet Harris **SECONDED** a motion to appoint Superintendent of Schools Howard Thiery and Finance Director Martha Vaughn as authorized signers of the ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition. Motion passed 8-0-0.*

### **C. 2011-2012 Calendar Adjustment Proposal**

*Superintendent Howard Thiery presented the 2011-2012 Regional School District No. 17 Calendar to the Board and proposed that in light of the four school days which have been cancelled due to Tropical Storm Irene and Winter Storm Alfred that the Board approve a change in the Holiday Recess, making December 22, 2011 a full day of school instead of a half-day, and December 23, 2011 a half-day instead of a day off from school. He advised that any teachers or faculty who had already had plans to travel on or around that date could be eligible to take a personal day with permission of the Superintendent, in accordance with union rules. He also proposed that the Board had the discretion to forgive the 181<sup>st</sup> and 182<sup>nd</sup> days of school, and remain in compliance with the legal requirement of 180 days of school, bringing the total days of school missed thus far from 4 to only 1 and allowing students to be able to be dismissed for summer vacation on June 22, 2012 instead of June 25, 2012 or June 26, 2012. The Board discussed that they would prefer to see if any additional snow cancellations or other cancellations would be required before deciding to forgive the 181<sup>st</sup> and 182<sup>nd</sup> days of school. However, with Superintendent Thiery's advice that the community would need to know about the changes to the December 2011 calendar as soon as possible, the Board decided to vote on the proposed changes to December 22, 2011 and December 23, 2011.*

*Chet Harris **MOVED** and Jonathan Wintsch **SECONDED** a motion to approve change of December 22, 2011 from a half-day of school to a full day, and December 23, 2011 from a day off from school to a half-day of school, as presented. Motion passed 8-0-0.*

### **D. Presentation of District and School Continuous Improvement Plans**

*Superintendent Howard Thiery presented the District Improvement Plan with his goals for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Teaching and Learning and Building Community, including improving curricular and instructional consistency and articulation, developing a district-wide Professional in Residency Program, developing a district-wide set of indicators for academic achievement, establishing development of internal and external community as a priority goal of all district administrators, establishing a working partnership with H-K Youth and Family Service and the Early Childhood Coalition in order to better connect and support service to Haddam and Killingworth families and children, and strengthening communication within the community.*

*Principal Eric Larson presented the Burr District Elementary Continuous Improvement Plan 2011-2012 with goals for Literacy, Numeracy, and Developing External and Internal Community. Each goal was presented with background information, an action plan and progress monitoring.*

*Principal Dr. Janice Harris presented the Haddam Elementary School Continuous Improvement Plan 2011-2012 with goals for Literacy, Numeracy, and Developing External and Internal Community. Each goal was presented with background information, an action plan and progress monitoring.*

*Principal Rita Peretto presented the Killingworth Elementary School Continuous Improvement Plan 2011-2012 with goals for Literacy, Numeracy, and Developing External and Internal Community. Each goal was presented with background information, an action plan and progress monitoring.*

*Principal Miriam Furey-Wagner presented the HK Middle School Continuous Improvement Plan 2011-2012 with goals for Literacy, Numeracy, and Developing External and Internal Community. Each goal was presented with background information, an action plan and progress monitoring.*

*Principal Charles Macunas presented the HKHS Continuous Improvement Plan 2011-2012 with goals for Literacy, Numeracy, and Developing External and Internal Community. Each goal was presented with background information, an action plan and progress monitoring.*

*At the conclusion of the presentation, Amy Jacques-Purdy thanked the administrators for their presentation and thanked the audience.*

**Adjournment**

*Before adjourning, Amy Jacques-Purdy thanked the out-going Board members, Jo Ferjak for her ten years of service, Robin Chasse for her five years of service and Colleen Fitzpatrick for her four years of service and presented them with flowers.*


*Colleen Fitzpatrick **MOVED** and Jonathan Wintsch **SECONDED** a motion to adjourn to an executive session to discuss personnel matters. Motion passed 8-0-0 at 10:11 PM.*

*Jo Ferjak **MOVED** and Robin Chasse **SECONDED** a motion to adjourn from executive session. Motion passed 8-0-0 at 10:21 PM.*

*Respectfully submitted,*



*Larissa Johnson*

Approval:   
Secretary

12/6/2011  
Date