

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION – EDUCATION SESSION MEETING
OCTOBER 20, 2020**

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on October 20, 2020 via Central Office Gym and Google Hangouts Meet Video Conference (Live Stream) for public viewing. Board of Education Chair, Suzanne Sack, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Members Present: *Brenda Buzzi, Peter Sonski, Joel D’Angelo, Dr. Nelson Rivera, Jennifer Favalora, Shawna Goldfarb (Via Remote), Eileen Blewett, Prem Aithal, Joanne Nesti, Kathleen Zandi and Suzanne Sack*

Members Absent: *None.*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Holly Hageman, Director of Finance, Ann Adriani, Director of Operations, John Mercier, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia*

The Board meetings are videotaped and posted on the RSD17 Website under Board of Education, BOE Meeting Schedules & Minutes for public viewing.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nEysH3QQjZ79dG9OI0Jwu0GvANZC3iwN/view?usp=sharing>

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting: *Board of Education Chair, Suzanne Sack, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

Report from Chairman about new BOE Meeting Format and Process Under the Governor’s Order:

Board Chair, Sack, updated the Board. She briefly went over the BOE Meeting Format under the Governor’s Order which are now being held in-person and remotely.

Public Comment: *None.*

Board Liaison Reports:

A. Curriculum Subcommittee

Kathleen Zandi updated the Board. She spoke about the Diversity Committee incorporating new diversity perspectives in the Curriculum regarding Language Arts, Social Studies, Social/Emotional Studies and World Language. She spoke about Professional Development, the creation of new Focus Groups at the High School and Middle School Levels on the topic of Diversity, Purchasing Resources for Hybrid Learning, a new course that will be offered at the High School Level next school year on the topics of African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Studies. Lastly, she spoke about the K-8 parent/teacher partnership due to remote learning and gave a brief update on I-Ready.

B. Personnel Subcommittee

a. Fiscal Operations Organization Update

Superintendent Dr. Hageman updated the board. She spoke on the first step of implementation of a new financial and HR platform system, and reviewing the roles and responsibilities in the Finance Department. She spoke briefly on Infinite Visions.

Ann Adriani updated the Board. She spoke about running the first payroll out of the new Financial platform in January 2021 and a new employee self-services portal.

b. Bargaining Unit Negotiations

Board Chair, Suzanne Sack, updated the Board. She briefly spoke about how the HKEA Negotiations are underway and how the Board delegated authority to the Personnel and Evaluation Subcommittee for the handling of the Teachers' Contract.

Old Business:

A. Update on K-8 Full In-Person Model and High School Hybrid

Superintendent Dr. Hageman updated the Board. She spoke about the full opening of schools going extremely well, the challenges with transportation due to shortage of bus drivers and working closely with STA. She further touched on the delivery of instruction, small group advisories and surveying students and parents for social/emotional check-ins/ monitoring students on an individual basis. Lastly, she gave an update on COVID-19, how health officials are getting concerned about increased levels and how it is a huge part of Community effort to keep it under control.

B. Update on Fieldhouse Project

Vice Chair, Sonski, updated the Board. He spoke about the floor leveling in the gymnasium remains on schedule, caulking in the windows is underway, and is hopeful the floor will be leveled by the end of next week. He also noted no new concerns in terms of project issues.

C. 2021-22 BOE Meeting Schedule (Second Read)

Board Chair, Sack, updated the Board. She briefly noted that the 2021-22 Board of Education meeting Schedule is a Second Read and a motion was brought to the table.

*Joanne Nesti **MOVED** and Eileen Blewett **SECONDED** a motion to accept the 2021-22 BOE Meeting Schedule as presented.*

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 by the following Votes:

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|----|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Kathleen Zandi | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Peter Sonski | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Dr. Nelson Rivera | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Eileen Blewett | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Joanne Nesti | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Suzanne Sack | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Shawna Goldfarb | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Jennifer Favalora | 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"/> |
| Brenda Buzzi | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prem Aithal | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> |

D. Policy: 9000 Series/BOE Bylaws (Second Read)

Joanne Nesti updated the Board. She spoke about the Board Bylaws, 9000 Series and the specific areas that possibly needed to be deleted and/or amended. The Board also discussed in length about the section of the Bylaws that deals with remote/in-person Board participation. After Board discussion, it was decided that this Bylaw be put back on the table at a future Board meeting and have a commitment by the Policy Sub-Committee to do so.

*Brenda Buzzi **MOVED** and Dr. Nelson Rivera **SECONDED** a motion to accept the revised Board Bylaws, Series 9000 as presented by the Policy Subcommittee with 3 Amendments: 1) an amendment to the portion relating to the Consent Agenda not requiring a second or a vote to remove an item for separate*

consideration by the Board; 2) an amendment to the language regarding town residents asking for an item to be placed on the agenda; and 3) an amendment to the timeframe on all documents submitted along with an Agenda to Friday at 3 pm or as soon as practical.

Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0 by the following Votes:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|----|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|-------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|----|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Kathleen Zandi | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | Shawna Goldfarb | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Peter Sonski | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jennifer Favalora | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Dr. Nelson Rivera | 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"/> |
| Eileen Blewett | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | Brenda Buzzi | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Joanne Nesti | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | Prem Aithal | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Suzanne Sack | YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> | A | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | | | |

Ann Adriani left at approximately 8:15 p.m.

New Business:

A. Development of New District Website

John Mercier updated the Board. He spoke briefly about the New District Website, and the Community will be advised as to when it is up and running.

B. District Goals

Board Chair, Sack, updated the Board. She spoke about the Goals of the District, Zero Based Budgeting, and adding Capital Planning as a goal.

Board Chair, Suzanne Sack, called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Sciascia
Board Clerk

Approval: _____ Date: _____
Jennifer Favalora, Secretary