

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION – EDUCATION SESSION
MEETING
February 23, 2021

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on February 23, 2021 in the Haddam-Killingworth Intermediate/Middle School Cafeteria and via 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 (Via Remote), Dr. Nelson Rivera, Jennifer Favalora, Eileen Blewett, Joel D’Angelo (Via Remote), Shawna Goldfarb (Via Remote), Prem Aithal, Joanne Nesti, Kathleen Zandi, Peter Sonski and Suzanne Sack*

Members Absent: *None.*

Also Present: *Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Holly Hageman, 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/12lMcfBbldM6ZZulszzV-pLzyhls6L6pf/view?usp=sharing>

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting: *Board of Education Chair, 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. She updated the public on the email address to submit questions/concerns.

Public Comment: *None.*

Superintendent Update on School Operations:

Superintendent Dr. Hageman updated the Board. She spoke on the Community metrics for Covid-19 moving in the right direction, with fewer cases reporting within the District. Superintendent Dr. Hageman spoke about the current plan to bring the High School back to full in-person in a phased approach in March. The families who chose full remote for their children could stay as-is. She briefly spoke on the preparation/scheduling for same. Lastly, Superintendent Dr. Hageman spoke about the upcoming Spring Sport Season; all sports are scheduled to run with some mitigation strategies in place.

Board Liaison Reports:

A. Curriculum Subcommittee

Kathy Zandi updated the Board. She spoke about the effort to add Social and Emotional Learning Curriculums at the Middle School and High School. The Middle School is proposing to add the Second Step Program and would teach it in an Advisory period this coming school year. The High School would

like to add a program called School Connect. Kathy gave a Diversity Committee update including a request from the committee for an Equity Statement. The Board discussed how it fits in the RSD17 Mission Statement and Core Values. Lastly, she read the Diversity Committee’s Mission Statement which is also available online for further viewing. She briefly touched on Y&FS starting a Study Group focusing on Diversity.

Old Business:

A. 2021-22 Budget Process and Timelines

Board Chair, Sack, updated the Board. She gave a brief reminder of Board dates associated with the Budget process and Superintendent Dr. Hageman briefly went over the adjusted start times. The Board had a further discussion about upcoming meetings being remote/in-person. The March 4th Joint Meeting and Budget meeting following will be held remotely.

B. Policies 5131.912, 5145.12, 5131.6(a) (Second Read)

Joanne Nesti updated the Board. She briefly spoke on Policies 5131.912, 5145.12 and 5131.6(a). The Board had further discussions about each before a motion was brought to the table.

Prem Aithal **MOVED** and Joanne Nesti **SECONDED** a motion to approve Policies 5131.912, 5145.12 and 5131.6(a) 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"/>	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"/>

New Business:

A. RSD17 Vision of the Graduate Adoption

Superintendent Dr. Hageman updated the Board. She spoke about Vision of the Graduate development and once approved by the Board it will be housed on the website for public viewing.

Board Member, Prem Aithal, thanked Jonathan Costa, the Community, Steering Committee, Teachers, the Board, Superintendent Dr. Hageman and the Leadership Team for all their hard work throughout this process.

Joanne Nesti **MOVED** and Kathy Zandi **SECONDED** a motion to adopt the RSD17 Vision of the Graduate 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"/>	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"/>

Consent Agenda:

A. Asset Disposal Request Form - HKMS Athletics

B. Asset Disposal Request Form - HKMS Science

*Peter Sonski **MOVED** and Kathy Zandi **SECONDED** a motion to accept the Consent Agenda Items as presented.*

Motion passed unanimously by Consent from all Board Members.

Board Discussion/News/Suggestions

Board Vice Chair, Sonski updated the Board. He spoke about how the Facilities Subcommittee will be meeting next Monday, March 1st and an item on the agenda is the review of RFP which will come back to the Board shortly.

Board Chair, Sack, called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Sciascia

Board Clerk

Approval: _____ Date: _____
Jennifer Favalora, Secretary