

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**August 3, 2021**

*A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on August 3, 2021 in the Haddam-Killingworth Intermediate/Middle School Cafeteria and via Google Hangouts Meet Video Conference (Live Stream). Board of Education Chair, Suzanne Sack, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM*

**Members Present:** *Joanne Nesti, Prem Aithal, Joel D'Angelo, Jennifer Favalora, Eileen Blewett, Kathleen Zandi, Brenda Buzzzi, Dr. Nelson Rivera, Shawna Goldfarb, and Suzanne Sack*

**Members Absent:** *Peter Sonski*

**Also Present:** *Interim Superintendent of Schools, JeanAnn Paddyfote, Director of Finance, Ann Adriani, Director of Operations, John Mercier, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia (Via Remote)*

**Visitors:** *None.*

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

<http://reflect-hkty.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/911?channel=1>

**Call to Order/Opening of Meeting:**

*Board of Education Chair, Suzanne Sack, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited*

*Board Chair, Sack, asked the Board and Community to pause for a Moment of Silence regarding the passing of Haddam-Killingworth Student, Gianna Vincelett.*

*Board Chair, Sack, asked for a 5-minute Board recess at approximately 7:35 p.m.*

*The Board resumed the meeting at approximately 7:40 p.m.*

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

*Board Chair, Sack, went over the Governor's Order which was recently extended regarding Board meetings to be held in-person and also remotely.*

**Public Comment:**

*Dennis Cogley from Killingworth addressed the Board. He spoke about his opposition of students wearing masks in school for the Fall Academic School Year.*

*Roslyn Reeps from Haddam addressed the Board. She spoke about being in-favor of students wearing masks in school for the Fall Academic School Year.*

*Salvatore LoGiudice from Higganum. He spoke about his opposition of students wearing masks in school for the Fall Academic Year.*

*Teresa Karber from Higganum addressed the Board. She spoke about her opposition of students wearing masks in school for the Fall Academic Year.*

*Jamie and Darly Ritone from Higganum addressed the Board. They spoke about their opposition of students wearing masks in school for the Fall Academic Year.*

*Rob and Nicole Harlow from Higganum addressed the Board. They spoke on their support of mandating masks for the Fall Academic School Year and also asked that remote learning option be given to students.*

**Superintendent Search Update:**

*Board Chair, Sack, spoke about the newly appointed Superintendent of Schools, Jeffrey Wihbey, who will start the Haddam-Killingworth District in October. Communication will be sent out to Community Members regarding same.*

**Board Committee Reports and Future Meetings**

**A. Facilities Subcommittee**

*No Report.*

**B. Finance Subcommittee**

*No Report. Eileen Blewett will be working with Ann Adriani during the next Committee meeting to redesign the Budget format.*

**C. Policy Subcommittee**

*Joanne Nesti updated the Board. She spoke about how the Policies in the packet are for the Board's First Read.*

**D. Communications Subcommittee**

*No Report.*

**E. Personnel and Evaluation Subcommittee**

*Board Chair, Sack, updated the Board. The Committee discussed a few Personnel Matters in Executive Session and no action was taken.*

**F. Curriculum Subcommittee**

*No Report.*

**G. Strategic Planning Subcommittee**

*No Report.*

**Board Liaison Reports:**

**A. Healthy Communities – Healthy Kids Council**

*Shawna Goldfarb updated the Board. She spoke about the newly hired Prevention Coordinator, School Supplies Fundraiser/BackPack Program and the upcoming Pumpkin Run.*

**B. LEARN**

*No Report.*

**C. Park & Recreation**

*No Report.*

**D. Haddam Board of Selectmen**

Jennifer Favalora updated the Board. She spoke about School Sports, Haddam's Mill Rate increased and HES signed another Agreement to keep looking for a Leaser of the Property.

**E. Killingworth Board of Selectmen**

No Report. Kathy Zandi briefly spoke about how the Selectmen appreciated the Monthly Board Summaries.

**New Business:**

**A. Region 17 Registered Professional Nurses & Licensed Practical Nurses Connecticut Health Care Associates District 1199- Contract Approval\***

Jennifer Favalora updated the Board. She spoke about the process of the Contract Approval and thanked Ann Adriani, Dr. Holly Hageman and the Nurses Union for their help finalizing it.

Brenda Buzzzi **MOVED** and Joel D'Angelo **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Region 17 Registered Professional Nurses & Licensed Practical Nurses Connecticut Health Care Associates District 1199- Contract Approval as presented.

Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 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	Absent			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 Buzzzi	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:**

The donations on the Consent Agenda are made to the school system as a whole, and the Superintendent may direct any monies to specific schools or programs at her discretion.

- A. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,139.82 from Stop & Shop A+ Rewards to be deposited into the Student Activity Fund. Submitted by Brienne Whidden, Principal of Burr District Elementary School.
- B. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$2,006.00 from Stop & Shop A+ Rewards to be deposited into the Student Activity Fund. Submitted by Dennis Reed, Principal of Killingworth Elementary School.
- C. First read of Policy Series 6000 as recommended by Shipman & Goodman
- D. Approval of Minutes from the July 6, 2021 Board of Education Meeting
- E. Approval of Minutes from the July 20, 2021 Board of Education – Education Session Meeting

Shawna Goldfarb **MOVED** and Prem Aithal **SECONDED** a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented with gratitude.

Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 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	Absent			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  NO  A   
Joanne Nesti YES  NO  A

Brenda Buzzzi YES  NO  A   
Prem Aithal YES  NO  A   
Suzanne Sack YES  NO  A

**Report From the Superintendent:**

**A. Personnel Report**

*Interim Superintendent, Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote, updated the Board. She spoke about how she provided the Personnel Report in the Board packet. She advised if anyone has any questions regarding same, to contact her directly.*

**B. Enrollment Report**

*Interim Superintendent, Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote, updated the Board. She spoke about how she provided the Enrollment Report in the Board packet. She advised if anyone has any questions regarding same, to contact her directly. Also, she stated how she is watching the Kindergarten Enrollment.*

**C. Update on Summer Learning Opportunities**

*Interim Superintendent, Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote, updated the Board. She spoke about how she provided answers in the Board packet regarding the Summer Learning Opportunities to the questions that were raised by the Board at the last meeting.*

*Board Chair, Sack, asked for a 5-minute Board recess at approximately 8:20 p.m.*

*The Board resumed the meeting at approximately 8:21 p.m.*

**D. School Update**

*Interim Superintendent, Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote, updated the Board. She spoke about Summer School protocols, ESS Funding and waiting on guidance from the Governor regarding the wearing of masks in school which should come around the middle of the month.*

**Report From the Director of Fiscal Operations:**

**A. Payment Schedule for Towns**

*Ann Adriani updated the Board. She spoke about the Payment Schedule for the Towns that was provided in the Board packet and uploaded to the RSD17 Website.*

**Board Discussion/News/Suggestions:** *Board Member, Kathy Zandi, asked about the possibility of holding a celebration for the newly appointed Superintendent of Schools.*

**Adjournment:**

*Board Chair, Sack, called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:25 PM.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Jamie Sciascia*

*Board Clerk*

Approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Jennifer Favalora, Secretary*