



**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: February 27, 2024

The Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education meeting was in the Haddam-Killingworth High School Auditorium on February 27, 2024.

Board Member Attendance:

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Prem Aithal	X		Dr. Nelson Rivera	X	
Lisa Connelly	X		Corey Roberts		X
Jennifer Favalora	X		Suzanne Sack (remote)	X	
Shawna Goldfarb	X		Jennifer Voegtli	X	
Hamish MacPhail 6:32 pm	X		Dr. Kathleen Zandi	X	
Heather Pach	X				

Also Present Superintendent of Schools Jeffrey Wihbey, Assistant Superintendent Jennifer Miller, Director of Finance and Operations Ben Whittaker, Director of Student Services Dr. Aaron Puzarne, Board Administrator Sarah Kaiser, Principal Brienne Whidden, Curriculum Coordinators Jennifer Beermuender and Heather Rigatti, Principal Dennis Reed, Principal Eric Larson, Principal Dorothy Ventura, Assistant Principal Heather Persson, Principal Donna Hayward, Special Education Coordinator Tonya Gorgone, Elementary Coordinator Becky Templeton, IT Manager Denis Recchia.

Visitors: 14

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting

Board Vice Chair Jennifer Favalora called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Presentation of the Superintendent’s Proposed Budget 2024-2025

Superintendent Wihbey discussed the budget development priorities and that the proposed budget represents what is needed to realize the RSD17 Strategic Operating Plan (SOP) so that

the students and the staff can receive what is needed to achieve. The Superintendent reviewed our core values, noting that quality teaching is essential to learning. He spoke about the district's four strategic priorities, the vision of the graduate, and the many outstanding accomplishments of the District within the past year. The Superintendent discussed the annual enrollment history and provided a 12-year net budget history. He also provided information regarding staffing ratios of certified staff to students.

The Superintendent reviewed the variance changes in the following proposed budget areas:

- Salaries
- Health Insurance (Premiums)
- Professional Services (Financial Operations)
- Facilities Professional Services (HVAC Inspections)
- Transportation of Students
- SPED Tuition (Out of District Costs)
- Utilities (Electricity)
- Capital Improvements (Building/Tech)
- Equipment (School Based)
- Debt Service (Bonds)

The Board discussed the presentation, the schedule of budget meetings, and the process. Board Vice Chair Favolora noted that the Board welcomes the community to attend the upcoming meetings. The community input meeting on the Budget is scheduled for March 19th at 6:00 PM.

Adjournment

Board Vice Chair Favolora adjourned the meeting at 6:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Kaiser
Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education

Approval: _____ Date: _____
Dr. Kathleen Zandi, Board Secretary