



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

April 2, 2024

A special meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on April 2, 2024, in the Haddam-Killingworth High School Auditorium.

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	X	
Shawna Goldfarb	X		Jennifer Voegtli	X	
Hamish MacPhail (Remote)	X		Dr. Kathleen Zandi (Remote)	X	
Heather Pach	X				

Also Present: Superintendent Jeffrey Wihbey, Assistant Superintendent Jennifer Miller, Finance and Operations Director Ben Whittaker, Board Administrator Sarah Kaiser

Visitors: 10

Call to Order/Opening of Meeting

Board Chair Suzanne Sack called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the previous meeting.

Review of the Input from the Annual Hearing and Possible Budget Modification

The Board reviewed the budget and meeting information discussed at the Annual Hearing.

Dr. Kathy Zandi **MOVED** and Jennifer Favalora **SECONDED** a motion to remove the controller from the budget.

The motion failed from the following voice votes 5-6-0

Member	Vote	Member	Vote
Prem Aithal	☐ YES X NO ☐ A	Dr. Nelson Rivera	☐ YES X NO ☐ A
Lisa Connelly	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Corey Roberts	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A
Jennifer Favalora	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Suzanne Sack	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A
Shawna Goldfarb	☐ YES X NO ☐ A	Jennifer Voegtli	☐ YES X NO ☐ A
Hamish MacPhail (R)	☐ YES X NO ☐ A	Dr. Kathleen Zandi (R)	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A
Heather Pach	☐ YES X NO ☐ A		

The Board further discussed the controller position.

Prem Aithal **MOVED** and Hamish MacPhail **SECONDED** a motion to fund the controller position at \$55,000.

The motion passed from the following voice votes 7-4-0

Member	Vote	Member	Vote
Prem Aithal	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Dr. Nelson Rivera	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A
Lisa Connelly	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Corey Roberts	☐ YES X NO ☐ A
Jennifer Favalora	☐ YES X NO ☐ A	Suzanne Sack	☐ YES X NO ☐ A
Shawna Goldfarb	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Jennifer Voegtli	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A
Hamish MacPhail (R)	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Dr. Kathleen Zandi (R)	☐ YES X NO ☐ A
Heather Pach	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A		

Board of Education Adopts the 2024-2025 Budget for the Annual Meeting

Jennifer Favalora **MOVED** and Prem Aithal **SECONDED** a motion to adopt a budget in the amount of \$49,818,029 for the 2024/2025 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, to be brought to the Annual Meeting on May 6, 2024.

Motion unanimously passed from the following voice votes 11-0-0

Member	Vote	Member	Vote
Prem Aithal	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Dr. Nelson Rivera	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A
Lisa Connelly	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Corey Roberts	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A

Jennifer Favalora	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Suzanne Sack	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A
Shawna Goldfarb	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Jennifer Voegtli	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A
Hamish MacPhail (R)	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Dr. Kathleen Zandi (R)	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A
Heather Pach	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A		

Approval of the Legal Call

Jennifer Favalora **MOVED** and Shawna Goldfarb **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Legal call for the May 6, 2024 Annual Meeting as follows:

A meeting of Regional School District No. 17 of the State of Connecticut, whose member towns are the towns of Haddam and Killingworth, will be held at Haddam-Killingworth High School in the Community Room, on May 06, 2024, at 6:30 PM for the following purposes:

1. To adopt a regional education gross budget of \$49,818,029 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024.

The meeting will be adjourned to a yes/no vote on the budget which will take place on the voting machines in each of the member towns on the day following the district meeting; therefore, the vote on voting machines will take place May 07, 2024.

2. To set the voting hours of the referendum vote on the budget for the hours of 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM pursuant to Section 10-51 of the Connecticut General Statutes as amended by Public Act 94-245 and 7-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

A copy of the proposed budget recommended for adoption by the district Board of Education is on file and available for inspection and copies are available for distribution upon request at the office of the Superintendent of Schools at 57 Little City Road, Higganum, CT, posted on the RSD17 District Website and at the offices of the town clerks of Haddam and Killingworth.

Motion unanimously passed from the following voice votes 11-0-0

Member	Vote	Member	Vote
Prem Aithal	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Dr. Nelson Rivera	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A
Lisa Connelly	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Corey Roberts	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A
Jennifer Favalora	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Suzanne Sack	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A

Shawna Goldfarb	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Jennifer Voegtli	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A
Hamish MacPhail (R)	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A	Dr. Kathleen Zandi (R)	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A
Heather Pach	X YES ☐ NO ☐ A		

Adjournment

Board Chair Sack adjourned the meeting at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Kaiser
Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education

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