



Regional School District No. 17

Board of Education

Facilities Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Chair: Shawna Goldfarb

A meeting of the Regional School District #17 Facilities Subcommittee was held on October 14, 2025, in the HKHS Community Room.

Subcommittee Members Present: Shawna Goldfarb, Joe Centofanti, Ben Sodergren

Subcommittee Members Absent: Jen Voegtli, Corey Roberts, Suzanne Sack

Others Present: Director of Finance and Operations Karen Asetta, Assistant Superintendent Miller

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:49 PM by Shawna Goldfarb (Chair).

Approval Meeting Minutes

Ben Sodergren **MOVED** and Joe Centofanti **SECONDED** a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed.

HKHS Project Update

Assistant Superintendent Miller provided the committee with an update on the HK High School Building Project. She advised that the Superintendent and Board Chair met with the Legislators on Oct. 8th to discuss support for the needed space waiver for the renovation plan, if needed. Then on Oct. 9th, board members met with the Speaker of the House, Matt Ritter, to receive advice on the next steps for the HS project and bonding. She let us know that Jennifer Favalora will be heading up the Feasibility Study group. Finally, Assistant Superintendent Miller informed the committee that Jack Butkus from Arcadis will be seeking a new architect to work with the board on the renovation plan.

Update on FY Capital Projects

- A. Updated Capital Plan - Superintendent Smith advised the committee that the district is currently on a freeze for any new Capital Projects until the Finance department has finalized their Quarterly Reports and Projections. However, there is a need for Ballistic Window film for BES, KES, and HKIMS at a cost of \$71,725 that is slated for the FY 27 Capital Plan, unless the committee and board would like to add it to the current fiscal year. This will be discussed further once Finance has been updated on the current operating budget.

2. Facilities Update

A. Emergency needs

- a. One of the Fire Doors at HKIMS is broken due to wear and tear and did not pass inspection. The doors (pack of 2) were ordered on Oct. 9th and will be delivered in 8-10 weeks. The cost is \$31,850.
- b. The current phone system at BES does not contain the needed emergency options for a school setting. The district is waiting on one final quote before placing an order. The full board approved the costs, which were set at no more than \$75,000.

B. Facility Needs

- a. Whitehouse Roof - The roof is still leaking and bubbling. It will need to be replaced. The district has received a quote of \$25,000.
- b. White Barn - The barn is still fenced off for safety reasons. The district has received a quote of \$50,000 to demolish the barn, along with \$30,000 for abatement. The State of CT has indicated that, due to the building's historical roof, they are requesting that the barn not be demolished. They also stated that there are grants that would allow the restoration of the barn to equal the cost of demolition. The district is looking into this.

c. Technology Needs

- i. Assistant Superintendent Miller updated the committee on the recent Google-related security incident involving the district. She indicated that with the help of the FBI and Google, they were able to get the system back up and are currently working to finish scrubbing all Chromebooks. The High School has already received its Chromebooks.
- ii. New Servers - PowerSchool Migration - The migration is on hold until the Google-related security incident is rectified.

C. Security Needs - None at this time

D. Additional discussion

The committee began discussing where the funds for the above projects would come from, excluding the Fire Door, which has already been encumbered. It will work with the Finance Committee and Director Asetta to include new lines in the Operating Budget for Repair and Maintenance needs for each school.

Transportation Contract

Director Asetta let the committee know she will be releasing the RFP for the new Transportation Contract in the next two weeks. Due to the current Electric Bus Mandate (CT Public Act 22-25) for the state, she will request responders to describe their experience (if any) with strategies for affordable implementation of electric buses. Region 17 falls into a subset of all towns where

100% of buses must be zero emission as of January 1, 2030. There are lobbying efforts underway to match the statewide mandate implementation date of January 1, 2040. Recent bid results show electric buses on a per day basis to cost 40% more than diesel powered buses. Director Asetta let the committee know the Interim Superintendent did bring this up to the Legislators during their meeting.

Upcoming Agenda Item

- A. Technology Hardware Inventory
- B. Technology Capital Plan
- C. Budget Priorities for FY 27
 - a. Capital Plan
 - b. Technology
 - c. Maintenance
 - d. Security
- D. Update on Google-related Security Incident
 - a. Insurance?
- E. Update on Transportation Contract

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:18 pm.