

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
BOARD OF EDUCATION
JULY 11, 2006**

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held July 11, 2006, in the Haddam-Killingworth High School lower Media Center. Board of Education Vice-Chair Jo Ferjak called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present: Amy Jacques-Purdy, Nancy Gorski, Jo Ferjak, Daniel Cronin, Richard Cabral, Mark Almeida and John O'Leary.

Members absent: Diane Stock, Robert Baranoff, Michael Trahan, and Douglas Stevenson.

Also present: Superintendent of Schools Gary S. Mala.

Ms. Ferjak welcomed John O'Leary, newly elected Board member from Killingworth, who will complete Mary Withington's term.

Audience of Citizens

None.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Jacques-Purdy **MOVED** and Mr. Almeida **SECONDED** that the Board approve the minutes of the June 6, 2006, special Board of Education meeting as presented. Motion passed. Aye: Amy Jacques-Purdy, Nancy Gorski, Jo Ferjak, and Mark Almeida. Abstentions: Daniel Cronin, John O'Leary and Richard Cabral.

Mr. Cabral **MOVED** and Mr. Almeida **SECONDED** that the Board approve the minutes of the June 13, 2006, regular Board of Education meeting as presented. Motion passed. Aye: Amy Jacques-Purdy, Nancy Gorski, Jo Ferjak, John O'Leary, Mark Almeida, and Richard Cabral. Abstention: Daniel Cronin.

Mr. Almeida **MOVED** and Ms. Jacques-Purdy **SECONDED** that the Board approve the minutes of the June 19, 2006 (A), special Board of Education meeting as presented. Motion passed. Aye: Nancy Gorski, Amy Jacques-Purdy, and Mark Almeida. Abstentions: Jo Ferjak, Richard Cabral, John O'Leary, and Daniel Cronin.

Mr. Almeida **MOVED** and Ms. Jacques-Purdy **SECONDED** that the Board approve the minutes of the June 19, 2006 (B), special Board of Education meeting as presented. Motion passed. Aye: Amy Jacques-Purdy, Nancy Gorski, and Mark Almeida. Abstentions: Jo Ferjak, Richard Cabral, John O'Leary, and Daniel Cronin.

Mr. Almeida **MOVED** and Ms. Jacques-Purdy **SECONDED** that the Board approve the minutes of the June 19, 2006 (C), special Board of Education meeting as presented. Motion

passed. Aye: Amy Jacques-Purdy, Nancy Gorski, and Mark Almeida. Abstentions: Jo Ferjak, Richard Cabral, John O'Leary, and Daniel Cronin.

Mr. Almeida **MOVED** and Ms. Jacques-Purdy **SECONDED** that the Board approve the minutes of the June 19, 2006 (D), special Board of Education meeting as presented. Motion passed. Aye: Amy Jacques-Purdy, Nancy Gorski, and Mark Almeida. Abstentions: Jo Ferjak, Richard Cabral, John O'Leary, and Daniel Cronin.

Mr. Almeida **MOVED** and Ms. Jacques-Purdy **SECONDED** that the Board approve the minutes of the June 27, 2006, special Board of Education meeting as presented. Motion passed. Aye: Amy Jacques-Purdy, Nancy Gorski, Jo Ferjak, Mark Almeida, and John O'Leary. Abstentions: Richard Cabral and Daniel Cronin.

Mr. Almeida **MOVED** and Mr. Cabral **SECONDED** that the Board approve the minutes of the June 29, 2006, special Board of Education meeting as presented. Motion passed. Aye: Amy Jacques-Purdy, Richard Cabral, Mark Almeida, and John O'Leary. Abstentions: Nancy Gorski, Jo Ferjak, and Daniel Cronin.

Board Committee Reports

1. **Facilities and Transportation Subcommittee** – Mr. Almeida reported that the committee met unofficially with Gary Mala, Michael Distefano, Michael Zanelli, and Gary Shettle to review a number of items regarding the transition after Mr. Shettle leaves the district. Mr. Mala noted that he would like to schedule a meeting within the next two weeks to discuss the transition plan for the new middle school.
2. **Building Subcommittee** – Mr. Almeida reported that the committee met June 14 and toured the new school. All future Building Subcommittee meetings will probably be held at the new site. The furniture, fixtures, and equipment went out to bid and bids are due back on July 12. The bid opening will be held at 2 p.m. Technology went out to bid a couple of weeks after the FF&E bid and is due back July 20. The architects will review the bid results and bring their recommendations to the Building Committee for approval at a meeting to be held around July 27.
3. **Education Subcommittee** – Ms. Ferjak reported that the committee met June 27 and reviewed policy 3280 (Gifts, Grants and Bequests). The committee referred this policy to the Policy Committee for review. Also discussed were the search process for the Director of Fiscal Operations, naming the new school, and the Alternative Energies Task Force meeting schedule. She noted that after considerable discussion surrounding the naming of the new middle school, the committee voted that the name remain Haddam-Killingworth Middle School. Mr. Mala noted that the Alternative Energies Committee will be comprised of Michael Trahan, Mark Almeida, Michael Distefano, Michael Zanelli, Daniel Collins, Matthew Kulak, and four students (two from the

Applied Education Department and two from the Science Department). They will be exploring bio-diesel, wind and solar energy. He noted he will be contacting Mrs. Carlson, who has children at Burr Elementary School and whose father speaks to people all over the world regarding bio-diesel processing. In addition, Michael Trahan has made a number of contacts at the State level regarding alternative energy.

4. **Communications Committee** – Ms. Ferjak reported that the committee met briefly before the Education Committee and discussed ongoing communications.
5. **Finance Subcommittee** – Mr. Cronin reported the committee met prior to this meeting. The primary discussion was around the replacement for the Director of Finance and Operations. An interim Director of Fiscal Operations will be hired at \$375 per diem.
6. **Policy Subcommittee** – Ms. Ferjak reported that the committee has not met.
7. **Prevention Council** – No report.
8. **LEARN** – No report.
9. **Haddam Board of Selectmen** – Ms. Jacques-Purdy noted that she attended last week's Selectmen's meeting.
10. **Killingworth Board of Selectmen** – Mr. Cabral reported that he attended the Selectmen's meeting last evening and that there is concern over the payment of the bill sent from the Board of Selectmen to Region 17 regarding the expenses for the new school. They indicated there had been an agreement made for the sanitarian and the building inspector's fees and there are certain other fees mandated by the State, but there seemed to be some contention surrounding the legal fees. Mr. Cabral feels that the legal fees in question need to be identified because he does not believe they belong to the district. He also noted that he had spoken with First Selectman Marty Klein after Mr. Klein's meeting with the Superintendent, Haddam First Selectman Tony Bondi, Board Chair Robert Baranoff, Building Committee Chair Kjell Tollefsen and Killingworth town accountant Gina Regolo. Mr. Klein felt there were untruths at the meeting. Mr. Mala stated that he is cautiously optimistic that reason will prevail as the Board deals with the issue of legal and building fees with the town of Killingworth.

Mr. Cabral also reported that the Department of Homeland Security will be giving the town a 100-kilowatt generator to be housed at Killingworth Elementary School in case of a disaster. Mr. Mala will contact Mr. Klein for the details.

Approval of Second Reading of 6000 series, part 1 (6000-6141.322[b] and part 2 (6141.323[a]-6153.1); Athletic Coaches (4116); and Tuition for Faculty Children (5118.1)

Mr. Cabral *MOVED* and Ms. Jacques-Purdy *SECONDED* that the Board approve as the second reading the 6000 policy series, part 1 (6000-6141.322[b] and part 2 (6141.323[a]-6153.1); Athletic Coaches (4116); and Tuition for Faculty Children (5118.1). Motion passed. Aye: Jo Ferjak, Amy Jacques-Purdy, Nancy Gorski, Richard Cabral, Daniel Cronin, and John O'Leary. Abstention: Mark Almeida.

Approval of Eighth Grade Class Trip to Washington, D.C., May 2-4, 2007

Mr. Cabral *MOVED* and Mr. Almeida *SECONDED* that the Board approve the eighth grade class to Washington, D. C., May 2-4, 2007. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Cronin applauded Ms. Wagner for the clarity of her request and suggested that the paperwork that comes to the Board for approval of field trip requests be standardized.

Approval of Girls' Soccer Team Trip to Vermont to Participate in a Soccer Jamboree August 26 and 27

Mr. Cabral *MOVED* and Ms. Jacques-Purdy *SECONDED* that the Board approve the girls' soccer team trip to Vermont August 26 and 27. Mr. Cabral *AMENDED* the motion to correct the dates to August 25 and 26, recommend that the permission slip contain the year, and state that the Board is approving the trip subject to the Superintendent obtaining verification from the CIAC that the trip does not conflict with any regulations around eligibility. Ms. Jacques-Purdy *SECONDED* the amendment. Motion passed unanimously.

Technology Lease Update

No report.

From the Chair

Mr. Cabral stated that he would like to see more Board members attend the CABE Convention being held November 17 and 18. He will be giving Board members information on the legislative action that CABE takes.

From the Superintendent

1. **2006-07 Board Meeting Schedule and Opening Activities** – Mr. Mala distributed a packet of 2006-07 meeting dates for all Board committees, district committees, and meetings he has planned for new staff orientation, substitute personnel, emergency personnel, and town officials. At the Superintendent's suggestion, the Board changed the regular Board meeting location from Burr Elementary School to the high school because of the ease of videotaping the meetings at the high school.

Richard Cabral, Amy Jacques-Purdy, and John O'Leary will serve on the Joint Labor Management Committee

2. **Update on the Director of Fiscal Operations** – Mr. Mala stated that the ad for the Director of Fiscal Operations position has appeared in the Hartford Courant and the Hartford Business Journal. Goens and Esparo will meet with Board members on July 20. The Finance Committee will serve as the initial interview group.
3. **Summary of Administrators' Retreat** – Mr. Mala noted that the administrators' retreat was very productive. This year they will be focusing on teaching and learning.
4. **Correspondence** – Mr. Almeida *MOVED* and Mr. Cabral *SECONDED* that the additional item of John Tarpey's resignation be added to the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
5. **Acceptance of Classified Staff Resignations**

Mr. Cabral *MOVED* and Ms. Gorsky *SECONDED* that the Board accept with regret HES permanent building substitute Jessica DellaCalce's resignation. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Cabral *MOVED* and Mr. Cronin *SECONDED* that the Board accept with regret the resignation of high school custodian Marion Harlow. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **Acceptance of Certified Staff Resignation**

Mr. Cabral *MOVED* and Ms. Gorski *SECONDED* the Board accept with regret KES teacher John Tarpey's resignation. Motion passed unanimously.

From the Director of Finance and Operations

No report.

Future Meetings

The following meeting were scheduled:

1. Facilities and Transportation Committee – July 17, 6:30 p.m., Central Office
2. Alternatives Energies Task Force – July 26, 6 p.m., Central Office
3. Building Committee – July 26, 7 p.m. lower Media Center
4. Special Board of Education meeting – July 27, 7 p.m., lower Media Center

Executive Session

Mr. Cabral **MOVED** and Ms. Jacques-Purdy **SECONDED** the Board enter executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters. Motion passed unanimously at 8:58 p.m.

Mr. Cabral **MOVED** and Mr. Cronin **SECONDED** the Board move out of executive session. Motion passed unanimously at 9:10 p.m.

Adjournment

Mr. Cabral **MOVED** and Mr. Almeida **SECONDED** the meeting adjourn. Motion passed unanimously at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Lang, Board Clerk

Approval:

Amy Jacques-Purdy, Secretary

Date

Approved as presented at the August 8, 2006 Board of Education meeting.