

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Board of Education Update-March 2014

The Board of Education is pleased to provide you with the following District News Board Items.

District News:

- On Sunday, March 9, the first day of Daylight Savings, ten HK Juniors and Seniors arrived at school at 7:00 a.m. to compete in the 2014 Moody's Mega Math Challenge. This is the 4th year in a row that HKHS has had students participate in the Challenge. The Challenge "poses a timely, real-world issue for participants to solve using applied mathematics. The high school teams have just 14 hours to study the issue, gather data, state assumptions, and devise mathematical models before reporting their results in the form of a solution paper. The competing teams do not know the problem in advance." This year's participants include Senior Team: Niko Franceschi-Hoffmann, Zach Carmichael, Ian MacDonald, Rachel Westerbeke, Lily Umba and Junior Team: Nat Berman, Olivia Chasse, Zack Westerbeke, Thomas Irwin, Rachel Winner.
- Two additional Community Forums on the Common Core State Standards and the Smarter Balanced assessment will take place on Thursday April 3rd at the Haddam-Killingworth High School auditorium at 6:30 and on Tuesday April 8th at the Burr District Elementary School cafeteria at 6:30. Parents and community members are welcome to attend either presentation.
- Superintendent Thiery presented his proposed 2014-15 to the Board of Education on Tuesday, March 4th. The proposed budget and presentation can be found on the District website at www.rsd17.org.
- Superintendent Thiery will be traveling to Amman, Jordan the week of March 22 as part of a group of University of Connecticut Faculty who are designing a principal's preparation program in Amman.

Board News:

Your Board of Education

There are eleven elected board members-six are from Haddam and five from Killingworth. That ratio is based on town population.

The Haddam members are:

Sue Twachtman, Chair
Becky Valenti, Secretary
Kathy Brown
Dan Chase
Brian Gamache

The Killingworth members are:

Susan Dean, Vice-Chair
Joel D'Angelo, Treasurer
Michele Amendola
Karen Perry
Jeannie Young

Amy Jacques-Purdy

Celebrations of Excellence-Honoring Our Students

Prior to the Board of Education meeting on February 25, 2014, the Board recognized and honored the following students:

- Two HKHS students, Christiana Field and Garrett Mazziotti, who were awarded the Connecticut Association of Public Schools Superintendents (CAPSS) Superintendent/Student Award.
- Two HKHS students, Kyle Sullivan and Natalie Blodgett, who are this year's recipients of the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Award (HOBY).

Community Conversations on STEM Education

Saturday, April 26, 2014, 9 am-1 pm at the HK Middle School

This is the third Community Conversations held in this district. This year the topic is STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) in our district education programs and how we can encourage student interest and participation. Several Board of Education and district faculty members are serving on the CCE Planning Committee for this event. To attend this event register at HKCommunityConversations@yahoo.com.

Board of Education Involvement in our Communities

- Members of your BOE attended the workshop at the Middle School presented by the district on the Common Core Standards and the Smarter Balance Assessment.
- Members of your BOE attended the Read-Across-America Dr. Seuss Day on March 5 at the Killingworth Elementary School and read to several classes.
- Many members of the Board were involved in last October's Pumpkin Run sponsored by the Haddam-Killingworth Youth and Family Services. They contributed by running, directing activities, and with financial support. The BOE was awarded the Superintendent's Cup at a February BOE meeting. The Superintendent's Cup is a fundraising initiative that Superintendent Thiery implemented in an effort to raise funds for the HKYFS.

Regional District 17-Budget Timeline

- Monday, March 24, 2014-Community Input for the 2014/2015 Budget
6:30 pm, Central Office, Old Middle School Gym
- Monday, April 7, 2014-Annual Hearing of the Board of Education's proposed 2014/2015 budget
7:00 pm Student Commons Haddam-Killingworth Middle School
- Monday, May 5, 2014-Annual Meeting on the 2014/2015 budget
7:00 pm HK High School Auditorium
- Tuesday, May 6, 2014-Referendum in each respective town on the Board of Education's Budget for 2014/2015