

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17

BOARD OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 568, LITTLE CITY ROAD
HIGGANUM, CONNECTICUT 06441
TEL. (860) 345-4534 / FAX (860) 345-2817

Board of Education Update – November 2013

The Board of Education wishes to communicate the following items to you:

District News:

- The HKHS Girls Soccer Team, Boys Soccer Team, Girls Volleyball Team, Boys Cross Country Team, Girls Cross Country Team and Girls Field Hockey Team all qualified for the state tournament in their sport. The Boys Cross Country Team and Girls Soccer Team finished in second place in their class.
- On Tuesday, November 19, the HKHS hosted a breakfast for all business owners and leaders from Haddam. A similar breakfast for Killingworth Business owners and leaders will be held in the spring. These breakfasts are designed to help local business owners learn about the high school and its educational programs in hopes of developing partnerships.
- RSD 17 recently wrapped up its Third Annual Superintendents Cup fundraising challenge for the Haddam Killingworth Youth and Family Services Pumpkin Run. This effort has raised over \$24,000 for Youth and Family Services over the last two years. This year nine fundraising teams competed, with at least one team from every school as well as one from Central Office and one from the Board of Education.
- The Burr Elementary School Running club started up this fall and has been training together on Wednesday and Friday mornings throughout the fall. The club is made up of 36 third and fourth graders and led by third grade teacher Becky Rodbourn. The club culminated their fall training by running in the HKYFS Pumpkin Run.
- On Monday, October 21st, the Middle School hosted NY Times best-selling author, Mr. Adam Gidwitz, who spoke with our 5th and 6th grade students about his writing experience. The Middle School community is so grateful for our business partner, RJ Julia Bookstore in Madison who arranged for the visit and hosted the author for an afternoon book signing event at their store.
- During October RSD 17 Elementary Schools and Middle School have hosted staff developers from Columbia University's Teacher College Reading and Writing Project. These staff developers have been in classrooms with teachers and students modeling best instructional practices in the Reader's Workshop model. These days support the District's initiative on Reader's Workshop and its expansion in grades 5-8.

Board News:

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17

BOARD OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 568, LITTLE CITY ROAD
HIGGANUM, CONNECTICUT 06441
TEL. (860) 345-4534 / FAX (860) 345-2817

New Members: As a result of the November 5, 2013 elections, the Board will have 4 new members, including Brian Gamache, Dan Chase, and Kathy Brown of Haddam, and Michele Amendola of Killingworth. Current members Susan Dean and Jamie Lehane, both of Killingworth were re-elected.

The Board is grateful for the service of the outgoing members Steven Banaletti, Chet Harris and Jonathan Wintsch, all of Haddam, and Jeannie Young, of Killingworth.

· Building Committee: At its most recent meeting on November 19th the Board honored all the former members of the Building Committee, which oversaw the construction of the Middle School for almost a decade. The Board is grateful for the enormous amount of community service time spent by these members to oversee the construction process.

· Health Care Agent: The Board put out a request for proposal to seek a new health care agent for the District. The responses to the RFP were reviewed and a committee of Board members and Administrators are now in the process of interviewing candidates to identify a finalist.

Accessing Information:

· Website: The District has a completely new website layout, which includes a calendar feature that is downloadable to a personal Google calendar. The site address is www.rsd17.org. In the coming year, the District's IT department will develop a mobile site and RSD 17 app for your phone.

· Facebook: You can receive interesting news about the District on the Region 17 Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/HKSchools>.

· Television: The meeting schedule for the Board of Education is on the website and the public is welcome. The meetings are televised on Channel 18: HKTV every Tuesday at 8:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm and on Thursdays at 11:00 am, 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm.