

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17

BOARD OF EDUCATION

57 LITTLE CITY ROAD
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September 2015

District News

New Faculty

Over the summer we were pleased to hire an experienced and talented group of new faculty members. We are excited to welcome the following new teachers to our RSD 17 Community:

Rebecca Boyce	2 nd Grade KES	Lucille Caskey	Science HKHS
Summer Distefano	Special Ed. BES	Tara Eames	1 st Grade KES
Nicholas Fillipides	Music BES	Sara Fischer	Special Ed. HKHS
Lynne Goodwin	Music HKMS	Brandee James	1 st Grade HES
Adina Johnson	LEAP HES/BES	Susan Kipp	Special Ed. HKHS
Megan Martin	Art HKHS/HKMS		

HKHS Named One of America's Top High Schools

Haddam Killingworth High School has been recognized as "One of America's Top High Schools" by Newsweek magazine for the second consecutive year. HKHS is one of 15 Connecticut high schools to earn this recognition. This recognition is based on student achievement and college readiness. Haddam-Killingworth High School came in at 353/500 nationally and 11/15 among Connecticut Schools recognized, with 91.9% students heading to college and an average SAT score of 1563.

RSD 17 Teacher of the Year

RSD 17 is pleased to recognize the 2014-15 Teachers and Staff Members of the year from each school as well as the District. This years honorees were recognized by the Board of Education at their May Meeting and by the Superintendent at the Opening of Schools Convocation. This years recipients are as follows:

BES and RSD17 District Teacher of the Year

Jessica DeAngelo

Teacher of the Year HES	Lindsey Meyer
Teacher of the Year KES	Jennifer Esposito
Teacher of the Year HKMS	Jessica Petrus
Teacher of the Year HKHS	Janet Kohm

Staff Member of the Year BES	Cindy Sadlowski
Staff Member of the Year HES	Gary Forbes
Staff Member of the Year KES	Jamie DeRosa
Staff Member of the Year HKMS	Cindy Fetteroll
Staff Member of the Year HKHS	Susan Rynkowski
Staff Member of the Year District	Lynne Flint

Summer Facilities Work

Over the summer a variety of repairs and improvements to our school facilities were completed. Work at our schools included paving, painting and landscape repairs and upgrades. The annual playground inspections and maintenance was completed at all elementary schools. Some of the most prominent work was the removal of all of the portable classrooms and remediation of the sites at KES and HES.

Board of Education News

Board of Education Members

Haddam:

Kathy Brown, Dan Chase, Joanne Nesti, Amy Jacques-Purdy, Sue Twachtman (Chair), Becky Valenti (Secretary)

Killingworth:

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

Back to School/Convocation Ceremony

The Convocation Ceremony was held Tuesday morning, August 25th in the HK High School auditorium. Welcoming remarks came from many including Sue Twachtman, BOE Chair. BOE members were present. Congratulations to Jessica DeAngelo, Teacher of the Year from Burr Elementary School who also spoke. The Board of Education sincerely wishes everyone a rewarding and productive 2015-2016 school year.

HKHS Energy and Facilities Upgrade

Board members approved a scope of projects to be considered for the HKHS Energy and Facilities Upgrade. The total project would be bonded and require approval from the community at referendum. The High School, built in 1974, has all original, highly inefficient boilers that have exceeded their life span. These need to be replaced along with the original roof. The Board supports installing photovoltaic (solar) panels for additional energy savings and increased payback on the project. The scope also includes a new, ADA compliant handicap accessible front entrance with a safer and more identifiable entryway. Currently there is no easy access for handicapped individuals to get to the upper-level main office and core of the building. To correct long-standing field concerns, the Board approved replacing a grass field with artificial turf to allow for safer conditions as well as opportunities for other teams, besides football, to use the field and have evening home games. Lastly, the project includes new paint, carpet and seating in the auditorium. The carpet in certain areas and seating are all original. This would be the first renovation project to HKHS core since it was built. The Board discussed potential revenue opportunities regarding the auditorium and field upgrades, which, along with other reimbursements, would help offset costs.

Board of Education Handbook

The Communications Subcommittee of the Board completed its almost two year task of creating a Board of Education handbook. This handbook will serve as a source of information for BOE members, especially those newly elected to the BOE. It can be informative for BOE candidates or those thinking of running for the Board. Copies can be found at the Town Halls and libraries. Political party chairs have a copy as well. Those running for the Board and appearing on the 2015 ballot have individual copies. The Handbook can be found on the district website www.rsd17.org under Board of Education. Hard copies can be viewed at the RSD 17 Central Office.

Policy Subcommittee Work

The Policy Subcommittee under the leadership of Amy Jacques-Purdy, continues to work on the 6000 Series on Instruction. The policies of a school board encompass numerous areas: Missions and Goals, Community Relations, Administration, Business & Non-Instructional Operations, Personnel-Certified & Non-Certified, Students, Instruction, New Construction, and Bylaws of the Board. Board Policies can be viewed at the Central Office. Some can be found on the RSD 17 website. All agenda and minutes of Board Subcommittee meetings are posted on the district website under Board of Education.

Accessing Information

- District website is www.rsd17.org.
- Facebook Page information is at www.facebook.com/HKSchools
- The RSD 17 app-mobile site can be accessed through your cell phone.
- Television: The meeting schedule for the Board of Education is posted on the district website and the public is welcome. The meetings are televised on Channel 18, HKTV every Tuesday at 8:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm and on Thursday at 7:00 pm.