

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**July 2, 2019**

*A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held on July 2, 2019 at Central Office in the Board Room. Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.*

**Members Present:** *Eric Couture, Peter Sonski, Suzanne Sack, Joel D'Angelo, Kathleen Zandi, Sue Williams, Eileen Blewett, Brenda Buzzi, Gerry Matthews, and Joanne Nesti*

**Members Absent:** *Maura Wallin*

**Also Present:** *Superintendent of Schools, Howard Thiery, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Holly Hageman, and Board Clerk, Jamie Sciascia*

**Visitors:** *5*

**Call to Order/Opening of Meeting:**

*Board of Education Chair, Joanne Nesti, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.*

**Public Comment:**

*Jeff Sturges of Haddam addressed the Board. He spoke about the problems that are occurring at the Middle School level; asked the Board to keep up their diligence so when HKIS starts, all issues will be rectified. He thanked the Board for all their hard work.*

**Approval of Minutes:**

*Approval of Minutes for the following Board Meetings:*

- A. Approval of Minutes for the April 2, 2019 Board of Education – Special Meeting (Annual Hearing)
- B. Approval of Minutes for the April 2, 2019 Board of Education – Special Meeting (following Annual Hearing)
- C. Approval of Minutes for the April 11, 2019 Board of Education – Special Meeting
- D. Approval of the Minutes for the May 6, 2019 Board of Education – Special Meeting (Annual District)
- E. Approval of the Minutes for the May 9, 2019 Board of Education – Special Meeting (Budget Workshop)
- F. Approval of the Minutes for the May 13, 2019 Board of Education – Special Meeting (Budget Workshop)
- G. Approval of Minutes for the May 21, 2019 Board of Education – Special Meeting (Annual Hearing)
- H. Approval of Minutes for the May 21, 2019 Board of Education – Special Meeting (following Annual Hearing)
- I. Approval of Minutes for the May 23, 2019 Board of Education – Special Meeting



- J. Approval of Minutes for the June 3, 2019 Board of Education – Special Meeting (District Meeting)
- K. Approval of Minutes for the June 4, 2019 Board of Education Meeting (Awards Ceremony)

Gerry Matthews **MOVED** and Kathleen Zandi **SECONDED** a motion to approve Minutes A-K as presented.

Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 by the following Show of Hands:

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
Peter Sonski	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Eileen Blewett	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
Maura Wallin	Absent	Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
Eric Couture	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Gerry Matthews	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
Sue Williams	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Kathleen Zandi	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
		Joanne Nesti	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>

Board Chair, Joanne Nesti, spoke about the Board Minutes distribution process. She spoke briefly about having the Minutes in their BOE packets distributed electronically versus hardcopy.

### Old Business

#### A. High School Energy and Facilities Upgrade 1. Report from Public Building Committee

##### 1) Approval of Invoice

Board Chair, Nesti, updated the Board about the Change Order work completed by MJ Daly.

Eric Couture **MOVED** and Brenda Buzzi **SECONDED** a motion to approve the invoice in the amount of \$66,277.68 to MJ Daly as presented.

Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 by the following votes:

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
Peter Sonski	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Eileen Blewett	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
Maura Wallin	Absent	Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
Eric Couture	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Gerry Matthews	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
Sue Williams	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Kathleen Zandi	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
		Joanne Nesti	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>

#### B. Report from Strategic Capital Planning Subcommittee

Suzanne Sack updated the Board. She gave a brief update on the Community vote that passed in Haddam to acquire HES and the Town is working to make that happen. The Committee at this time has no further action. She further spoke about the New Signage at the Middle School which will be further discussed later on in the Agenda. She spoke about finalizing District personnel and that they called back a Teacher. Spoke about program studies, Orientation and parents will learn from that.

##### a) Update on Sale of HES

Board Chair, Nesti, updated the Board. She briefly spoke about the timeline of events that has been occurring in order for the sale of HES to happen. The Board had discussed the timeline for the transfer of the property, with the Town of Haddam having approved the purchase on June 4<sup>th</sup> and the Board of Education setting a firm deadline of October 1, 2019



for final action on both the HES parcel and the donation of Swan Hill to Haddam Land Trust. Attorneys for both the Board and the Town see the timeline as appropriate and are working to draw up the sale agreement.

**b) Discussion of New Signage at Intermediate/Middle School**

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He spoke briefly about the new Signage that will be put up and the cost of same for the HKIS and Middle School Level.

**C. Personnel Matter: Superintendent's Evaluation and Contract\***

Brenda Buzzi **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to move down in the Agenda under Public Comment: Item C, Personnel Matter: Superintendent's Evaluation and Contract set forth under Old Business.

Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 by the following Show of Hands:

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Peter Sonski	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Maura Wallin	Absent		
Eric Couture	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Sue Williams	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>

Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Eileen Blewett	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Gerry Matthews	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Kathleen Zandi	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Joanne Nesti	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>

**New Business**

**A. Inventory Disposal Request submitted by Sharon Shettleworth**

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He spoke briefly about the Inventory Disposal Request submitted by Sharon Shettleworth.

Suzann Sack **MOVED** and Eric Couture **SECONDED** a motion to approve the Inventory Disposal Request as presented.

Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 by the following Show of Hands:

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Peter Sonski	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Maura Wallin	Absent		
Eric Couture	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Sue Williams	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>

Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Eileen Blewett	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Gerry Matthews	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Kathleen Zandi	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Joanne Nesti	YES <u>✓</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>

**B. Ratification of Custodian Contract\***

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. This item will be addressed at a later meeting.

**Consent Agenda:**

The donations on the Consent Agenda are made to the school system as a whole, and the Superintendent may direct any monies to specific schools or programs at his discretion.

- A. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$500.00 from Youth and Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth, Inc. to be deposited in the Student Activity Account to offset costs



regarding Community Week. Submitted by Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.

- B. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of 69.24 from an anonymous community Member donor to be deposited into the Student Activity Account. Submitted by Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.
- C. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1167.89 from the Stop and Shop A+ Rewards Program to be deposited into the Student Activity Account. Submitted by Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.
- D. Acceptance of two donations from Lathrop Vending in the amount of \$66.35 and \$30.40. Submitted by Donna Hayward, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School.
- E. Acceptance of two mini grants for Project Lead The Way: One is from RIT in the amount of \$240.00 and the other from UNH in the amount of \$125.00. Submitted by Donna Hayward, Haddam-Killingworth High School.
- F. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$1,489.62 from Stop and Shop A+ Rewards Program to be deposited into the Principal Discretionary Fund Account.
- G. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$69.24 from an anonymous Community Member to be deposited into the Student Activity Fund. Submitted by Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Principal of the Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.
- H. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$50.00 from the Community Foundation of Middlesex County to be used for the 2019 Memorial Day Poetry Awards and to be deposited into the Student Activity Fund. Submitted by Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Principal of Haddam Killingworth Middle School.
- I. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$84.29 from Lathrop Vending. Submitted by Donna Hayward, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School.
- J. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$23.63 from United Way. Submitted by Donna Hayward, Principal of Haddam-Killingworth High School

Kathleen Zandi **MOVED** and Gerry Matthews **SECONDED** a motion to approve Items A-J listed on the Consent Agenda with great appreciation.

Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 by the following Show of Hands:

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
Peter Sonski	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Eileen Blewett	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
Maura Wallin	Absent	Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>  </u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>✓</u>
Eric Couture	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Gerry Matthews	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
Sue Williams	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>	Kathleen Zandi	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>
		Joanne Nesti	YES <u>✓</u> NO <u>  </u> A <u>  </u>

#### From the Superintendent:

##### A. Legislative Update

Superintendent Thiery updated the Board. He briefly spoke on what was happening at the State level.

##### B. Personnel Report

Superintendent Thiery advised that the Personnel Report has been provided in the BOE Packet. He stated if anyone had any questions on the report, please feel free to contact him directly.

##### C. Enrollment Report



Superintendent Thiery advised that the Enrollment Report has been provided in the BOE Packet. He stated if anyone had any questions on the report, please feel free to contact him directly. Superintendent Thiery spoke briefly on current Enrollment and how Burr Elementary Kindergarten section was staffed at the last meeting. Board member, Eileen Blewett, spoke briefly on current enrollment projections.

**From the Director of Fiscal Operations:**

**A. Budget Transfers**

*No Report.*

**Board Discussion/News/Suggestions:** *None.*

**Public Comment:** *None.*

Gerry Matthews **MOVED** and Kathleen Zandi **SECONDED** a motion to enter into Executive Session regarding the Superintendent's Evaluation and Contract.

*Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0 by the following Show of Hands:*

Suzanne Sack	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Peter Sonski	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Maura Wallin	Absent		
Eric Couture	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Sue Williams	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>

Joel D'Angelo	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Eileen Blewett	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Brenda Buzzi	YES <u>  </u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>√</u>
Gerry Matthews	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Kathleen Zandi	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>
Joanne Nesti	YES <u>√</u>	NO <u>  </u>	A <u>  </u>

**The Board went into Executive Session at 7:30 p.m.**

**Executive Session:**

*The Board discussed an update on the Superintendent's Evaluation.*

*No Motions were taken.*

**The Board ended Executive Session at 8:55 p.m.**

**Adjournment:**

*Board Chair, Joanne Nesti, called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:55 PM.*

*Respectfully submitted,*



Jamie Sciascia  
Board Clerk

Approval:

  
Eileen Blewett, Secretary

Date:

8/0/19