

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 26, 2013**

A regular meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held at Town Hall in Council Chambers, located at 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT on February 26, 2013.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Neville.
2. **INVOCATION OR MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Kevin Fealy
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Kevin Fealy
4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT:** Chairman Neville announced the fire evacuation announcement.
5. **ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Peter Jonaitis, Tina LeBlanc, Kevin Fealy, Vin Grady, Donna Szewczak, Tom Sirard, Joyce Hall, Jen Rancourt and Timothy Neville

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Jeffrey Schumann, Superintendent; Mr. Christopher Drezek, Deputy Superintendent; FHS Student Representative Katie Saltzgeber and EHS Student Representative Brandon Andexler

6. **BOARD GUESTS** - None

7. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- a. Barnard Kindergarten iPad Consortium Update

Dr. Schumann introduced Henry Barnard Principal Nancy Hayes, Barnard Grade 1 Teachers Kyle Charette and Emily Miarecki to the Board. They will show the Board some of the technology being used in the classrooms at Henry Barnard.

Mrs. Hayes thanked the Board for the invitation. She also thanks Mr. Jonaitis, the Barnard Board liaison for his visit and interaction with the students. Ms. Charette and Ms. Miarecki showed the Board a video presentation of the students using the Lexia Reading Program, iPod Touch and iPad's. The iPod Touch were purchased by the PTO.

Ms. Hall asked if any of the teachers were reluctant using the new technology. Mrs. Hayes stated all teachers were eager to use the new technology.

Ms. Hall asked what resources are needed to supplement what is currently being used. Mrs. Hayes stated the students are sharing in each classroom a singular iPod. Two classes are sharing iPads that were received from the consortium. Many classroom teachers do not have iPads. We are looking at ways to receive additional iPads through donors.

Ms. Charette added using iPads in the classroom makes a big difference with the students learning. The iPods are also a good learning tool for the students.

Mrs. Hayes stated the iPads are larger and easier for the students to use than the iPods.

Mrs. Rancourt asked if any of the students are using either iPods or iPads at home. Ms. Charette stated the parents are asking about the applications we are using. She is not sure how many students are using either iPods or iPads at home.

Chairman Neville stated you are doing a lot of the same kind of common learning teaching. Are other teachers doing the same or are they just jumping on board.

Ms. Miarecki stated we are using applications that are working with our students and are sharing the successful programs with our colleagues.

Mrs. Hayes added they are using Google Docs and are always looking for new applications to use with the students in the classrooms.

Chairman Neville asked how the parents are reacting to the students using the technology. Ms. Charette stated they love it. Ms. Miarecki added the parent responses are all positive.

Ms. Miarecki stated we have discussed with Mrs. Hayes using the videos and sending them to the parents.

Ms. Charette stated we are sharing the pictures taken of the students at assemblies or student's walking in the halls and sharing them with the parents. We will also print the pictures and display them in the school for other students to see and interact with. We have used audio recordings of the students at PPT meetings so the parents can see first-hand information about their child.

Mr. Jonaitis thanked Mrs. Hayes for the tour. He was highly impressed with what the students and teachers were doing.

Ms. Hall asked if the students are participating more by using the technology. Mrs. Hayes stated you can see them when they are using the iPods or the iPads as learning tools. Ms. Hall added the students are involved.

Ms. Charette stated she can tell when the students are logging in and doing their assignments. Students know they must participate. You can see what they have mastered and what areas the students are struggling in.

Mrs. Szewczak asked about the dependability and durability of the iPads. Multiple students are using these daily and accidents can happen. Ms. Charette stated we have not had any problems or issues yet with the iPads. Ms. Miarecki added the same goes for the iPods.

Ms. Hall asked if they know the number of parents without computer access at home. Mrs. Hayes stated she doesn't know that but they share ideas with the parents and some of the parents have iPhones.

Chairman Neville thanked them for the presentation. We would love to have you come back again.

- b. Personnel Report – as presented
- c. Read Across America – as presented

## **8. AUDIENCES**

Carl Gates, Light Street - Mr. Gates has a son at EHS and is here about the combined school

mascot and school colors. He is concerned that the Enfield Raider was not considered as a mascot from the beginning. Mr. Drezek stated the CIAC mascots and colors were put on the student survey. Mr. Gates stated the students felt left out because the Raider was not part of choices. Mr. Drezek stated there was an option for students to write in colors and mascots. Mr. Gates added there are some strong emotions here and urged Board members to not use either mascot from either school. He is urging the Board to start with a fresh start for the combined school. He likes the idea of the Enfield Eagles.

Paul Fitzgerald, Red Wing Road – Mr. Fitzgerald stated he is a professional graphic designer and works for several sporting companies. He showed the Board and audience members some shirt designs using Vegas Gold. He suggests the Board brand their design. You are creating an image. This is something a lot of schools are doing.

Jennifer Mancuse, Booth Road – Ms. Mancuse stated she is the Parent Engagement Coordinator for KITE and she is here in support of full day kindergarten. She has twin boys that will go to Kindergarten in the fall. When children leave Kindergarten now, they are expected to master reading and writing skills. Parents are fearing that the Town Council will not fund the budget entirely and what will need to be cut from the budget. Full day Kindergarten has many educational benefits. She urges everyone to support full day Kindergarten. Thank you.

Karen Weseliza, Renee Lane & Chris Gomeau, Winter Way – Ms. Weselisa is the KITE Chairperson and Ms. Gomeau is the KITE Coordinator. Ms. Weselisa stated the William Casper Graustein Memorial Fund supports the Enfield Discovery Community Plan. Part of the plan includes full day Kindergarten. We are urging the Board and communities support for the budget presented by Dr. Schumann.

Ms. Gomeau stated KITE participates in the 3 to 3 Community Institute which began today. The goals of the institute are to increase the alignment within our community and school district for early education programs in grades Pre-K to grade 3. Full day Kindergarten is part of the success for this program. We are here in support of the budget and full day Kindergarten. Ms. Weseliza added we are here to answer any questions you may have. You can also call us with any questions.

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None**

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Approve the 2013-14 School Year Calendar**

Dr. Schumann stated the Board has received a copy of the proposed 2013-14 school year calendar. The items listed in yellow and red would be removed if full day Kindergarten is approved.

Ms. Hall moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the 2013-14 school year calendar as presented.

A vote by **roll-call 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

**Motion to Suspend the Rules and add an Item to the Agenda**

Chairman Neville stated part of our discussion regarding Item 10 b. is to also name the STEAM wing at Enfield High School to Enrico Fermi. We can suspend the rules and add the item to the agenda tonight or add this item to the next agenda.

Mr. Fealy moved, seconded by Mrs. Szewczak that the Enfield Board of Education adds an item to the agenda – naming the STEAM Wing.

A vote by **roll-call 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard that the Enfield Board of Education names the new STEAM Wing at Enfield High School as the Enrico Fermi STEAM Wing.

**Discussion:**

Ms. Hall stated calling the wing the Enrico Fermi Wing is sufficient and not adding STEAM to it. We do not know what new paradigm would be appropriate in 50 years from now.

Chairman Neville agreed with Ms. Hall.

Ms. Hall moved to amend the original motion, seconded by Mr. Sirard that the Enfield Board of Education names the new STEAM Wing at Enfield High School as the Enrico Fermi Wing.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Jonaitis asked if we should call it the Fermi Wing instead of the Enrico Fermi Wing.

Chairman Neville stated students will shorten the name but the intent is to continue the tradition from Enrico Fermi by naming the new STEAM Wing after the school.

Chairman Neville asked for a roll call vote on the amendment.

A vote by **roll-call 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

Chairman Neville asked for a roll call vote on the amended motion.

A vote by **roll-call 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

**b. Discussion and Action Related to Consolidated High School Mascot and School Colors**

Chairman Neville asked Board members to discuss and vote on the consolidated high school mascot first and then we can proceed to the school colors.

Ms. Hall moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the Eagle as the mascot for the future.

**Discussion:**

Ms. Hall stated Mr. Gates gave us the best reason for using the Eagle as the mascot. We are not using either schools current mascot.

Mr. Sirard stated that he received many e-mails supporting both the Eagle and the Falcon. We have Bald Eagles living on this side of the river. This symbol is significant of our country. Enfield is known for its patriotism. The Enfield Eagles sounds good and it acknowledges our patriotism for our town. He would like the Eagle to be the symbol for our town. We have named the science wing the Enrico Fermi Wing. We are acknowledging our past and the Eagles will be for our future and the new high school for Enfield.

Chairman Neville stated there is emotion and passion out there about the mascot for our high

school. If we went with either the Raiders or the Falcons we would offend somebody. We are starting a new school and a new symbol is needed.

Mr. Fealy stated some of the sentiment he received via e-mails is that we are going away from what the students wanted and we are disregarding their input. Asking for input and going in another direction is not disregarding the students input. He appreciates their input and it was a great opportunity. He thanks the students for their efforts and encourages them to stay involved and to continue voicing your opinions.

A vote by **roll-call 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

Chairman Neville stated we have all received numerous e-mails and thanked the audience members for coming to discuss this. He liked seeing the various sporting uniforms and particularly likes the Vegas gold with black trim around the lettering. He also liked the combined school hockey colors. We opened this topic up to get input from students and the community. We are building a new school. When we chose the colors it will be our colors. He knows this is a passionate topic.

Mr. Jonaitis liked the gold lettering with black around the letters.

Mr. Fealy would like to know what colors we are considering.

Mr. Drezek stated excluding the current 4 colors being used, the students recommended using black and gold. The Administration recommended using blue and gold as the Town colors.

Mr. Fealy asked if any other schools that we currently compete against are using black and gold. Mr. Drezek stated yes, East Hartford and East Windsor High School.

Mr. Fealy asked if any other schools have a blue and gold color. Mr. Drezek stated Platt High School in Meriden.

Mrs. LeBlanc does not want us to discard green and black. Green is a color that is used for travel sports in Enfield. There are not a lot of other towns that use green. Coventry uses green. She would like to see us keep green, black and white as an option.

Mr. Sirard stated black is a Fermi color and white is an Enfield color. He likes the Vegas gold. The students chose black and gold. He would like to see black, white and gold. We would be acknowledging our past and would be using the student's recommendation. He does understand that green is a color that is used outside of our high school.

Mrs. Rancourt agrees with Mrs. LeBlanc and would like to see us use green black and white. There is Enfield soccer, Thompsonville Little league and the Enfield Ramblers. Green is an Enfield color. The green could be for Enfield High and the Black could be for Fermi. White could be a neutral color.

Mrs. LeBlanc added there will be additional incurred costs for changes with the sports equipment. Helmets will need a color change. She also received e-mails and would like us to consider green as a color.

Mr. Fealy likes blue and gold. Considering the budget and the equipment changes, this might warrant additional information and further discussions.

Mrs. Szewczak asked how long are the uniforms used. Mr. Drezek stated the uniforms are changed every 4 years. Mr. Jonaitis added that is when the high school will be ready.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated we may need new helmets before the high school consolidation.

Mrs. Szewczak stated we need to sit back and take a moment and ask ourselves what we want for our new high school. She likes the Vegas gold color that was shown tonight. She might need to think about the colors a bit.

Chairman Neville stated that he did not consider the helmets and we will have a tight budget to look at. He senses a split among Board members. He would like the Board to table this item until we have some additional information about costs. We have heard a number of opinions about the colors. We also need to consider the economy.

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Enfield Board of Education tables the school colors until the next Board meeting.

A vote by **roll-call 8-0-1** passed with Mr. Jonaitis in dissent.

Ms. Hall asked Chairman Neville about his comment about the economy and the decision regarding school colors. Why would this be an issue now? The school will not be opened until at least 2 more years.

Chairman Neville stated he never considered the equipment as part of this. That is why he mentioned it. This is not a small item.

Mr. Sirard reminded Chairman Neville that this item has been tabled.

### **c. 2013-14 Budget Discussion Continued and Adoption of the FY2013-14 Budget**

Chairman Neville stated we are at the point of the budget process for us to vote on the Board's budget request and send it to the Town. He believes it needs to be at the Town Managers office by February 28<sup>th</sup>. We were able to reduce the budget to 4.45% at our last meeting. Since that meeting we have been discussing needs, wants, wishes, possible savings, deficiencies, unfunded mandates, MBR and other budget topics between Board members trying to figure out exact budget numbers and a budget that we could all agree upon. This is one of the most important things Board members will do. He is pleased that many Board members called and spoke to Dr. Schumann, Mr. Drezek and Mr. Littizzio with questions you had. Executive Committee members have been discussing all aspects of the budget throughout the week. We have come up with a draft motion for the full Board to discuss.

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc that the Enfield Board of Education adopts a budget for the 2013-14 School Year in the amount of \$65,654,380. An increase of 3.98% over the 2012-13 Budget by removing the following from the Superintendents Proposed Budget: Elementary Principal Initiative - \$758,723; Reduction for Retirements - \$240,000; Computer Aided Testing - \$14,400; Additional Efficiency Reductions by the Superintendent in the areas of existing Salaries and Benefits, Special Education and Information Technology - \$250,591.

#### **Discussion:**

Mr. Jonaitis stated the number for 3.98% or \$65,654,380.

Mr. Fealy asked what is our obligation based on the MBR. What does this represent in dollars and as a percentage of this budget?

Dr. Schumann stated it is 4.34% with 1.36% in salaries, .31% in benefits, 1.56% in technology, 1.06% in Special Education, .05% in transportation. The dollar difference is \$2,740,486.

Mr. Fealy asked if that number represents 4.34% only what we have included this year or does this amount include changes? Does this include full day Kindergarten? Dr. Schumann stated Kindergarten is not included in this request.

Ms. Hall stated MBR may be modified by the legislature. This has been played with virtually every year.

Chairman Neville anticipates a lot of changes between now and May.

Mr. Sirard stated he has been going over the budget every year since being elected to the Board. Every 1% of our budget is around \$630,000 and every mil increase is around \$850,000. The problem we are having is we are being short funded by the State and our taxes will increase. The Governor will flat fund us this year and next year. Our grants will remain the same. He is setting us up for a war against the Town Council and that is not fair. We have been discussing full day Kindergarten for years. In the next few years, we will have a lot of teachers that will be retiring. A long term plan was discussed last term to allocate cost savings from retirements to fund full day Kindergarten. Costs for magnet schools are going up. We need to be competitive and keep our kids in our schools. Full day Kindergarten is one way to keep our students.

Chairman Neville stated unfunded mandates are on all of our lists. Our message about unfunded mandates is getting out there. They are looking at SEED and the financial costs. We have discussed things that this Board needs to do as a Board. Potential cost savings need to be looked at. We looked at SPED/IT/Salaries costs and this is approximately \$48,000,000 of our budget. We need to discuss this with the Town Council and get some clarification. Full day Kindergarten is included in the 3.98% budget.

Mr. Sirard stated if we apply the retirements to fund full day Kindergarten we can afford this.

Mr. Jonaitis stated as we go down the road, the constant flow for retirements will decrease.

Mr. Sirard understands that, but we can come close to this amount each year.

Mr. Fealy stated we have discussed the budget non-stop. He believes in full day Kindergarten. We are spending a lot of money and we are not getting anything for it. Salaries will continue to increase. We need to look at other areas to make cuts to make this a viable budget. He does not want to see taxes increase. You can have the best education system but if people cannot afford to live here, what good is that. We will need to make some tough decisions in order to fund some of these items.

Mr. Sirard stated we can look at the high schools for staff reductions to find some funds for Kindergarten. Now is the time to do this. IT costs can be a wash for the next 2 years. If the budget comes back as budget neutral or if it comes back less, cuts will need to be made.

Chairman Neville stated we will need to prioritize things and will have discussions regarding this. Making cuts that will have significant ramifications need to be considered. He does not want to see us just cut items.

Mr. Jonaitis thought that is what was supposed to be done from last week's meeting – a list of priorities. We need to sit down as the whole Board and prioritize things. Now he is hearing that discussions were taken place over the weekend. Everyone needs to know what is on the line for each percent and let the Town Council know this. We need a hard concrete list.

Mrs. Szewczak stated this is her 4<sup>th</sup> budget process. We have made efficiencies. Funding and grants have dried up. Salaries have continued to increase. Our contractual obligations equate

to 17 positions. We control what programs will be in our schools. The Town Council controls our purse strings. The State pulls all the other strings. This is not an easy position to sit in. She is for full day Kindergarten. This is something we need in Enfield. A lot of students are going to CREC schools. We have done a good job showing you with a dream budget. We need to decide where we will go from here.

Chairman Neville stated we do not know what our grants will be until next month. We suspect they will be cut. We do not know what will come out of Hartford. We need to make a decision without this important information. We can always make cuts. Cutting programs, personnel or look for efficiencies. If we dig into this we can find some savings to keep the items on our lists. We need to know what the real numbers are.

Mr. Fealy stated his concern is 3.98%. He would be more comfortable with a 3.5% or 3% budget knowing that we still can find some additional efficiencies in our budget.

Mrs. Szewczak stated she agrees with Mr. Fealy and would like to possibly amend the 3.98% motion and hold us to the task prioritizing items to get to 3.5% and 3.0% budget showing what the budget would look like at each percent. She would like specifics. The Town Council has asked for this in the past. She commends us for knowing what the budget would look like at 4%.

Chairman Neville asked Dr. Schumann if the detail is need for the Town Council for February 28<sup>th</sup>. He knows we need to give them a number or a percentage by February 28<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Drezek stated traditionally we would give them both at the same time. You need to give them a number and he would need to check with the Town Manager about the detail.

Dr. Schumann stated that both he and the Town Manager have been discussing IT services and efficiencies. He believes he would accept a number from the Board. We are looking at outsourcing some of the IT services that are provided. He is also looking at SPED services and efficiencies.

Mrs. Szewczak would like specific details if the Town cannot fund this and what will be cut. The State plays games with us.

Chairman Neville stated you need to give us specifics.

Dr. Schumann stated the Board will present their budget to the Town Council on March 20<sup>th</sup>. We can discuss the format for the presentation to the Town Council.

Chairman Neville stated the budget needs to general until we know what our grants will be.

Mr. Fealy would like to look at the budget that includes the efficiencies. The Town manager is looking at efficiencies with IT. We should look at a budget with all the efficiencies included. We need to cut all of the fat so we can offer our students a robust education.

Dr. Schumann stated that both he and the Town Manager are looking at parts of IT that can be outsourced. We just started this process. This is a huge undertaking. He also believes there can be some additional savings found.

Mr. Fealy asked if there is a way that you can let us know why there is such a surge in IT costs.

Dr. Schumann stated the IT costs were funded with one time funds from the Town last year. This year the funds are not there and the Board needs to fund this completely. This is now part of our budget. We have found a reduction of \$90K and are still looking for additional



savings.

Mr. Sirard stated he has made a suggestion to the superintendent. Early intervention will save us money as we go down the road. We will produce a better quality student. IT costs have doubled in two years. The Board has expanded the IT side of education. We need to ask if there is a way to find efficiencies.

Mr. Jonaitis stated when we give our written presentation to the Town Council it needs to be prioritized. As you look down the road at future budgets, there will be recurring costs. Salaries and benefits will go up and what is given to the students will decline. We will get to a point in time where we will need to lay off teachers to keep the programs we currently have. He does not want to see class sizes increasing. We need to get our own priorities and needs inline.

Mrs. Rancourt does not agree with Mrs. Szewczak by giving the Town Council a list with percentages. She understands priorities and making a list. The Town Council will give us our budget. We should present them with what our needs are with a percent. The Town Council should not have a complete list up front. We may have fewer children in our schools but we are supporting them outside of Enfield Public Schools. Over 400 children are attending magnet schools. We are supporting out placed SPED students. We are transporting students to parochial schools and associated SPED costs. We are supporting a ton of children with our budget and she does not feel that is right.

Mr. Sirard stated as a clarification, the parochial students receive very limited SPED services from us. Parochial schools are considered a private school. That is the difference between the CREC schools and the parochial schools. It is required by State law that we pay for transportation and provide nursing services. The nurse is shared by the 3 parochial schools in Enfield. We must provide transportation for all Enfield students by law.

Mrs. Rancourt stated a part of our budget will still be covering them.

Mr. Sirard added that this is out of our control. Because they are not directly related to public schools, they are actually saving us money each year by around \$2,500,000.

Mrs. Rancourt stated the number of students attending magnet schools is like we are supporting another school.

Chairman Neville added it is outside of our control. Other districts are facing the same concerns. There are certain costs for SPED services that can be different than what our costs are. We have been looking at this with Dr. Schumann. A lot of the phone calls that have been made over the weekend are for brainstorming. He commends the Board for our focus. We have worked extremely professionally on this budget and need to continue with these discussions. There are savings that can be made.

Mr. Grady stated we need to educate the public and the Town Council about our needs for the district. We haven't done a good job doing this in the past. We need to let the Town council know that full day Kindergarten is needed. It is a great thing for our community. Dr. Schumann has presented us with a needs budget. The Town Council has a tough job but they need to know what our district needs are. He knows they need to consider the needs of the entire town.

Chairman Neville added we need to walk shoulder to shoulder with them. We need to work together.

Mr. Sirard stated we are both in tough positions. We need to express some of our wishes. We need to remember that 18% of our budget is due to unfunded mandates. We need our

representatives to express our concerns.

Chairman Neville asked Dr. Schumann if we have heard back from our legislatures about attending another Board meeting. Dr. Schumann stated Representatives Kiner and Alexander are planning to attend and Senator Kissel will try to attend depending on his schedule.

Chairman Neville added the time is right to discuss unfunded mandates.

Mrs. Szewczak has concerns if we do not prioritize our budget items then someone else will do it for us. They will have line item veto power. We need to set our budget so it is clear to everyone what is important to us. Incremental changes will let everyone know what the cuts will mean.

Mr. Jonaitis stated if you put a face to the name it means more. All day Kindergarten is a big item. If we say we cannot fund this, it will mean more. They will need to take the blame for the cuts.

Mrs. Rancourt stated they will give us a number and we will need to work with it. We gave them a list last year showing our priorities and the budget was still cut.

Mrs. Szewczak would like the Board to do this in a concise fashion. This is what our budget will look like at 3.5%, this is what our budget will look like at 3% and so on.

Mr. Fealy stated the Town Council has their priorities and their own budget. It is our responsibility to prioritize. He agrees with Mrs. Rancourt. We have that capability to set our own budget. This is our priority. You can advocate for certain items. Adding this burden to the Town council will add to their burden.

Mr. Sirard stated we need to exercise our due diligence. We need to submit a fiscally responsible budget. We cannot give them a wish list. We do not want to lose credibility with the Town. He will advocate for a budget he believes in. He has a problem if there is a bit of excess in the budget.

Chairman Neville stated until we know what we are going to be allocate he does not want to lock us in. Cuts can be made. We need to consider every impact for every cut that will be made. We need to know what our priorities are. Timing is everything.

Mr. Jonaitis stated the Town has other problems. They are discussing doing away with car taxes. This will create other problems. They need to consider the mil rate. They need to take care of the entire town. Education is not their only priority.

Mr. Grady understands what Mr. Jonaitis is saying. We need to keep some fat in the budget for the unknowns. At any time SPED costs can increase just by having a family move into our district. He does not want to see us make cuts bringing us down to bare bones. We need to prepare for some of these unknowns. He agrees that some areas can be reduced.

Ms. Hall stated we have a fantastic budget with a 3.98% and we should go ahead with it.

Mr. Sirard stated we are facing a lot of issues that are being compounded. If we have done our due diligence and produce a budget that is right on the money and the best that we can do, he would be for it. The State needs to keep their end of the bargain and the blame gets passed on to us.

Mr. Jonaitis asked if we can vote on parts of the budget. Can we vote on full day Kindergarten?

Chairman Neville stated per Town Charter, we need to approve our budget by the last day in February.

Chairman Neville called for a roll call on the budget.

Mrs. Szewczak stated she made an amendment and asked if it should it be withdrawn.

Chairman Neville stated no one seconded the amendment and we are under the assumption that information will be provided.

Mr. Grady re-read the motion - that the Enfield Board of Education adopts a budget for the 2013-14 School Year in the amount of \$65,654,380. An increase of 3.98% over the 2012-13 Budget by removing the following from the Superintendents Proposed Budget: Elementary Principal Initiative - \$758,723; Reduction for Retirements - \$240,000; Computer Aided Testing - \$14,400; Additional Efficiency Reductions by the Superintendent in the areas of existing Salaries and Benefits, Special Education and Information Technology - \$250,591.

A vote by **roll-call 5-4-0** passed with Mr. Fealy, Mrs. Szewczak, Mr. Sirard and Mr. Jonaitis in dissent.

Chairman Neville would like to take a five minute recess.

Mr. Jonaitis would like to let our two high school student representatives give their comments so they can leave. All Board members agreed with Mr. Jonaitis

EHS Student Representative Brandon Andexler congratulates the Boys Basketball team and the EHS/FHS Hockey team. They are moving onto their league conference games. Buzz Robotics will be participating in New Hampshire this weekend and wished them good luck also.

FHS Student Representative Katie Saltzgiver stated the Fermi Jazz Festival was held and it was quite enjoyable. She thanked the students from JFK and Enfield High for participating this year. She thanked the Board members for attending the Fermi CAPT Breakfast. CAPT Testing will be starting. March 1<sup>st</sup> will be the Enfield Strings Festival. Spring sports will be starting up.

Chairman Neville congratulated FHS Student Representative Katie Saltzgiver for all of the awards she was given at the CAPT Breakfast.

#### **Recess:**

The Board took a recess at 9:10 PM and returned at 9:17 PM.

#### **11. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mrs. Leblanc stated CMT's will be starting for students in grades 3-8. The schools are getting ready. JFK baseball participation letters will be going out next week. The Enfield Girls Travel Basketball Team for girls in grades 7 & 8 are 16-0 this year for their regular season. They have played exceptionally well together as a team. This weekend is the playoffs at Fermi and they all wear green.

Mr. Fealy stated the Enfield Loaves and Fishes is participating in the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Alan Feinstein Foundation Challenge. They are looking for volunteers. Mr. Grady will lose his hair

for a fund raiser. He thanked everyone for e-mailing the Board and for your input.

Mr. Grady wished the Enfield High Boys Basketball team good luck at Granby on Wednesday for the Conference playoffs. He also acknowledged Paul Lima for scoring 1,000 points. He also participated in the active shooter training. He commends everyone involved in this program. It was an eye opening event.

Mrs. Szewczak also attended the active shooter training. It was amazing. It makes you look at what is going on and how Enfield is always looking at what is going on around the world. There is a lot of strength and backbone here in Enfield. She received an invitation for the Memorial Day parade. Spring is coming.

Mr. Sirard also attended the CAPT Breakfast at Fermi. He was impressed with the scholars. He wished his son Ethan a happy birthday. He has spoken to Senator Kissel and asked him if there is anything the Board can do. He said unfortunately the time to propose new legislation has expired but he is exploring the option for amendments. He will look into doing something for us.

Ms. Hall thanked everyone for the e-mails about full day Kindergarten. Wesleyan University will have an art expo where representatives from several universities will be present. If any teachers are looking for resources for your classrooms you can go to [www.donnorschase.org](http://www.donnorschase.org). Some Enfield teachers have received funding from this source. She urged everyone to collect Box Tops for Education and to bring them to any school for them to use. Head Start is collecting labels for education. Head Start cannot collect Box Tops for Education. You can also give them to the PTO's.

Mrs. Rancourt stated Eli Whitney held their McEducator night that both she and Mrs. Leblanc attended. Mr. Grady also attended. Enfield Little League will be holding on-line registrations. There will be a late fee if you register after March 1<sup>st</sup>. They are holding a fund raiser event on March 9<sup>th</sup> at the Elks. If anyone is interested please see her for tickets. EFEE will hold their Enfield Idol again and tickets are \$10. You can purchase them at [www.tellmeastoryct.com](http://www.tellmeastoryct.com) at Smyth Soft Serve and [www.EFEEofEnfield.org](http://www.EFEEofEnfield.org).

Mr. Jonaitis asked Dr. Schumann or Mr. Drezek if he received the answer for the Support Academy testing at JFK. Mr. Drezek will look into this.

Mr. Jonaitis stated he also received a lot of e-mails and was a bit curt and apologized for that. He realized it was a form e-mail.

Chairman Neville also attended the CAPT Breakfast and the active shooter training workshop. He thanked everyone for your e-mails. The budget process has been good and he thanked the Board for working together on this. It has been a good process. We will not get everything we want but it is a good start.

### **13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Fealy moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Special Meeting 5:30 PM Minutes of February 5, 2013 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mr. Fealy moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Special Meeting 6:30 PM Minutes of February 5, 2013 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mr. Fealy that the Regular Meeting 6:30 PM Minutes of February 19, 2013, 2012 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 8-0-1** passed with Ms. Hall abstaining.

**14. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYROLL** - None

**15. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS** - None

**16. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mrs. Szewczak that the Board enters into Executive Session for Matter(s) Related to school Security; Matter(s) Related to Students and Matter(s) Related to Personnel

A vote by **show-of-hands 8-1-0** passed with Mr. Jonaitis in dissent.

The Board reconvened to the Enfield Room for the Executive Session. Joining the Board in Executive Session were Dr. Schumann and Mr. Drezek.

The Executive Session ended at 9:57 PM. No board action occurred while in Executive Session.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard to adjourn the Regular Meeting of February 26, 2013.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 9:58 PM.

Donna Szewczak  
Secretary  
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary