

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 25, 2017**

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 April 25, 2017.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rich Regnier, Raymond Peabody (participated remotely) Lori Unghire, Walter Kruzel, Tina LeBlanc, Tim Neville, Stacy Thurston and Tom Sirard

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vin Grady

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Jeffery Schumann, Superintendent; Mr. Christopher Drezek, Deputy Superintendent; EHS Student Representatives Abigail Bosco and Sarah Passmore

Mr. Peabody will participate remotely per BOE Policy #9341.8 Participation at Board Meetings by Remote Methods.

6. **BOARD GUEST(S):**

a. Student Athletes

Dr. Schumann welcomed Mr. Barry Bernstein, our Athletic Coordinator.

Mr. Bernstein thanked the Board and administration for their support and dedication to the student athletes. The following students and coaches were recognized for their athletic accomplishments.

Cross Country:

Matthew Bourque, 2016 All Conference – Cross Country
Sydney Nash, 2016 All Conference – Cross Country

Field Hockey:

Jessica Maier, 2016 All Conference – Field Hockey
Jessica Maier, 2016 All State First Team – Field Hockey
Jessica Maier, 2016 Academic All State Class L – Field Hockey
Taylor Geaglone, 2016 All Conference – Field Hockey
Taylor Geaglone, 2016 All State Class L – Field Hockey
Tori Geaglone, 2016 All Conference – Field Hockey
Mikayla March, 2016 All Conference – Field Hockey

Kaitlyn Bourque, 2016 All Conference – Field Hockey

Girls Volleyball:

Miranda Lee, 2016 All Conference – Girls Volleyball

Football:

Mason Dumas, 2016 All Conference – Football

Jaylen Padgett, 2016 All Conference – Football

Josh Buvelot, 2016 All Conference – Football

Mike Tweedlie, 2016 All Conference – Football

Colin DeBarber, 2016 All Conference – Football

Boys Soccer:

Michael Kennedy, 2016 All Conference – Boys Soccer

Noah Veilleux, 2016 All Conference – Boys Soccer

Girls Soccer:

Delaney Lawler, 2016 All Conference – Girls Soccer

Delaney Lawler, 2016 All State Class LL – Girls Soccer

Morgan Remington, 2016 All Conference – Girls Soccer

Caterina Fonseca, 2016 All Conference – Girls Soccer

Alexandria Capodicasa, 2016 All Conference – Girls Soccer

Girls Basketball:

Mary Baskerville, 2017 All Conference – Girls Basketball

Mary Baskerville, 2017 All State Class LL – Girls Basketball

Mary Baskerville, 2017 All Rotary Tournament Team – Girls Basketball

Danielle Delano, 2017 All Conference – Girls Basketball

Danielle Delano, 2017 All Rotary Tournament Team – Girls Basketball

Caterina Fonseca, 2017 All Conference – Girls Basketball

Regina LeBlanc, 2017 All Rotary Tournament Team – Girls Basketball

Boys Basketball:

Kumar Brown, 2017 All Conference – Boys Basketball

Jadon Archer, 2017 All Conference – Boys Basketball

Wrestling:

Andrew Diaz, 2017 All Conference – Wrestling

Sean Messina, 2017 All Conference – Wrestling

Brett Castle, 2017 All Conference – Wrestling

Nathan Chesworth, 2017 All Conference – Wrestling

Ice Hockey:

Cameron Gaylor, 2017 All Conference – Ice Hockey

Jason Marin, 2017 All Conference – Ice Hockey

CIAC Scholar Athletes:

Alex Jensen, 2016 CIAC Scholar Athlete – Cross Country & Baseball

Jessica Maier, 2016 CIAC Scholar Athlete – Field Hockey & Softball

Special Team/Coach Recognition:

Field Hockey – CCC North Division Champions

Field Hockey – Class L Outstanding Coach of the Year – Kathleen “Cookie” Bromage

Boys Soccer – CCC North Assistant Coach of the Year – Terry McKinstry

Girls Basketball – North White Division Champions

Girls Basketball – CCC Tournament Champions

Girls Basketball – Rotary Tournament Champions

Walter Sullivan – 25 Years of Coaching (Boys Swimming, Girls Soccer, Indoor and Outdoor Track & Field)

Dan O’Connell – 37 Years of Coaching (Cross Country, Boys and Girls Indoor Track & Field)

b. Baseline Assessment Study

Dr. Schumann introduced Dr. Stephanie Bourassa.

Dr. Bourassa gave an overview of the program she is developing to help reduce sports injuries in conjunction with Hartford Hospital and the Joint and Bone Institute.

Dr. Bourassa stated the baseline data obtained over the next three years will help them with preventative programs like strength, conditioning and stretching. They will assess all high school athletes playing varsity sports and will establish a baseline similar to the impact concussion baseline program. This data will be used when/if injuries occur. They will create a registry with RIO with our baseline data. Students will need a signed consent form from the student and parent/guardian. The benefits of this will be detecting early risk for serious injuries sustained by student athletes. We may be also working with Quinnipiac University. There is no cost to the district for this program

Mr. Neville asked about the surface EMG (electromyography) study. He also asked how the students will get involved in this program. Dr. Bourassa stated the EMG will look at how the nerves are interacting with the muscle. We will be able to see if there are any delays. We are working on our qualified consenters now and a team will go to each high school in this program. We need both males and female students for this study)

Mr. Neville stated this program is available to all athletes. Dr. Bourassa stated yes. The EHS trainer and strength/conditioning coaches are already in place.

Mr. Neville asked if the coaches will follow this plan. Dr. Bourassa stated we are already started this with high school coaches. We are also looking at starting this with the middle school students next.

Mr. Neville would like to see the report when it is completed and would like a follow-up on this program. Dr. Bourassa stated she can come back with an update whenever the Board would like. We will start to collect our data to see if there are any statistical changes. We need to evaluate at least 100 students in order to see data changes. If we notice something, we will say something.

Mr. Neville thanked her for this presentation.

Mrs. Unghire also thanked her and found her presentation very interesting. How many schools will be involved in this program? Dr. Bourassa stated 10 have been contracted. Once the data has been collected, we will present this information to the CIAC. We need a good baseline first.

Mr. Regnier stated there is no cost to the district but where is the money coming for this program? Dr. Bourassa stated this is a community based program and Hartford Hospital is a non-profit hospital. One of our goals is to reduce student injuries by 30% in the next three years. There is no charges for this program.

Mr. Regnier asked about the consents to participate in the program. Will this information be documented and who will have access to this information. Dr. Bourassa stated the program is all inclusive.

Mr. Regnier asked if colleges will have access to this information about students and any injuries. Can any college access this information? Dr. Bourassa stated we are working with the University of Hartford and this information will not be shared unless permission has been received by Hartford Hospital and the student.

Chairman Sirard thanked Dr. Bourassa for this program. This proactive stance is important for our student athletes.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- a. Student Representatives Report – as presented
- b. FY17-18 Budget Public Hearing – as presented
- c. Staff PD & Early Release Day – as presented
- d. April/May Events – as presented
- e. Grants Report – as presented
- f. Personnel Report – as presented

8. AUDIENCES

Sarah Selvoggi-Hernandez, Town Farm Road – Mrs. Selvoggi-Hernandez stated she spoke with the Chairman regarding his apology. She has accepted his apology and is ready to move forward. She would like the Board to develop a policy regarding acceptable behavior and conduct. She has reviewed the Board's budget. She would like to Board to hire a grant writer. This would help with our budget. She would also like the Board to hire an Occupational Therapist. This position can help with critical student interventions. She is an assistant professor at Bay Path in the Occupational Therapy Bridge Program.

9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Regnier congratulated all of our student athletes. He stated besides being Board appreciation month, it is also Autism Awareness month. He asked everyone to support the cause. Autism is growing and early prevention is important. April is also child abuse awareness prevention month. Staff need to be aware of sudden changes in student's behaviors.

Mrs. Unghire thanked all of the student athletes for everything they are doing. Our kids are doing so many great things. She attended the EHS Lamplighters production of "Guys & Dolls". The kids did a great job! She thanked their advisors Sue and Glen Reese for everything they have done. Congratulation to everyone involved. The sets, lighting and costumes were amazing.

Mrs. Unghire stated CREC students will put on a production "In the Heights" at the Museum Academy. For more details you can contact me or go to the CREC website.

Mrs. Unghire stated the EHS dedication ceremony invitations will be coming out. The event

will be held at EHS on May 13th at 11:30 AM. Everyone is invited to attend this community event. We are all so proud of our newly renovated high school. We will also have a concert that evening at 7:00 PM in the EHS auditorium.

Mr. Peabody also attended the EHS production of "Guys & Dolls". It was amazing! Sue and Glenn Reese did a great job. Spencer Reese did some of the choreography. This production was amazing and the students did a wonderful job.

Mr. Peabody stated we looked into hiring a dedicated grant writer but could not afford one. When Dr. Schumann created his cabinet, one of the conditions was for them to apply for grants. They have and we have received several grants for iPads and our innovation lab at JFK.

Mr. Peabody congratulated Dr. Schumann for his upcoming retirement, the appointment of Chris Drezek as the Superintendent, the appointment of Andy Longey as they Deputy Superintendent and the appointment of Erin Clark as the Enfield High Principal.

Mr. Kruzel stated he also went to the EHS production of "Guys & Dolls". The performance was amazing and our kids are great.

Mr. Kruzel stated the Town Attorney, Chris Bromson will hold an FOI Commission program on May 10th at 6:30 PM at the Enfield Senior Center. All are welcome to attend.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated the EHS DECA team is at a competition and has reached the DECA gold Level status for running their school store. Three EHS DECA students will go onto the international competition in California. She congratulated the students and Mr. O'Connell for all of their hard work with DECA.

Mrs. LeBlanc is extremely proud of all of our student athletes. All of our teams at the high school have merged together and it was exciting to watch them grow as a team. She congratulated them all for all of their hard work and dedication.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated she was not at the last meeting when the Board was recognized by the students. She read everything. She loved the cards that were hand written by the students. She read a few of them. Remember, our kids are always watching us. This reminds me of why we are doing this. Thank you for the gifts and the letters, it was greatly appreciated.

Mr. Neville agreed with Mrs. LeBlanc about the Board member appreciation. It was nice to be appreciated by our students. So many of our students athletes are giving back to our community and are working with our youth in the Enfield community. We are here to make sure our kids get the best. Thank you.

Mr. Neville stated the work that Dr. Bourassa is doing is critical for our student athletes. Being proactive with sports will allow us to learn and continue to see a reduction in student injuries. Thank you for bringing this program to our school system.

Mr. Neville stated when he was at Home Depot recently, he saw students from the Pre-K STEAM Academy program there for a field trip. They were working on projects. They had miniature aprons on and were hammering. Exposing our young children to this will make a huge impact on them. Thank you Home Depot for being a good neighbor and doing this.

Mrs. Thurston also thanked our student athletes. She also read the cards when she came home. The students are requesting ice cream. They put a smile on her face. She also thanked the students for the gifts from the Board appreciation night. She loved reading the notes.

Mrs. Thurston stated we all received an e-mail from Lindsay Bruce regarding the walking distances. She would like this added to the records.

Chairman Sirard thanked everyone for the Board appreciation night. This was such a great pick-me-up! He read each and every card. He has his flower pot with pencil at his job. This made my day – thank you.

Chairman Sirard thanked all of our student athletes and scholar athletes. Our students came together as the high school merged. Our athletes are doing well academically off the field as well. This speaks volumes about our parents and our schools. You all make us very proud. Keep up the good work.

Chairman Sirard stated our lamplighters put their heart and soul into their production and should be commended for a job well done.

Chairman Sirard stated our DECA students are putting Enfield on the map. They have made us all very proud of their accomplishments.

Chairman Sirard stated our cabinet members have written many grants. This was one of the conditions when they were hired. The grants they have received have far exceeded the amount of their salaries.

Chairman Sirard clarified some of the misinformation that is circulating. There will be a savings of \$200K by closing Nathan Hale; we will save \$70K in bussing costs; we will save \$166,200K with salaries for a total savings of \$436,200K. We will also save money for cost avoidances by closing Nathan Hale.

Chairman Sirard stated he will address some of the misinformation about moving Central Office to Alcorn. The Board has processed 3 purchase orders. One for Home Depot for \$2K, one for Sherwin Williams for \$2K and one for carpet cleaning for \$1,500K. We have spent \$800 at Home Depot, \$500 at Sherwin Williams and \$1,500 for carpet cleaning for a total of \$2,800K to date.

Chairman Sirard stated moving to Alcorn was always in the plan when we started the school consolidations. No new furniture will be purchased. No work is anticipated to be done at Barnard – just move the kids in.

Chairman Sirard stated some documents were released to the public regarding appraisals from Mark Gahr. The context of this information was not accurate. This was a wish list. The public has the right to this information. We are not replacing carpet at Alcorn for \$70K. He hopes this clears-up some of the confusion.

Chairman Sirard would like the audience to come to the Budget presentation on Wednesday, April 26th at 7:00 PM in the Enfield High Auditorium. We will be discussing many positives.

Chairman Sirard stated we all know the budget would continue to increase. He showed the public a graph he made up regarding the budget and if we did not make any changes. We have made significant changes by reorganizing, consolidating the schools and consolidating our custodial services. We have added wonderful programs in Enfield like the Pre-K STEAM Academy, Full day Kindergarten, consolidating our schools and renovating our high school.

Chairman Sirard stated you cannot evaluate our schools based on test scores. We are not an alliance district. We have a large SPED population in Enfield. Testing does not make any adjustments for this cohort.

Chairman Sirard added that we have done all of this as a team and have done a lot of good in Enfield. He congratulated our staff and administration for everything you have done. Thank you – we are all on the same page.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. Approved Enfield Adult Education Program Enhancement Project Grant

Dr. Schumann reviewed the grant application.

Mr. Neville moved, seconded by Mr. Kruzel that the Enfield Board of Education approves the Enfield Adult Education Program Enhancement Project Grant as presented and authorizes Dr. Schumann to endorse it.

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

b. Approval of School Readiness Grant

Mrs. Homer-Bouthiette and Mrs. Beaulieu reviewed the grant application.

Mr. Kruzel moved, seconded by Mrs. Unghire that the Enfield Board of Education approves the School Readiness Grant as presented.

Discussion:

Mr. Neville thanked Mrs. Homer-Bouthiette and Mrs. Beaulieu for the update. There are so many benefits from what you are doing with our students. What are you losing compared to last year's grant.

Mrs. Homer-Bouthiette stated we are losing \$12,000 around 10% and 2 slots. We were able to offer 30 slots previously. Now we offer 28 slots.

Mr. Peabody also thanked them for what you are doing. You are helping our students and your program makes a difference.

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

c. Policy Revision – BOE Policy 6146 Requirements for Graduation – First Reading

Mr. Drezek reviewed the proposed changes to the policy.

Mr. Peabody moved, seconded by Mrs. Thurston that the Enfield Board of Education approves the proposed changes to Board Policy #6146 Requirements for Graduation as a First Reading.

Discussion:

Mr. Neville added eventually, we would like to offer 25 credits to our students.

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

Chairman Sirard would like to waive the second reading for this policy.

Suspend the rules to add an item to the Agenda:

Mr. Neville moved, seconded by Mr. Peabody to suspend the rules and add the second reading for BOE Policy #6146 Requirements for Graduation – Second Reading as Item 11f.

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

f. Policy Revision – BOE Policy 6146 Requirements for Graduation – Second Reading

Mrs. Thurston moved, seconded by Mr. Kruzel that the Enfield Board of Education approves the proposed changes to Board Policy #6146 Requirements for Graduation as a Second Reading.

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

d. Obsolete Policy – BOE Policy #6161.1 Basal Textbook Adoption

Mr. Kruzel moved, seconded by Mrs. Thurston that the Enfield Board of Education approves eliminating Board Policy #6161.1 Basal Textbook Adoption.

Discussion:

Mr. Neville stated the current policy requires us to place textbooks on display at the Enfield Public Library. Many of the materials now are not textbooks and are now available on-line. Members of the Curriculum Committee felt the current policy is not working and is outdated. No one is viewing these books at the library. We vet all textbooks and materials at the Curriculum meetings when the department chairs present the information to us. We feel all textbooks and materials should go through the Curriculum department. We will bring this information to the Board. All Curriculum meetings are open to the public and anyone can view these materials anytime.

Mr. Neville added that he spoke to Mr. Regnier, the Policy Committee Chair and he did not have any objections to removing this policy. We have several textbook purchases that will be made within the next couple of months. We will bring this information to the public at upcoming Board meetings.

Mr. Peabody added that this is a more effective way for purchasing textbooks and materials.

Chairman Sirard does not want to take away the voice of the public when it comes to textbook purchases.

Mr. Neville stated we have a policy that deals with controversial materials. This is for textbooks. Our current policy does not reflect how curriculum has evolved.

Chairman Sirard stated we should rewrite the policy if needed. Mr. Neville stated we do not need another policy to replace this obsolete policy. We are vetting the materials at the Curriculum level.

Chairman Sirard is okay with this, just as long as the public has an opportunity to add input regarding textbooks.

Mr. Neville added all Curriculum meetings are open to the public. We post all items on the agendas and we will update the Board under committee reports regarding all textbooks. The public is welcome to view any textbook at any time.

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

e. Action, if any Regarding Personnel

Chairman Sirard stated Item 11e. will be addressed after Item 17.

12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Building Committee

Mr. Neville reported they are wrapping things up all of the details. Mr. Kruzel added that the project is 97% paid for. Mr. Neville stated everyone involved on this committee did a wonderful job. He thanked everyone involved.

b. Curriculum Committee

Mr. Neville reported the Curriculum Committee met on April 19th and were presented the report from the writing center at EHS. We also reviewed the data presentation by Ms. Middleton. This report will be presented to the Board in the fall. We also discussed Policy #6161.1 Basal Textbook Adoptions.

Mrs. Thurston added the students have taken ownership with their writing. This is a great program.

Mr. Kruzel added they are doing this work in one of the collaborative spaces at EHS.

c. Finance Committee

Mr. Peabody reported the Finance Committee met on April 25, 2017 and reviewed financials. This item will be addressed later on the agenda.

d. Leadership Committee - None

e. Policy Committee

Mr. Regnier reported the Policy Committee needs to meet again. CAFE is auditing our policies to make sure we are in compliance. Our next meeting will be with CAFE. We need to compare our policies to see what other districts are doing. We also need to continue our discussion regarding the transportation policy for students. We are looking into costs for transportation if we decrease the distances.

Mr. Regnier added that crossing guards are placed by the Police Department.

Mr. Neville would like to attend this meeting.

f. JFK Pre-Referendum Committee

Mrs. LeBlanc reported they are looking at a conceptual design to include the pool. Silver Petrucelli is looking into the reimbursements for a middle school. They are redoing the demographic study. The members of this committee have all worked very hard. The pool topic has been a tough discussion. The committee members are doing the best they can with the information they have. She hopes the pre-referendum passes. This is an exciting time for Enfield and for the students. They will meet again on Wednesday, April 26th. The additional space gained will be great.

Mr. Regnier asked about the pool. Mrs. LeBlanc stated the pool at JFK is used by the

community and is not reimbursable. She would hate for us to lose this community resource.

Mr. Neville added there is a difference with the pool at Fermi and the pool at JFK. The temperatures are different. The debate is losing a community resource. We have always looked at our schools as a community resource.

Mrs. LeBlanc added the auditorium will not be renovated. This is also not reimbursable. Mr. Neville added the auditorium is also being used as a community resource.

Chairman Sirard asked about the original charge for the committee and will the fields be included in this plan? Mrs. LeBlanc stated we have been working on the conceptual designs first. Next we will look at the fields and the parking areas.

Mr. Neville added the fields will be included in this plan. The committee wants to lock in the building design first. Then they will work on the fields and parking areas.

g. Opening Ceremony Committee

Mrs. Unghire reported we will hold the EHS Opening Ceremony on May 13th at 11:30 AM. Invitations for this event will be sent out shortly. Everyone on this committee has been working really hard. She hopes everyone will attend this community event. The concert will be held at 7:00 PM.

13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Kruzel moved, seconded by Mrs. Thurston that the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2017 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 7-0-2** passed with Mrs. Leblanc and Mrs. Unghire abstaining.

Mrs. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mr. Kruzel that the Special Meeting Minutes of April 4, 2017 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 7-0-2** passed Mr. Grady and Mrs. Unghire abstaining.

14. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYROLL

a. For the Month of March 2017

Mr. Peabody moved, seconded by Mrs. Thurston that we accept the superintendent's certification as follows: I hereby certify that in the month of March, total expenditures amount to \$7,730,379.48, broken down between payroll totaling \$5,984,492.61 and other accounts totaling \$1,745,886.87.

All payments have been made in accordance with the approved budget and are properly accounted for within the books of accounts. Copies of approval for check invoices are properly documented.

A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

b. Line Item Transfers, if any - None

15. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS

- a. E-Mail from Lindsey Bruce re: Transportation Concerns and the Transportation Policy.

16. AUDIENCES - None

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION -

Mr. Kruzel moved, seconded by Mr. Neville that the Enfield Board of Education enters into Executive Session for Matters Related to Personnel.

A vote by **show-of-hands 5-3-0** passed with Mrs. Thurston, Mr. Grady and Mr. Peabody in dissent.

The Board remained in Council Chambers for the Executive Session. Both Dr. Schumann and Mr. Drezek joined the Board in Executive Session.

No Board action occurred while in Executive Session.

11e. Action, if any Regarding Personnel

Mr. Kruzel moved, seconded by Mrs. Thurston that the Enfield Board of Education appoints Deb Gaskill to the position of English Department Chair effective July 1, 2017.

A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mr. Kruzel moved, seconded by Mrs. Thurston that the Enfield Board of Education appoints Jackie Valley to the position of Stowe Pre-K STEAM Coordinator effective July 1, 2017.

A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Thurston moved, seconded by Mr. Kruzel to adjourn the Regular Meeting of April 25, 2017.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 10:07 PM.

Tina LeBlanc
Secretary
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary