

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
May 23, 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 May 23, 2017.

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rich Regnier, Lori Unghire, Tina LeBlanc, Tim Neville, Stacy Thurston and Walter Kruzel

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Vin Grady and Tom Sirard

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

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

6. **BOARD GUEST(S)** - None

7. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- a. Student Representatives Report – as presented
- b. EHS Awards & Scholarship Nights – as presented
- c. Adult Education Graduation Ceremony – as presented
- d. Memorial Day & Parade – as presented
- e. Grants Report – as presented
- f. Personnel Report – as presented
- g. May/April Events – as presented

Dr. Schumann presented a certificate from Buzz Robotics to the Board. They are extremely appreciative of the Board's commitment to them. They will visit Mr. Kruzel for your continued team support and they gave Mr. Drezek a team hat.

Dr. Schumann stated students will take home a flyer regarding the Hale transition on Thursday. Primary school parents will have an opportunity to meet the primary principals on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:45 PM at Nathan Hale and the incoming grade 1 and 2 students will meet the principals at an assembly at 2:15 PM the same day. Intermediate school parents will have an opportunity to meet the intermediate principals on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:45 PM at Nathan Hale and the incoming grade 3 students will meet the principals at 2:15 PM the same day.

Dr. Schumann added that Mr. Drezek and Ms. Middleton are in the process of determining class sizes at each of the schools for next year. Everything is progressing nicely for next year.

**8. AUDIENCES - None**

**9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mrs. Thurston extends her heart and sympathy to the families in Manchester, England that have been affected by this senseless act of violence.

Mrs. Thurston thanked everyone involved with the EHS Opening Ceremony events especially Mrs. Unghire. She knows it was a team effort. It was such a nice event ending with the concert. She missed the concert but heard it was great. It was really a great day.

Mr. Neville echoed Mrs. Thurston's comments. This was a wonderful exciting day. It was gratifying to see what has happened in Enfield. We can all take pride in this. Thank you for all your hard work bringing this to fruition.

Mr. Neville stated it is retirement year again for some of our staff members and teachers. He thanked our teachers for their commitment to the students of Enfield. Sending off our long-term employees and graduates for jobs well done is important.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated she was notified that the State will be making a change on Enfield Street with a left turn only sign coming into the high school. She is concerned with this change. Mayor Kaupin posted this information online. This change will go into effect Thursday morning. The bus drivers are also concerned with this change turning left out of EHS.

Dr. Schumann was not aware of this.

Mrs. Unghire added this is a step towards getting a traffic light.

Mrs. LeBlanc is concerned with the safety of the buses entering and exiting the schools.

Mr. Kruzel stated he received this information from Officer Meyer. He would like us to place one of our SRO's outside to monitor the traffic flow.

Mr. Neville stated he is also concerned that we haven't heard anything about this. The bus drivers are aware of this.

Dr. Schumann stated he will discuss this with Principal Longey. He is sure someone from the DOT will be there to monitor this.

Mr. Neville stated we are just hearing about this. We are all surprised about this. He has never seen the State move this quickly on something. He thinks the Enfield police should be present.

Mrs. LeBlanc feels we should send out a robo call about this traffic change. Mr. Neville agrees.

Dr. Schumann stated we will call the Police Department and Smyth Bus about this. Once we have the information, we will decide how we will inform our parents and students.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated the drivers saw this message on Facebook.

Mr. Neville stated we are finding out about this change by accident.

Both Dr. Schumann and Mr. Drezek added this is the first they are hearing about this change.

Mr. Kruzel is sorry that you were not aware of this. Mrs. LeBlanc also said she should have forwarded this information to you. She assumed you were aware of this and did not plan to

spring this on you.

Mr. Regnier thanked Mrs. Unghire and the Opening Ceremony Committee for a wonderful job. They are talking about holding a yearly event to showcase our talents. They are calling this "Eaglefest". The auditorium is beautiful at EHS.

Mr. Regnier stated that ECDC held a talent show at EHS in the auditorium. This event was great. He also attended the JFK play "Beauty and the Beast". The students did a great job.

Mr. Regnier thanked the administration for all the work they have done with the transitions for the Hale students and families. He also thanked Principal Roman.

Mrs. Unghire added the JFK grade 6 concert was packed. The students did an amazing job. She was unable to attend the play but heard it was just fantastic. She congratulated them all for jobs well done.

Mrs. Unghire attended the CREC meeting. They met the new CREC superintendent Timothy Sullivan. She has been appointed to the CREC Board of Directors.

Mrs. Unghire stated this year our schools are doing one book at the four primary schools "Toys Go Out". Some of the students used their Lego's to build items from the book. She was very impressed by the items they made.

Mrs. Unghire thanked everyone involved in the Opening Ceremony. Everyone had a great time. It was truly amazing. The concert at night was great. She thanked Chairman Sirard and Mr. Drezek for their speeches. The EHS band was outstanding as well as the honors choir. She reminded everyone about the Memorial Day Parade being held on Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Kruzel added the parade will be held rain or shine. If it is raining, they will hold at EHS.

## **10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **a. Action if any, Regarding the FY2017-18 Budget**

Dr. Schumann distributed a memo regarding reconciling the FY2017-18. We need to reduce the budget by \$1,385,547. He reviewed the areas he is recommending to make reductions in with the Board.

Mr. Neville thanked the Joint Insurance Committee for their work on this committee. He also thanked Mrs. LeBlanc and everyone on this committee and working together. He asked about the fund balance.

Dr. Schumann stated there is 5% available for the fund balance. Mrs. LeBlanc added the employee fund balance is at a good place.

Mr. Neville asked about retirements or staff leaving the district. Typically, we have received some additional ones during the summer. Dr. Schumann stated that is correct. We will have some high price positions that we will need to fill.

Mr. Regnier asked if the floating nurse and the Superintendent's initiatives are remaining in the budget. Dr. Schumann stated yes. No changes were made to any of the proposed initiatives.

Mr. Neville moved, seconded by Mrs. Unghire that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the Superintendent's proposed FY2017-18 budget reconciliation items as presented.

**Discussion:**

Mrs. LeBlanc thanked the members of the Town Council for working with the Board on this budget. This was the easiest budget she has worked on during her time as a Board member. We have opened the lines of communication. She wanted to publicly thank them. She also thanked Dr. Schumann and Mr. Drezek for presenting this budget.

Mr. Neville stated our approach with the Town Council has increased a level of collaboration between both sides. The Town council likes the approach from Dr. Schumann and Mr. Drezek. This is the entire Town's budget not just the school boards or towns. We couldn't have done any of this without the cooperation from our unions. We are in a far better place than other towns are in now.

Mrs. LeBlanc added the collaboration on the Joint Insurance committee helped and a lot of good has come from this. We have learned a lot by working side by side striving for one common goal.

Mr. Kruzel agrees with the progress made by Joint Insurance Committee. Both the Town and Board have worked hard to control costs. The meetings were cooperative on both sides of the table.

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

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. 2017 Lester J. Bodley Memorial Scholarship Recipients**

Mrs. Thurston moved, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc that the Enfield Board of Education approves the 2017 Lester J. Bodley Memorial Scholarship for Student A and Student B as presented.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Kruzel congratulated our 2017 Lester J. Bodley Memorial Scholarship recipients.

Mrs. LeBlanc knows both students and they are both very deserving.

A vote by **roll-call 6-0-0** passed unanimously.

**12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a. Building Committee**

Mr. Neville reported the committee is moving along and winding down. We are clearing up some of the final accounting issues.

Mr. Kruzel added he thanked Gilbane for everything they have done. They are closing out everything. He received the last spreadsheet from them.

Mr. Neville added Gilbane has been wonderful to work with. They supported the Building committee totally.

Mr. Kruzel stated we are the only project that was done on time and under budget in the State of Connecticut.

**b. Curriculum Committee**

Mr. Neville reported the Curriculum Committee met on May 17<sup>th</sup>. We reviewed textbook adoptions for AP Computer Science Principles, AP Art History, Community Action in Learning as a Social Studies elective; and CCP Spanish IV.

Mr. Neville added we also discussed bridging the STEAM gap at the middle school. They are proposing to bring Project Lead the Way units into grades 6-8. This experience will provide students with a foundation in computer science and engineering and to continue this pathway at the high school.

Dr. Schumann added the programs we will add will not require any additional staff or cost us any additional money. We can use current teachers for this STEAM curriculum.

Mr. Neville added this will start in the fall of 2017-18. This is great program for our middle school students.

c. Finance Committee

Mr. Kruzel reported the Finance Committee met on May 16, 2017 and reviewed financials. This item will be addressed later on the agenda. We also had a presentation from the TAG program.

Mrs. LeBlanc added we have received the final disbursements for the Simcovitz Estate.

d. Leadership Committee - None

e. Policy Committee

Mr. Regnier reported the Policy Committee will meet on June 1<sup>st</sup> and CAGE will attend this meeting.

f. Joint Facilities Committee

Mr. Neville reported the Joint Facilities Committee will meet on Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. We will look at the roofs and areas that need attention outside in. We are also looking at Hazardville Memorial's multiple roofs.

Mr. Kruzel added there is a vacancy on this committee. If you are interested, please contact any committee member or you can go to the Town's website to download an application.

g. Joint Insurance Committee

Mr. Kruzel added the committee met on Wednesday to finalize the joint policy.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated the Town Council will approved this at their next meeting.

h. JFK Pre-Referendum Committee

Mr. Kruzel reported the committee met on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Neville added they finalized the square footage and are looking at the education specifications. He asked if Dr. Schumann had received a call from Mr. Nardi.

Dr. Schumann received a call today from Mr. Nardi. We will review this and will make any necessary recommendations. Then we will discuss this with Leadership to review. The Board will need to vote on this at the June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. Neville added this is important. We have a tight timeline to get the application in by June 30<sup>th</sup>. We might need to hold a special meeting to approve the minutes. He does not want to miss this opportunity based on a technicality. June typically is a very busy month. He does not want to miss this opportunity.

Mrs. LeBlanc added that she is not available to meet on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Schumann added that the special meeting could be a quick meeting to approve the minutes before the graduation if needed on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. LeBlanc does not know if she would be available to meet on June 20<sup>th</sup>. The time of the meeting would determine her availability.

**13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Neville moved, seconded by Mrs. Thurston that the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2017 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 6-0-0** passed unanimously.

**14. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYROLL**

**a. For the Month of April 2017**

Mr. Kruzel 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 \$6,276,803.00, broken down between payroll totaling \$3,962,922.98 and other accounts totaling \$2,313,880.02.

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 6-0-0** passed unanimously.

**b. Line Item Transfers, if any - None**

**15. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS - None**

**16. AUDIENCES - None**

**17. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None**

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Thurston moved, seconded by Mrs. Unghire to adjourn the Regular Meeting of May 23, 2017.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Tina LeBlanc  
Secretary  
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary