

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT**

**Time-Place:**

**Council Chambers  
820 Enfield Street  
Enfield, CT**

**Date: 02-14-24**

**7:00 PM Special Meeting**

<https://youtube.com/live/Mzjcqm78gDg>

1. **Call to Order – 7:00 PM**
2. **Moment of Silence – Philip Kober**
3. **Pledge of Allegiance – Philip Kober**
4. **Fire Evacuation Announcement**
5. **Roll Call**
6. **Board Guest(s)**
7. **Superintendent’s Report**
  - a. **Student Representative Update**
  - b. **Staff PL Days & President’s Day**
  - c. **EPS Update**
  - d. **Superintendent’s 2024-25 Budget Presentation**
8. **Audiences**
9. **Board Members’ Comments**
10. **Unfinished Business**
11. **New Business**
  - a. **Policy Revisions – First Readings**
  - b. **Appoint Joint Facilities BOE Elector**
12. **Board Committee Reports**

- <b>Curriculum Committee</b>	- <b>Joint Facilities Committee</b>
- <b>Finance, Budget Committee</b>	- <b>JFK Building Committee</b>
- <b>Policy Committee</b>	- <b>Joint Security Committee</b>
- <b>Leadership Committee</b>	- <b>Enfield Mental Health Committee</b>
- <b>PK-5 School Modernization Committee</b>	- <b>Enfield Cultural Arts</b>
13. **Approval of Minutes:**
  - **Regular BOE Meeting Minutes: January 23, 2024**
14. **Approval of Accounts and Payroll:**
  - **For the Month of January 2023**
  - **Line Item Transfers, if any**
15. **Correspondence and Communications**
16. **Executive Session**
  - **Matter(s) Related to Security**
17. **Adjournment**



**Date:** February 14, 2024  
**To:** Enfield Board of Education  
**From:** Mr. Christopher J. Drezek  
**Re:** Superintendent's Report

- a. **Student Representative Update:** Each of our Enfield High School Student Representatives may have some information or comments to share with the Board regarding events/happenings at EHS.
- b. **Staff PL Days & President's Day:** EPS students will not attend school on Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> in order for our staff to attend full day professional learning events. All EPS schools and offices will be closed on Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> for President's Day.
- c. **EPS Update:** I will update the Board regarding our schools at this time.
- d. **Superintendent's 2024-25 Budget Presentation:** At this time, I will present the proposed 2024-25 Budget to the Board.



**Date:** February 14, 2024  
**To:** Enfield Board of Education  
**From:** Mr. Christopher J. Drezek  
**Re:** Policy Revisions – First Readings

Policy Committee members met on February 8<sup>th</sup> and they are recommending first readings for several policies. Enclosed in your packets are four (4) current policies with proposed revisions. These policies have been placed on the website for public input.

**Policy Revisions:**

- Policy #9120 Officers of the Board of Education
- Policy #9132 Standing Committees
- Policy #9323 Construction of the Agenda
- Policy #9325.43 Participation at Board Meeting by Remote Methods

Policy Committee Chair Phil Kober and/or Policy Committee Liaison Assistant Superintendent Longey can address any Board member questions regarding these recommended policy revisions.

Therefore, the Enfield Board of Education may take any action(s) deemed appropriate regarding approving the policy revisions as presented for a First Reading.



**Date:** February 14, 2024  
**To:** Enfield Board of Education  
**From:** Mr. Christopher J. Drezek  
**Re:** Appoint Board of Education Elector to the Joint Facilities Committee

Chairwoman Riley will address this item.

Therefore, the Enfield Board of Education may take any action(s) deemed appropriate regarding appointing a BOE Elector to the Joint Facilities Committee.



**Date:** February 14, 2024  
**To:** Enfield Board of Education  
**From:** Mr. Christopher J. Drezek  
**Re:** Executive Session

The Board of Education has the need to discuss the following item:

- Matter(s) Related to Security

Therefore, I recommend that the Enfield Board of Education enter into executive session, with the appropriate personnel invited, for the reasons described above. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present, and voting is required. Board members can remain in Council Chambers for the executive session.

ENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Enfield, Connecticut

Bylaws of the Board

9120

Officers of the Board of Education

~~Chairman~~ *Chairperson* - the ~~Chairman~~ *Chairperson* shall preside at Board meetings.

~~She/he~~ *Such person* shall perform all duties imposed by statute *and Board Policies*.

~~She/he~~ *Such person* shall call all special meetings of the Board that ~~she/he~~ *he/she* may deem necessary; and it shall be ~~his/her~~ *his/her* duty to do so upon written request of one-third of the members of the Board.

~~Vice-Chairman~~ *Chairperson* – The ~~Vice-Chairman~~ *Chairperson* shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Education when the ~~Chairman~~ *Chairperson* is not present.

**Secretary** – The Secretary shall be responsible that an accurate record is kept of the actions of the Board; and that there are preserved reports of committees and communications addressed to the Board, reports of the ~~Chairman~~ *Chairperson* of the Board, reports of the Superintendent, and all other Board records for which the Superintendent of Schools is not responsible.

The Secretary shall:

1. Perform all duties imposed by statute *and Board Policies*.
2. In the absence of the ~~Chairman~~ *Chairperson* and ~~Vice-Chairman~~ *Vice Chairperson*, conduct the meeting until a *Chairperson* ~~Chairman~~ pro-tem has been elected.

**Removal** – The ~~Chairman~~ *Chairperson*, ~~Vice-Chairman~~ *Chairperson* or Secretary may be removed from their respective positions by a two-thirds vote (6) of the membership of the whole Board.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-218 Officers. Meetings.

Chapter IX Department of Education, Section 2: Organization.

Bylaw adopted by the Board: October 24, 2017

Bylaw Revised:

**ENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Enfield, Connecticut**

**Bylaws of the Board**

**9132**

**Standing Committees**

The Board of Education shall maintain four Standing Committees as set forth this policy: Leadership, Curriculum, Finance and Budget, and Policy.

**Key Definitions:**

A member of the Board of Education officially appointed to a Standing Committee shall herein be referred to as a Permanent Member.

A member of the Board of Education designated as an alternate to a Standing Committee shall herein be referred to as an Alternate or Alternate Member.

A Political Party shall be defined as an organized caucus of Board of Education members representing a political party officially recognized by the State of Connecticut. Should a candidate be elected to the Board of Education as a petitioning candidate, they shall be considered to be a member of the political party with whom they caucus. Should said Board of Education member not caucus with any particular political party, their party shall be considered **Independent *unaffiliated***.

**Standing Committee Composition:**

The Leadership Committee shall be composed of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Education. In addition to the Board of Education Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, Leadership Committee membership shall include no less than one (1) member from each Political Party represented on the Board of Education.

Should the Board of Education be composed of members representing only two (2) Political Parties, the Leadership Committee shall be composed of two (2) Board of Education members from each Political Party.

Should the Board of Education be composed of members representing three (3) or more Political Parties, the Leadership Committee shall be composed of two (2) Board of Education members representing the Political Parties with the most and 2<sup>nd</sup> most representation on the Board of Education. Additionally, the Leadership Committee shall then have in its membership one (1) Board of Education member from any other Political Party represented on the Board of Education.

There shall be no assigned alternates to the Leadership Committee.

Should the Board of Education be composed of members representing only two (2) Political

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Standing Committees**

Parties, the Curriculum, Finance and Budget, and Policy Committees shall be composed of three (3) members of the Board of Education with each Political Party having at least one (1) representative on each committee.

Should the Board of Education be composed of members representing three (3) or more Political Parties, the Curriculum, Finance and Budget, and Policy Committees shall be composed of no less than three (3) members and no greater than five (5) members with each Political Party having at least one (1) representative on each Committee.

To the Curriculum, Finance and Budget, and Policy Committees, Alternates may be appointed in a manner described later in this policy.

The Chairperson of the Board of Education shall be an ex officio member of the Curriculum, Finance and Budget, and Policy Committees. Should the Chairperson of the Board of Education be in attendance at a meeting of one of these Standing Committees, the Chairperson of the respective Standing Committee may, at his or her discretion, recognize the Chairperson of the Board of Education as present and voting only if quorum needs to be achieved and if quorum would not be achieved in the absence of such recognition.

### **Quorum**

For each Standing Committee, a quorum shall be defined as follows:

*If the Standing Committee is composed of two (2) Permanent Members, quorum shall be defined as at least two (2) Permanent Members, Alternates or ex officio members present.*

If the Standing Committee is composed of three (3) or four (4) Permanent Members, quorum shall be defined as at least two (2) Permanent Members, Alternates or ex officio members present.

If the Standing Committee is composed of five (5) Permanent Members, quorum shall be defined as at least three (3) Permanent Members, Alternates or ex officio members present.

### **Standing Committee Governance**

Unless separate bylaws have been adopted by a Standing Committee, or where such bylaws are silent, the business and operation of all Standing Committees shall be governed by the rules of parliamentary procedure as defined in the 11<sup>th</sup> Edition Robert's Rules of Order (Newly Revised) *the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order.*



## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Standing Committees**

#### **Membership Assignments To Standing Committees**

The Chairperson of the Board of Education, subject to approval by a majority vote of Board of Education, shall appoint the required number of Permanent Members to each Standing Committee.

The Chairperson of the Board of Education, subject to approval by a majority vote of the Board of Education, may also appoint Alternates to the Curriculum, Finance and Budget, and Policy Committees. Should alternates be appointed, each Political Party represented on the Board of Education shall have one (1) of its members appointed as an Alternate.

#### **Standing Committee Leadership**

The Chairperson of the Board of Education, subject to approval by a majority vote of the Board of Education, shall appoint the Chairperson of each Standing Committee.

During its first meeting, the Standing Committee shall nominate, from within the ranks of its Permanent Members, and appoint via majority vote, a Committee Secretary. The identity of the Committee Secretary should be provided to the Board of Education by the committee Chairperson as part of their Committee Report during the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Education.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee shall preside over all meetings of the Standing Committee. Should the Chairperson of the Standing Committee be absent, the Secretary shall preside over meetings. Should both the Chairperson and Secretary of the Standing Committee be absent, the Board of Education member present with the most seniority on the Board of Education shall preside over the meeting.

#### **Order of Membership Recognition**

The total number of voting members at any meeting of a Standing Committee shall not exceed the number of Permanent Members assigned to that Committee.

For the purpose of establishing quorum and for the purpose of the determination of voting rights at a meeting of a Standing Committee, Permanent Members of said Standing Committee shall have priority.

Should a Permanent Member of a Standing Committee not be in attendance, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee shall recognize an Alternate as present and as a voting member for that specific meeting. The recognized Alternate shall be of the same Political Party as that of the absent Permanent Member.

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Standing Committees**

#### **Order of Membership Recognition** (continued)

Should the Chairperson of the Board of Education be present for a meeting of a Standing Committee, and should insufficient Permanent Members and Alternates be present to establish quorum, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee may then recognize the Chairperson of the Board of Education as present and as a voting member for that specific meeting.

#### **Special and Advisory Committees**

Should the need for a special and/or advisory committee arise, the Chairperson of the Board of Education may create such a committee and shall appoint Board of Education members to serve as Permanent and Alternate members on any such committee. Said Committee creation and membership appointments shall be subject to approval by a majority vote of the Board of Education. Committees considered special or advisory, will receive their duties at the time of creation and appointment and the committee shall be considered dissolved when its final report has been made to the Board and/or upon being dissolved by a majority vote of the Board of Education.

#### **Remote Attendance**

Standing Committees as well as Special and Advisory Committees (herein referred to in this section as Committees) of the Board of Education may meet in person, telephonically or by means of virtual meeting technology. The means by which a Committee meets shall be determined upon setting the agenda for a particular meeting. *Participation at committee meetings by remote methods shall be consistent with Board Bylaw #9325.43 Participation at Board Meeting by Remote Methods.*

~~Should a meeting take place in person, Permanent Members of a Committee shall be permitted to attend up to four (4) meetings of a given Committee per term year via telephonic means or by means of virtual meeting technology. As their participation, may be necessary to establish quorum, this limitation shall not apply to Alternate or ex-officio members of the Committee.~~

~~Should a Committee meeting take place in person, quorum need not be established prior to a Permanent, Alternate or ex-officio member attending via telephonic means or by means of virtual meeting technology.~~

~~A Term Year shall be defined as one (1) calendar year beginning on the first date of the current Board of Education term ending 365 days later (or 366 days later if the term year coincides with a leap year).~~

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Standing Committees**

#### **Committee Reports to the Board of Education**

It shall be the responsibility of the Standing Committee's Chairperson to present regular reports on committee activities to the full Board of Education and to bring to the Board of Education any items requiring official actions.

#### **Other Provisions**

The Board of Education shall act as a committee of the whole in final consideration of all matters except where otherwise authorized by law.

All Committees of the Board of Education (Standing, Special or Advisory) shall follow the provision of the Freedom of Information Act as required by statute.

#### **Overriding Committee Membership Requirements**

The Political Party representation requirements in the assignment of Permanent Members and Alternates to Standing Committees, as described in the policy, may be overridden by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Education. Should such an override occur, the Chairperson of the Board of Education may, at his or her discretion, assign Permanent Members and Alternates where allowed, to all Standing Committees subject to approval by a majority vote of the Board of Education.

#### **Leadership Committee**

The Chairperson of the Board shall be the Chairperson of the Leadership Committee and shall appoint a secretary. The Superintendent shall be the Leadership Cabinet liaison to the committee. The minutes of the meetings of the Leadership Committee shall be distributed promptly after each meeting to every member of the Board. At each meeting of the Board, the proceedings and action taken by the Leadership Committee since the last meeting of the Board shall be reported to the Board.

This committee will provide input to the Board of Education Chairperson and the Superintendent on the construction of Board meeting agendas. The committee shall advise the school administration on personnel policy development and shall assist the administration when appropriate in interviewing applicants for administrative vacancies.

Other responsibilities may include:

1. Recommends an evaluation system for various categories of personnel;
2. Implements the Superintendent's evaluation program;
3. Appoints the Chairpersons of the negotiating teams;

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Standing Committees**

#### **Leadership Committee** (continued)

4. Recommends salary annually for the supervisory and confidential personnel;
5. Reviews staffing requirements periodically;
6. Reviews position descriptions and functional requirements periodically;
7. Acts as the initial Board contact on all personnel and grievance matters;
8. Represents the Board in liaison sessions with the faculty and bargaining units;
9. Recommends action to the entire Board that the committee deems appropriate for the Board to consider.

#### **Curriculum Committee**

Chief Academic Officer shall be the Leadership Cabinet liaison to the committee. This committee shall consider and make recommendations concerning the District's Board policies of education and research. This committee reviews major areas of curriculum development, regular/special education services, student assessment, long-term program review and program revisions. Committee members consider the Board's priorities in curriculum areas. The committee reports its findings to the Board and suggests programs and policy modifications that may be appropriate in curriculum and program areas. New program activities undertaken by the district, the implementation of new curricula, or the piloting of new programs would be topics of particular interest. The committee shall review research on the curriculum and program changes and report its recommendations to the Board. The committee shall review proposals concerning student courses, ensure the Board's familiarity with district educational programs, monitor achievements and cause the evaluation of education programs.

Other responsibilities may include:

1. Conduct or coordinates curriculum studies undertaken by the Board;
2. Periodically reports to the Board on the status of the curriculum and suggest area in need of study;
3. Periodically studies and reports on student progress and on standardized test results;
4. Review and recommends textbook usage;
5. Evaluates curriculum in view of school population trends;
6. Recommends budget changes in view of curriculum developments;
7. Assumes like responsibilities for extra-curricular and co-curricular activities.

#### **Finance, *and* Budget Committee**

The Chief Finance Officer of the District shall be the Leadership Cabinet liaison to the committee. This committee shall be concerned with the preparation of the budget and periodic reviews of the actual expenditures as compared to the budget. The committee works with the Superintendent of Schools in developing a recommended budget for the Board. As such, the

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Standing Committees**

#### **Finance, and Budget Committee** (continue)

committee reviews the budget development process, analyzes the budget document and makes public presentations as necessary. The committee shall offer recommendations regarding accounting procedures and alternative expense saving suggestions. The committee will ensure an audit annually and report to the Board of Education when it is completed. The committee shall monitor the fiscal activities of the school district, including reviewing the monthly financial statement and annual end of year transfer report, and shall review and make recommendations concerning the annual audit and recommend annual budget guidelines and priorities.

Other responsibilities may include:

1. Recommends special internal audit needs;
2. Reviews and reports on accounting and purchasing procedures;
3. Recommends the annual budget schedule and parameters;
4. Represents the Board during the various budget preparation stages.

#### **Policy Committee**

The Assistant Superintendent shall be the Leadership Cabinet liaison to the committee. This committee shall review all Board policies and By-Laws to identify areas needing update for conformity with changes in local, state and federal law. All other standing committees shall recommend policy changes when appropriate to the Policy Standing Committee for advancement to the entire Board for consideration and adoption.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
1-200 through 1-241 of the Freedom of Information Act.  
1-200 Definitions.  
1-225 Meetings of government agencies to be public.

Bylaw adopted by the Board: October 24, 2017  
Bylaw Revised: June 23, 2020  
Bylaw Revised:

**ENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Enfield, Connecticut**

**Bylaws of the Board**

**9323**

**Construction of the Agenda**

The Superintendent in cooperation with the Chairperson of the Board of Education shall prepare an agenda for each regular meeting. Any member of the Board of Education may ~~call~~ *contact* the Superintendent and request any item to be placed on the agenda no later than 72 hours prior to the legally required public posting of the agenda. Any business not included on the filed agenda for a regular meeting may be added to the agenda, considered, and acted upon if there is an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the members of the Board present and voting. *No business may be added to agenda of any special or emergency meeting once posted, however, an amended agenda may be possible should such amended agenda comply with the legally required public posting timeline.*

**Posting of the Agenda**

At least 24 hours prior to the time of the regular meeting, the agenda shall be posted in the Board room of the District, in each school in a place readily available to parents, teachers and the general public, in the Office of the Town/City Clerk, posted on the District's Internet website, and shall be filed in the Superintendent's office.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

1-225 Meetings of government agencies to be public. (as amended by PA 07-213)

Bylaw adopted by the Board: October 24, 2017  
Bylaw Revised:

**ENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Enfield, Connecticut**

**Bylaws of the Board**

**9325.43**

**Participation at Board Meetings by Remote Methods**

Provided a quorum is physically present, a Board member may participate in a meeting by video or audio conference if they are prevented from physically attending because of:

1. Employment or district business;
2. A time sensitive or other urgent situation; or
3. Personal/family vacation;
4. *Sickness;*
5. *Physical Disability;*
6. *Active service in the Armed Forces of the United States.*

If a member wishes to participate in a meeting by ~~video or audio~~ *remote methods*, ~~he or she~~ *such person* must ~~notify the Recording Secretary or~~ *make reasonable effort to notice the Board Chairperson and the Superintendent* at least 24 hours before the meeting ~~unless advance notice is impractical. The Recording Secretary or Superintendent,~~ *or their designee* will ~~inform the Board Chairman and~~ will make the appropriate arrangements.

~~Approval to remotely participate with less than 24 hours advanced notice will be granted solely by the Board Chairman, or in the Chairman's absence, by the Vice Chairman. Any member may remotely participate in up to four (4) meetings per calendar year; additional requests will be refused. A Board member who participates in a meeting remotely, as provided in this policy, may participate in all aspects of the Board meeting including voting on any items. Any meeting of the full Board with a member participating remotely must be chaired by a physically present officer of the Board (Chairman, Vice Chairman or Secretary of the Enfield Board of Education).~~

Any modifications to this policy will require a majority vote of the Board.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
1-225 Meetings of government agencies, as amended by June 11 Special Session, PA 08-3.  
Freedom of Information Commission Advisory Opinion #41 (April 9, 1980).

**ENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Enfield, Connecticut**

**Bylaws of the Board**

**9325.43**

**Participation at Board Meetings by Remote Methods**

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes (continued)

**AN ACT CONCERNING REMOTE MEETINGS UNDER THE  
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT, Public Act 22-3**

Bylaw adopted by the Board: October 24, 2017

Bylaw Revised:



**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 23, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held in Council Chambers on January 23, 2024.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairwoman Riley.
2. **INVOCATION OR MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Peter Jonaitis
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Peter Jonaitis
4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT:**
5. **ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jean Acree, Dr. Gerald Calnen, Janet Cushman, Peter Jonaitis, Philip Kober, Tina LeBlanc, Amanda Pickett, and Charlotte Riley

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Scott Ryder

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. Christopher J. Drezek, Superintendent; Mr. Andrew B. Longey, Assistant Superintendent; Student Representatives Jimmy Padilla and Isabella Dinnald

6. **BOARD GUEST(S)**

**a. Accountability Update**

Mr. Drezek welcomed Chief Academic Officer Michelle Middleton, Visual Arts Coordinator Chris Scioscio and Music Coordinator Mark Reppucci.

Ms. Middleton thanked them for having them here to discuss Accountability Index Indicator #12 – Arts Access. This indicator measures the extent of high school students that participate in at least one area of arts during a school year. Points are earned for students that are enrolled in at least one fine and performing arts course per year. She reviewed the scoring. The State target is 60% for students in grades 9-12. Our percentage for 2022-23 was 72.5% which we received 50 points for this indicator. Both Mr. Reppucci and Mr. Scioscio will provide overviews from their departments.

Mr. Scioscio provided the Board with a brief video presentation of some of the visual arts happenings in our schools. We are working on a video of the Arts Festival. We offer 19 visual arts courses at the high school including 2 honors courses and 1 AP course for 75 sections of arts courses per year. This year, we started an Honors Art & Community Course which allows EHS students to positively impact their community through collaborative art projects like the mural EHS seniors created with the students at Hazardville Memorial. There was also a final exam project where students worked with Enfield Produce to redesign their signage. We are very proud of what our students have accomplished in our community during this first year of this course.

Mr. Scioscio reviewed the K-8 programs and the new Advanced Art program and Integrated Art programs at JFK. He reviewed the different ways we showcase student art and showcase projects. The 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts Festival will be held on April 19<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 PM and April 20<sup>th</sup> from 12-3 PM at EHS.

Mr. Reppucci reported the EHS music department offers 18 elective offerings for students. The

courses are split into two areas: classroom general music and choral and instrumental ensembles. He reviewed each course offering and honors offerings including a new course offering similar to United Sound. He reviewed musical highlights and upcoming events.

Mrs. LeBlanc thanked them for their presentation. She would like to see more outreach between our schools and the senior center by possibly holding chorus concerts around holidays or spring concerts. We could also hold some art classes led by students at the Senior Center. We need to bridge the connection with our senior community and what we are doing with our students and schools. Your Art & Community class is amazing. People that come to hear and see our students are mostly families. Establishing these kinds of connections with our community would be beneficial. Even technology-wise, our students can help to teach our seniors. She will bring this up at a Curriculum and Policy Committee meeting. We have so many talented students. Seeing how United Sound has grown is amazing. Thank you for all the work you are doing with our students.

Mr. Jonaitis stated having music at the Senior Center would be great and they would love it.

Mrs. Pickett thanked them for providing this presentation with your course offerings and your video. Having cross-curricular connections is important. She also likes the idea of being at the Senior Center. She has many ideas she can share. The Enfield Produce and Hazardville Memorial collaboration projects are great. We should be very proud of this indicator. Keep up the good work and thank you.

Dr. Calnen also thanked them for this presentation. He loves the spring Arts Festival. This is a great opportunity and collaboration by bringing our music, visual arts departments and culinary arts departments together. He had a concern last year with the sound system. People wanted to hear our students sing and perform. Has this issue been addressed?

Mr. Reppucci stated we did not have an adequate sound system last year and we have addressed that concern and have plans to fix it.

Mrs. Acree thanked Mr. Scioscio and Mr. Reppucci for all your hard work and for the work of your staff. She appreciates this especially since she is also a musician. Thank you for bringing out our students creativity and talents. She also looks forward to attending the Arts Festival and student musical performances.

Chairwoman Riley stated this is a great indicator that we blew out of the water. She thanked everyone for their hard work. What does an AP Visual Arts class look like? Mr. Scioscio stated we offer an AP History Class in lieu of Studio Art Classes at the high school.

Chairwoman Riley asked if we have an AP Music Class? Mr. Reppucci stated no but we have discussed having an AP Music Theory Class. We actually would like to offer United Sound during both semesters, but we would need to lose something in order to offer that based on staffing needs. Chairwoman Riley added we do not want to lose United Sound.

Chairwoman Riley asked what does a Term Project look like for an honors class? Mr. Reppucci stated students will need to critique and evaluate a performance, a solo evaluation audition, a research project with 8 pages and the final one is for a media presentation.

Chairwoman Riley thanked them for the incredible job they are doing. We are extremely proud of you.

Mr. Scioscio and Mr. Reppucci both thanked the Art and Music Department teachers for all of their hard work and dedication to our students. Without them we would not be as successful in the arts access indicator.

## 7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

### a. **Student Representative Update –**

Student Representative Jimmy Padilla reported that CMEA Eastern Musical Festival was held at UCONN on January 6<sup>th</sup> where our musical students performed with students from other school districts. February 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> the Save a Life Tour will be held at EHS. The Lamplighters spring production of Mary Poppins was announced. Buzz Robotics will start their build season where they will build their robot. FAFSA forms will need to be completed for seniors.

Student Representative Isabella Dinnald reported students can shadow AP classes. Mid Terms have ended. Students in AP classes were able to attend Smith College Museum of Art. Program of Studies night will be held on January 1<sup>st</sup>. She congratulated student Olivia Nuccio for receiving the HOBEY Award. She also announced the door prize – Ms. Jessie's Door. Our students have been beautifying our school with art displays throughout the school.

### b. **Internet Safety Workshop – as presented**

### c. **Early Release Day – as presented**

### d. **EPS Update -**

Mr. Drezek reported that per our BOE Policy #6111 Calendar(s) he needs to present a recommended school calendar for 2024-25 to the Board in January that will be approved in February. Each Board member has received a draft calendar. He is also required to notify our administrators and teachers unions what he is recommending and receive their input. The calendar he presented is the only legal version per BOE Policy #6111.

Mr. Drezek stated over the past several years, we started school after Labor Day due to some of our collective bargaining agreements. The bargaining agreements have changed which will allow us now to start prior to Labor Day. The Board's policy has not been updated along with the bargaining agreements. Based on our current policy he needs to propose a calendar that follows this policy which is what Board members have tonight in front of them. The first day of school would be Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> and the last day of school would be on Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. Also, the firm graduation date would be Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Drezek stated the Board may wish to discuss this further so he can present you with other versions of the 2024-25 calendar. He added in the version you received, there are 2 professional development days to be held prior to the start of school. There are many changes happening at the State level regarding teacher evaluation process and our Professional Development Committee members have requested an additional teacher professional development day prior to school starting since this is when they will set goals for the year. He took out the Friday prior to President's day mini vacation in February and moved that to August 27<sup>th</sup>. Our staff will return on August 27<sup>th</sup> and students will start on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. February 14<sup>th</sup> would be just an early release day with lunch for everyone. The only other adjustment he would like to make is that every 6-7 years the way holidays fall, they do not align correctly and referred to Policy #6111. April break would fall the week of April 14<sup>th</sup>, and this aligns with the vast majority of districts.

Mrs. Drezek added he needed to present a calendar to the Board tonight, but the Board does not need to approve it. You also have the ability to waive BOE Policy #6111. This would give us more time to give you additional options to consider for the 2024-25 school calendar

## 8. AUDIENCES

Chairwoman Riley read a prepared statement regarding audience participation. We will allow 4 minutes for each audience member to speak.

Danielle Girard, Edgewood Drive – Mrs. Girard stated she is the vice president of PFLAG in Enfield. We have a great support system for the LGTQ plus community. Last night we held a peaceful rally. She thanked those that showed their support. Some of our residents have concerns about the new Town Council flag policy and how it will affect our schools. The flags in our schools are there to show our students they have a safe place and should not be removed. Thank you for everything you are doing for our students.

Brittany King, Woodlawn Avenue – Mrs. King expressed her concerns about an incident that occurred with one of our EHS Coaches. She has proof of what was sent out by this coach. She has witnessed what her son has endured from this coach, and this is disheartening. Players are treated unfairly. This coach has created a hostile environment. She feels the administration did not do their due diligence. She is also displeased with the Superintendent. Parents should be able to speak up for their child and we will not be silenced. What has occurred is very disturbing.

Joseph Goalas, Jr., Stardust Drive – Mr. Goalas was a former teacher. We became an Alliance District in 2024. He is aware of testing requirements. Testing is not as rigorous as the CAPT test. He grew up in Scitico. He is proud of Enfield. We offer an excellent science curriculum in Enfield. We have put a man on the moon with a slide rule and chalk. With the war in Russia and Ukraine the space suites designs were developed in Connecticut.

Maureen Griffin, Abbe Road – Mrs. Griffin agreed with what a Board member mentioned about the accident that occurred on Enfield Street at the EHS entrance. We have many inexperienced drivers. Why can't we use the blocked entrance to Enfield High School? There have been multiple accidents that have occurred. When is enough, enough? We need to use all 3 entrances. She also spoke about the legal case against the Town concerning ADA compliance accommodations that were made for a Board member. Having modified classes is in direct violation of FERPA. We are trying to raise our kids to be functional adults. She also does not want to see any of the safe space flags removed from classrooms.

Kelly Hemmeler, Hartford Avenue – Mrs. Hemmeler stated you don't have easy jobs. She thanked Board members for the great job you are doing. She appreciates you explaining the accountability updates. Thank you.

## **9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Chairwoman Riley stated this will be the last time she switches it up. From now on she will have Board members raise their hands like Town Council members do.

Mrs. Pickett asked about the room re-configuration and accessibility. She is also concerned with the room capacity. There is no middle row anymore.

Mrs. Pickett responded to Mr. Goalas by adding 3 black women were also part of the accomplishment of putting men on the moon. Thank you for your facts.

Mrs. Pickett would also like to receive some updates regarding the kindergarten age for entrance starting for the 2024-25 school year for students that will not be 5 by September 1<sup>st</sup>. She would also like an update on our K-3 reading curriculum concerns. We have discussed these items at Curriculum meetings. This will impact our budget and this needs to be looked into. She would also like an update on public safety and long-term plans. Mr. Kober and Counselor Mangini also have expressed concerns as well as Mrs. Griffin.

Mrs. Pickett added budget season is upon us and there is a freeze. This will impact our classrooms and supplies. She is not sure how the Board can help. Our PTO's are amazing with what they do. We need to make sure our classroom teachers feel supported.

Mrs. Pickett added there have also been conversations about our school modernization efforts. Roofs were discussed at the last Town council meeting. She would like to see the Board discuss this since it will affect our budget and transparency is needed.

Mrs. Pickett acknowledged the Enfield Teachers Association support our families and students. They recently participated in a collection for Enfield Safe Harbor. Thank you for everything you do supporting our community. Your efforts are noticed.

Mrs. Pickett is not happy with the Town Council's decision to shorten audience participation by not including community employees with vested interests. She hopes this is not something we will change. Our staff voices matter.

Mrs. Pickett provided an update about happenings at Enfield Street School, progress reports will come out, and they will hold a special person dance. She asked if there was a delay tomorrow, would that impact the PD for staff? Mr. Drezek stated if there was a delay, we would not hold the afternoon PD. Mrs. Pickett added that Edar H. Parkman will hold a fundraiser event at Enfield Produce & Deli.

Mr. Kober stated he is thrilled to see a calendar that starts after Labor Day. He hopes we stick with this.

Dr. Calnen stated he does not have an update for Kite, SELC or Head Start.

Mrs. Acree stated Prudence Crandall received a bottle filling station from the Connecticut Water Company that was installed in the grade 4 hallway. She provided an update about happenings at Prudence Crandall including the visitors from the Nowashe Village and how the students learned about Native Americans. They are also holding a Literacy/Numeracy night and are collecting shoe donations to raise money for field day. The winter music concert will be held on Thursday at EHS.

Mrs. LeBlanc would like to include Buzz Robotics in her proposed bridge with the senior center. It would be great if Buzz could put on a demonstration at the Senior Center and also bring some of the student artwork to display there. Both of our student representatives could help to bring those connections forward.

Mrs. LeBlanc also congratulated Oliva for receiving the HOBEY Award. This is such a great award, and she cannot wait to hear more about this.

Mrs. LeBlanc reported for Scott Ryder that Enfield Public Schools staff, students and Smyth Bus employees raised \$5,067 for the Somers Angel Fund.

Mrs. LeBlanc also added the EHS Hockey team is fundraising for the Dave Cardaropoli Scholarship Fund. He was an integral part of the hockey team. You can now own a Fermi Hockey Shirt. She will have Mr. Ryder add the All for Cardo Fundraiser link on the PTO.com website.

Mrs. LeBlanc added we lost another member to our EPS family Ben Alex. He was a wrestling coach at Enrico Fermi. He established a wrestling room at the Annex. All the Enfield and Fermi Wrestling banners are hung in this dedicated wrestling room at the Annex. His wife was a teacher and guidance counselor for us but is now retired. He made a huge impact on many and will be missed.

Mrs. LeBlanc also spoke about Zac Bonin a student at EHS who is also a football player. He has made some pretty big accomplishments and she wanted to recognize him tonight. He was the quarter back, kicker and punter for the football team. He has been named all-conference for the second year in a row and honorable mention to the New Haven Register, Second Team

Walter Camp Football Team. He also runs indoor track and is part of the team that set the school record for the 4 x 200. He is ranked as a 4-star kicker. What is important to know is his sponsors donated \$5 for every kick he made. He raised \$1,400 for Alex's Lemonade. This will help to fund 2 days of childhood cancer research. We are extremely proud of you and what you have accomplished.

Mrs. LeBlanc added we have a lot of unsung heroes in our district. She thanked our Para's and Behavior Techs for everything you are doing for our students. Thank you for your hard work and dedication. Your days are not easy. We support you and what you are doing is not unnoticed. Thank you.

Mrs. Cushman added one of the pages in our Board packet was about Internet Safety Training Workshop. Our 8-12 year olds and teens are spending too much time in front of screens. She urged parents to participate by watching this or attending the February 6<sup>th</sup> presentation at JFK from 6-8 PM or the one on zoom on January 25<sup>th</sup> from 6-7 PM. She hopes many parents will participate in these free opportunities.

Mr. Jonaitis thanked Mr. Goalas for the facts on Scitico. He also agrees with Mrs. Griffin about using the 3 entrances including the one with a gate. He has said this for years. He hopes we can bring back modified classes.

Mr. Jonaitis stated in the last year we have lost Joe, Andy and Ben, they were big wrestling coaches. May they rest in peace.

Mr. Jonaitis is glad the Town Council has limited audience participation to only Enfield residents who pay taxes and he hopes we do bring this up at a later time for discussion.

Chairwoman Riley stated she is the CREC liaison but missed the first meeting. She has signed up to attend the HASA CREC CABE 2024 Legislative Forum being held on February 15<sup>th</sup> at the State Capital. She hopes our voices will be heard. The strain of all these unfunded mandates is hitting us especially hard this year. She attend a CABE Board member meeting on Monday, and a lot of towns are feeling frustrated and unheard. She hopes this will bring some much needed pressure to the legislature and make them think about their educational decisions they make and rethink the ECS funding.

Chairwoman Riley added Hazardville Memorial held their PTO meeting tonight. She also spoke about First Readers Trivia Night that will be held on February 24<sup>th</sup> at mount Carmel at 6:30 PM. She is the president for this volunteer position. She provided an update about the First Readers organization. We are looking for donations for prizes for our gift baskets. Additional information can be found on their Facebook page. This is the only fundraiser event First Readers holds.

Chairwoman Riley stated we are all aware of the Town Council resolution about flags. The Board has not been approached by the Town Council about the Flag policy or how it will affect the schools. Mr. Drezek is addressing this issue and that may include legal council if needed. There is nothing additional to share about this at this time.

## **10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **a. Policy Revisions & Proposed New Policy – Second Readings**

Mrs. Cushman reviewed the proposed policy recommendations for Policy #6146 Graduation Requirements.

Mrs. Pickett moved, seconded by Mrs. Acree, that the Enfield Board of Education approves the recommended changes for Policy #6146 Graduation Requirements as presented for a Second

Reading.

**Discussion:**

Mrs. Pickett supports the recommended changes to this policy and added there might be additional changes coming from legislation. So we might need to revisit this policy again.

Mr. Jonaitis asked for clarification regarding performance based assessments. Mrs. Cushman stated performance based assessments rather than mastery based credit assessments.

Mr. Kober stated we reviewed this at our last Board meeting. There are some state mandates included with this policy. Reviewing financial responsibilities so our students are financially literate is a step in the right direction requiring students to take a financial class. This will help make our students ready to become productive members of society.

A vote by **roll-call – 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mrs. Cushman reviewed the recommended changes to Policy #6159 Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program (IEP).

Dr. Calnen moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education approves the recommended changes for Policy #6159 Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program (IEP) as presented for a Second Reading.

A vote by **roll-call – 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mrs. Cushman reviewed the recommended changes to Policy #6162.41 Surveys of Students (Student Privacy). She would like to include one additional change to this policy by removing the first sentence in the third paragraph. This sentence makes reference to Policy #6141.11 that is no longer a valid policy.

Mrs. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mr. Kober that the Enfield Board of Education approves the recommended changes for Policy #6162.51 Surveys of Students (Student Privacy) as presented with the proposed change for a Second Reading.

**Discussion:**

A vote by **roll-call – 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mrs. Cushman reviewed the proposed new Policy #6162.52 Surveys of Students (Physical Examinations).

Mrs. Pickett moved, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc that the Enfield Board of Education approves new Policy #6162.52 Surveys of Students (Physical Examinations) as presented for a Second Reading.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Jonaitis asked for qualification on this policy. Mrs. Cushman explained that this information was previously included in Policy #6162.51, but it was causing confusion. This is something that we do not do in Enfield. This is required to be included in a policy federally because there are districts in this country that are required to do this. Having this information in a separate policy covers us and this policy will not be included in student handbooks.

A vote by **roll-call – 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

**SUSPEND THE RULES AND ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA:**

Mrs. Pickett moved, seconded by Mrs. Cushman to suspend the rules to add an Item to the agenda to discuss Policy #6111 School Calendar(s).

A vote by **roll-call – 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

**11. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. Suspend BOE Policy #6111 School Calendar(s):**

Mrs. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education suspends Policy #6111 School Calendar(s).

**Discussion:**

Mr. Drezek stated the Board just suspended the rules for Board Policy #6111 School Calendar(s). The policy lists that the superintendent will present a proposed calendar to the Board in January and the Board will approve the calendar in February. This policy was updated in 2021. There is a reference to CREC's regional calendar that currently does not exist. It also lists contractual bargaining language in it about when school can start. It also dictates when the Board can set a firm graduation date at the 185<sup>th</sup> student day. The Board does have the ability to move that date as they see fit by waiving this policy. By waiving this policy it allows the superintendent to present alternate calendars for your consideration and the timeline for adopting a calendar which usually occurs in February.

Mrs. Pickett is in favor of waiving the policy because of how the 2024-25 school year falls with holidays. How many professional development days are contractual, and can we be flexible on how those are scheduled? There are half days that are scheduled for students and staff PD's. This is an opportunity to look at this. There was a survey that was sent out to families around conferences and parent engagement. The superintendent will receive feedback from staff. She is just wondering about flexibility and scheduling.

Mr. Drezek stated the PD dates are contractual. We are limited to 6 full day PD days. There are 181 school days and staff are contracted to work 187 days. The full day PD are non-negotiable. He made a change to one day and we are at our capacity of 6 PD days.

Mrs. Pickett asked if they could provide our feedback about the calendar to Chairwoman Riley. Chairwoman Riley will forward any calendar suggestions to Mr. Drezek.

Mr. Kober asked if we expect to not have the calendar done by the end of February? Is this why we are looking to waive this policy. It is only January now.

Chairwoman Riley added we will be addressing the budget, and this might pose concerns about the timeline.

Mrs. Pickett added if we didn't waive the policy, we would be tied to the draft calendar that we received tonight. By waiving this policy we will be presented with other versions of the draft calendar.

Mr. Drezek added the intention for waiving this policy is specifically for the 2024-25 school calendar. This will also give the Policy Committee time to review this policy to see if any additional adjustments are needed. The policy process would take you beyond February. There is always a chance when you plan to do something by the end of the month and there is a snowstorm or a meeting needs to be cancelled, you would be violating your own policy anyway. This will provide the Board with a little wiggle room especially if you want to see other



versions of the proposed calendar.

A vote by **roll-call – 7-1-0** passed with Mr. Kober in dissent.

## **12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Curriculum Committee: Mrs. Acree reported the Curriculum Committee will meet on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

Finance Committee: Mr. Kober reported the Finance Committee met on January 17<sup>th</sup> for a special meeting. We will review financial reports later on the agenda.

Policy Committee: Mrs. Cushman reported the Policy Committee cancelled their January 16<sup>th</sup> meeting due to the weather and will now meet on February 8<sup>th</sup> for a special meeting at 5:30 PM.

Leadership – Chairwoman Riley reported Board Leadership met tonight. We are in the process of scheduling a joint Town Council/Board Leadership meeting.

PK-5 School Modernization Committee – Chairwoman Riley asked for this committee to be removed from Committee Reports since they held their last meeting.

Mrs. Pickett would like to receive an update from this committee and the next steps or plan for a referendum committee. Chairwoman Riley reported this has been handed over to the Town Council for them to proceed with a referendum committee with the recommendation for 3 new schools

Joint Facility – Chairwoman Riley reported they met last week and discussed the Alcorn roof replacement project and applying to go out to bid. We also discussed the Police Station Roof and possible needed referendums. We are behind on our original schedule. The Memorial and Whitney roofs are done but we are still working on reimbursements from the State for both of these projects.

JFK Building Committee – Chairwoman Riley reported Mr. Daigle would like to present an update to the Board about this project after our budget discussion.

Joint Security Committee – Chairwoman Riley reported the Joint Security Committee met on January 19<sup>th</sup>. They will meet next on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

Enfield Mental Health Committee – Mrs. Acree reported that both she and Dr. Calnen have developed a survey, and it was sent out to the elementary principals. They will meet with the elementary principals first in February to review their concerns.

Enfield Cultural Arts Commission – Mrs. LeBlanc does not have any updates to share.

## **13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Pickett moved, seconded by Mrs. Cushman that the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2024, be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

## **14. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS AND PAYROLL**

### **Month of December 2023**

Mr. Kober moved, seconded by Mr. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of December 2023 the total expenditures amount to \$7,754,712.38, broken down between payroll totaling \$5,157,730.97 and other accounts totaling \$2,596,981.41 and;
- 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 7-0-0** passed unanimously (Mrs. LeBlanc stepped out of Council Chambers during the vote).

Mr. Kober moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of December 2023 total Grant and Head Start expenditures amount to \$515,226.30 broken down between payroll totaling \$409,313.98 and other accounts totaling \$105,913.32 and
- 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 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

No Line Item Transfers.

#### **15. CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATION**

Chairwoman Riley reported Buzz Robotics will hold a pasta supper at St. Bernard's on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **16. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mrs. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education enter into Executive Session for Matter(s) Related to Pending Litigation and School Security with the appropriate personnel.

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

Mr. Drezek, Mr. Longey and Chief Fox joined the Board in Executive Session at 8:45 PM.

Chief Fox left executive session at 9:59 PM.

No Board action occurred while in Executive Session.

#### **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:**

The Board returned to open session at 10:14 PM.

#### **17. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Kober moved, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc to adjourn the Regular Meeting of January 23 2024.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously. Meeting stood adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Scott Ryder  
Secretary  
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary