

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 16, 2015**

A special meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held at Henry Barnard Elementary School in the Board Conference Room, located at 27 Shaker Road, Enfield, CT on June 16, 2015.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Secretary Grady.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Vin Grady
3. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT:** Vin Grady announced the fire evacuation announcement.
4. **ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Peter Jonaitis, Ray Peabody, Lori Unghire, Tina LeBlanc, Stacy Thurston, Tina LeBlanc, Tim Neville and Vin Grady

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** David Wawer and Tom Sirard

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Jeffrey Schumann, Superintendent and Mr. Christopher Drezek, Deputy Superintendent

5. **Discussion and Action if any, regarding School Security Operational Protocol**

Dr. Schumann reviewed the memo outlining the time line for the School Security Officer program and the MOU. He reviewed an optional plan for the Board to consider for hiring people to assist in the management of the main entrance protocols. We would pay these individuals at a rate of \$10 per hour. The positions could cover the door for the first 4 hours of each day with the office staff covering the last 4 hours of the day or these positions could be filled by two 4 hour shifts to provide 8 hours of daily coverage. The staff could be used at all schools or at specific schools at specified levels. The funding for this plan would be obtained from the elimination of current teaching positions.

Dr. Schumann reviewed the impact on class sizes by eliminating positions.

Mr. Grady stated the cost to cover all the schools would be around \$159K. Dr. Schumann stated that would cover all of the schools with coverage at the front doors.

Mr. Grady does not want to see any staffing cuts. We have already cut too much from our budget.

Mr. Grady would like to know if we have we asked the Town for assistance for this alternative program. This is a fraction of the cost the Town was going to spend on the guards. If there is a consensus of the Board, we could ask the Town to fund this or a portion of this.

Mr. Peabody does not believe that is doable. The Town has allocated the funds to other projects. He would like to know if there is a job description for this position. We know they will check I.D's. How will we integrate these individuals into the culture of the schools? He is assuming the policies and procedures will be same at all buildings. He is looking for consistency.

Mr. Peabody agrees with Mr. Grady about trying to get some funding from the Town. We are

not filling teaching positions.

Mr. Peabody discussed creative ways to fund this by going into some of the schools line items and using funds from furniture and fixtures account, general education line item, not purchasing calculators and from the substitute salaries account. This comes up to \$156K. He added that he only looked at non educational items in the budget. This would allow us to fund these positions without impacting current staffing.

Mrs. Unghire stated she has visited all of the schools and the guards did not sign her in. She signed herself in each building. She was not aware of the school staff being over worked. She asked about making the part time secretaries full time.

Mr. Neville stated we are dealing with an organization problem and ways to solve this. We need to know if there is a need for this. He received several e-mails from the secretaries and they are doing this now. He made an assumption that they needed assistance because the SSO's were doing this. Who do we see doing this work? Before we cut staff, we need to know what the dimensions are for this.

Dr. Schumann does not believe we need this. He does not want to cut educational resources to manage the front door at the schools. He prepared this because he was asked to look for another way to manage the front door as a request from a Board member at the last Board meeting.

Mrs. Leblanc stated we put staff at the front doors after Sandy Hook. What line items did we use to fund this?

Dr. Schumann stated the bargaining units allowed us to use substitutes and paraprofessionals as a temporary fix. This was outside of the scope of their assignments to do this as a short term need until another plan was made. He does not believe this is something we should do again.

Mr. Jonaitis stated at one time we had 13,500 students in our school system and the secretaries handled this. The enrollment numbers are way down now. He thinks they can do this again. He does not want to see any additional teachers cut. He does not know why we are discussing this based on Dr. Schumann's comment.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated a question was raised about school security and additional support for the offices. Is additional support still needed?

Mr. Neville stated he raised the question about the organizational procedures. The MOU would have dealt with this. He is also surprised that this is not needed. He doesn't want to cut staff or increase class sizes either

Mr. Peabody stated that there seems to be a consensus for the Board to not to do anything. This is a win-win for everyone.

Mr. Grady asked if there is a consensus.

Mrs. LeBlanc asked if Dr. Schumann if he is okay with this. Dr. Schumann stated that he does not want to any spend education funds to manage the front door. He would like to try it and see where we are.

Mr. Grady added that is why he suggested we ask the Town for assistance. No one wants to increase class sizes. Based on this, there is no need for any Board action.

Mr. Peabody stated that is why he looked for alternative ways to fund this.

**6. Adjournment**

Mr. Jonaitis moved, seconded by Mrs. Thurston to adjourn the Special Meeting of June 16, 2015.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Vincent M. Grady  
Secretary  
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary

DRAFT