

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2022**

A regular meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held in Council Chambers on September 13, 2022.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Madam Chair LeBlanc.
2. **INVOCATION OR MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Scott Ryder
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Scott Ryder
4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT:**
5. **ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jean Acree, Dr. Gerald Calnen, Janet Cushman, Joshua Hamre, Jonathan LeBlanc, Amanda Pickett, Scott Ryder, John Unghire and Tina LeBlanc

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. Christopher J. Drezek, Superintendent; & Mr. Andrew B. Longey, Assistant Superintendent

6. **BOARD GUEST(S)**
  - a. **Amber Venoutsos, Enfield's Teacher of the Year**

Mr. Drezek welcomed our Enfield Teacher of the Year, Amber Venoutsos. Mrs. Venoutsos received a standing ovation.

Mrs. Venoutsos thanked everyone for the warm welcome. She stated her message is for the Board and those sitting and watching at home. She is very excited to be here tonight. She gave a shout out to her 3 children at home and her husband. She would not be here if it weren't for them.

Mrs. Venoutsos shared a story from March of 2020. During Covid while she was teaching at home, her children were also at home. While balancing teaching her students and being a parent, she was also helping her son with his homework. She needed to reassure him that she had taught first grade for 11 years even though she is now a second grade teacher. He son said to her, you are a teacher, but you are not my teacher. Our kids build such positive relationships with their teachers and there are no replacements for the bonds that are built.

Mrs. Venoutsos added, we are just beginning to understand the long-term impact from the pandemic for our kids. We know already about academic needs, behavioral needs, mental health needs are more diverse and are compounded with issues of equality and access that existed long before Covid. We have a long way to go. To make progress, our kids need to come to school feeling valued for who they are, as they are. That is strength of our Enfield schools, community, teachers and our staff. We are doing so much more than just teaching. She has watched her colleagues do everything they can to connect with our kids. They have dressed up as characters, superheroes and brought in extra snacks and clothes for students. They also know every child's name. They give kids fist bumps and celebrate victories and milestones with them while being a safe space for them. She has seen her colleagues use their prep time spending it in other classrooms getting to know their kids. She has seen them forgive their

kids mistakes and give them second chances. She has seen them all work with our kids that have made some really undesirable choices and turn around and tell your colleagues all the reasons why you love them. She has watched her co-workers be present at dance recitals, soccer games, art shows, funerals. She has watched them all focus on our kids strengths and advocate for their needs. These are just some of the examples from Hazardville Memorial, and she knows there are countless others in every single building in our Enfield Public Schools because our teachers want our kids to feel valued and supported. If you ask them why, they will tell you it is just what we do.

Mrs. Venoutsos stated building positive relationships with students seems simple and it is, but it is also extremely powerful. It is how we inspire our kids, motivate them to take risks and it is how we reassure them in times of struggle. This connection is not the solution to everything for our kids. It is the foundation for everything else that we are trying to accomplish.

Mrs. Venoutsos stated her son does not remember the specifics of what he learned in first grade as well as most of our kids. What he won't forget is how his teacher made him feel confident, capable and loved. As a parent and teacher, this is everything.

Mrs. Venoutsos stated she would not be here tonight without the support of her colleagues, the support of the Board and administrative leadership. Thank you. She thanked Mr. Drezek and Mr. Longey for your unwavering support of our staff and kids especially over the past two years. She thanked Mrs. Hunter, Mr. Flynn and the Hazardville Memorial family for their trust and flexibility as we tried something new with PAWS time multiple times while we navigated through the pandemic. PAWS time doesn't work without all of you, and she is very grateful.

Mrs. Venoutsos thanked Cindy Maggio at Eli Whitney and Brianna Beckstrand from KITE. It is one thing to share someone's vision, but it is another thing to jump in with two feet. She thanked them for their collaboration and support.

Mrs. Venoutsos thanked her grade 2 team for your endless support, laughter and being a delight. Thank you for being here in the front row. She thanked Kelly Rossetti and added there are no words to thank you for all of the little things. You still do not know how good you really are.

Mrs. Venoutsos stated the most important thank you is for our kids and the kids that are here tonight and the ones watching at home. Thank you for coming to school every day exactly as you are. You are smart, funny, capable and resilient. You have challenged her emotions and patience, but you have always helped me find the joy even within the chaos. Because of you, I am a better teacher, mom and person. She could not be more grateful to be a part of your journey. Thank you.

Mrs. Venoutsos received another standing ovation from Board members, administration and audience members.

Mrs. Cushman commends Mrs. Venoutsos for being our teacher of the year and for us to be able to recognize you tonight for this honor. You have invested your time and honored your colleagues. You encourage your colleagues and students. This really shows a lot about who you are and why you are a teacher. Thank you.

Mrs. Acree loves Mrs. Venoutsos spirit. Thank you and congratulations for your dedication to this profession and for the use of your abilities and your talents for future generations. Great job, you are an inspiration. Congratulations!

Mrs. Pickett stated she has known Mrs. Venoutsos since childhood. She did not realize she taught in Enfield when she saw the Teacher of the Year announcement. This does not surprise her. This is who you have always been and what you shared tonight is exactly who you are. Thank you for teaching in Enfield and for teaching our kids. Continue to keep up all the great

work you are already doing with your colleagues.

Madam Chair LeBlanc thanked Mrs. Venoutsos. What you did tonight brought tears to her eyes because we know what the last two years have been like and it has not been easy. Thank you for recognizing this. To see your face and the face of your team colleagues and students is amazing. This reminds her of why we do what we are doing, and this is why we have such amazing teachers and public school family. This really brings us together as a community. She cannot thank you enough or congratulate you enough .

Madam Chair and Vice Chair Ryder presented Mrs. Venoutsos with a plaque from the Board of Education. Mr. Ryder added his congratulations and thanked her and the Hazardville Memorial staff for everything. Thank you for all that you do for our Huskies and our kids.

Mr. Drezek stated that exactly what is happening now, with her students here running to her, is exactly what happened when Mr. Longey and he went to Hazardville Memorial to surprise the Teacher of the Year and to present her with a gift from the Enfield Teachers Association. Everything Mrs. Venoutsos said here tonight, she means it. Before we could congratulate her, she was tackled by all of her students. He thanked Mrs. Venoutsos for everything.

**b. PLA (Parent Leadership Academy)**

Mr. Drezek welcomed Malissa Griffith our PLA Coordinator and Amy Witbro our EPS Partnership Coordinator. They are here to talk about our Parent Leadership Academy program.

Mrs. Witbro gave an overview of the PLA program that started back in 2002 when they met with MassMutual and formed a partnership with them. Leadership Greater Hartford helped us to develop a 10 week program to use here in Enfield. At the end of the classes, students will work on a class project. The goal of the program is the help parents to tap into their leadership potential. They are given tools and confidence they need to make positive changes in their lives and Enfield community. In June 2022, we graduated our 15<sup>th</sup> class. Due to Covid we lost 2 graduations. We train our coordinators and continue to use this model.

Mrs. Witbro added KITE and EPS have joined our partnership with PLA for additional sustainability. We revised our curriculum during the 2 year covid pandemic time and have added a class on advocacy. We also looked at each of our classes with a lens on equity. We added more data about Enfield to help them when they decide on a class project. Many of our graduates have taken positive roles in our community by serving on Boards, PTO's as well as becoming Town Council Members and Board of Education Members. Our graduates are advocates for our families in our community and are always willing to make a difference. The Townwide Tag Sale was designed by our graduates and raises money for our Enfield Food Shelf each year. We have several graduates here tonight sitting on the Board and in the audience. PLA graduates are everywhere, and we love it when they say they are a graduate.

Mrs. Griffith gave an overview of the program. We offer a Saturday retreat to start the program and Thursday classes include dinner and babysitting. The program starts in February. Each class focuses on a different topic. We bring in qualified speakers for each class. Our PLA students will complete a group project before they graduate. We now offer a 12 week program with the additional classes we have added. We have graduated 160 students. She considers herself lucky to be part of this program and to help individuals learn and to help themselves on their own personal journeys. It has been a privilege and honor to see so many of their PLA graduates here tonight.

Mr. Hamre stated he is a graduate of PLA class #10. This program gives you connections and knowledge that will help you. There is an imbalance of men vs. woman attending this program. He is challenging fathers to be part of this program. He will give you bonus points if can attend as a couple attend. Having childcare and dinner available helps families so they can attend.

Mr. Ryder stated he is a graduate of class #9. He also thanked Lisa Rogers for everything she did for PLA and for Mrs. Griffith for taking over for her. He is still running the Townwide Tag Sale with Mrs. Lawler who works at Eli Whitney now. We have raised close to \$18K for the Enfield Food Shelf annual fundraising project. We did take two years off due to Covid. We are back on the map and raised another \$2,500 for the food shelf. We have so many of the PLA projects that still continue to this day. We are making Enfield better. He thanked Mrs. Witbro and Mrs. Griffith for everything you are doing for our schools and community.

Mrs. Griffith added see how graduates mention PLA. We are so proud of each other. She has had other communities reach out to her about our program. Our community has benefited from our unique program. Our program is for parents, working parents, and grandparents. We are creating leaders. We have made life-long friendships and create connections. She added that our class size is not larger than 15 people to keep that intimate connection.

Mr. LeBlanc stated it was great that you used the last 2 years to make changes within your program. He knows people that have graduated from PLA. One of them is a parent that works fulltime, and she has nothing but good things to say about your program. This is truly an amazing program.

Mr. Unghire thanked Mrs. Griffith and asked if this is a 2 year program. Mrs. Griffith stated it is a 12 week program. He also asked when does the program start, where will it be held and is there a fee. Mrs. Griffith stated it will start on Saturday, February 3, 2023 from 9-3:30 PM and will continue to meet on Thursday evenings with dinner and childcare. This program is held at the Enfield Annex. There is no cost to be part of this program.

Mrs. Witbro added if you took this course on your own, it would be well over \$1,000. We also bring in speakers for each class.

Mr. Unghire asked if each topic is for 12 weeks. Mrs. Griffith stated no. Each class will have a highly trained expert that will address the topics for each class. Individuals will build on your skills with the tools you learn so at the end of the program, you are ready to decide on a project as a group.

Madam Chair thanked Mrs. Griffith for having her as a speaker and then being there on graduation night. Could you take a moment to talk about what the community project was about for last year.

Mrs. Griffith stated the project was bridging the gap with the elderly at home. We worked with the senior center and children to make placemats. Wherever children were, ECDC, the Kindness Carnival, dance recitals and childcare facilities, PLA students would have the children color the placemats. The placemats would be laminated and on the back of the placemat was information about PLA. When they delivered meals on wheels to our seniors in our community, they would receive a placemat that was colored by our kids. Also seniors that were at the senior center also received them as well as Enfield Loaves & Fishes Soup Kitchen to help spread love and joy.

Madam Chair added the support of the students is great to see. She loved seeing you bridge our children with the elderly.

Madam Chair stated there were two grandparents in the last class. PLA is not just for parents. The support the students had for each other was amazing. They have formed their own lovely community that supports each other. It is nice to see this and to see people coming out of their comfort zones and gain personal growth for themselves, their families and our community. Thank you for being here tonight. She cannot wait to hear what the next community project will be. She is sure it will be amazing.

**c. UCONN PEP (People Empowering People)**

Mr. Drezek welcomed Lorena Cisneros our Enfield Public Schools Business Manager. She is here to talk about the UCONN People Empowering People program.

Mrs. Cisneros stated when she started working at Enfield Public Schools, she was a paraprofessional. She is happy to be here tonight with Mrs. Venoutsos. She worked with her and the impact she had was not only with the students but with staff is big. Thank you. Because of you, I am here also.

Mrs. Cisneros stated she was approached by UCONN to involve the Spanish and Latino speaking community with the PEP program. She received her certificate to become a facilitator for UCONN PEP which is called People Empowering People. We have had this program in Enfield since 2014. PEP is a personal and family development program with a strong community focus. For years, we have worked with the community to make it a better place for themselves and their children. This program is in Spanish. It is similar to PLA. We have a 10 week program and work for 2 hours each time we meet. We discuss different topics. At the end of the program we will bring in people from the community. As a Latino community, we have some language barriers and we typically do not get involved. So it is good for us to meet these people and groups to be involved and part of the community. We also need to create a project at the end of the program. She showed pictures of the graduation classes. The class of 2017 also had members from Somalia, India and the Latino community. We didn't have any classes for 2 years due to covid. During that time we created a website and Facebook page for the Latino community. During the pandemic we could share information with the community.

Mr. Galvez stated he was part of the first PEP class. Enfield has been really good to the Latino community, and we wanted to give back. He spoke about our class of 2022 project. We planted 15 trees here on the Town Green playscape. These trees were donated by a very generous person that wants to remain anonymous. This year, we had our own children help us plant the trees. Our children also help with some of the childcare when we hold our meetings. We planted the trees on June 8, 2022. They showed pictures of them planting the trees. We held the graduation on July 11, 2022 where various people attended. You can go to our website and see more pictures.

Mr. Galvez stated we had at one of our classes a guest speaker Mrs. Cox-Blackwell, EPS Director of Equity. We also had Mayor Bob Cressotti as a guest speaker.

Mr. Galvez added he wasn't really interested to attend, but after the first meeting he was hooked. He has made a lot of really good friends from this group. The Spanish community is small, but it is growing. If there is anything we can do to help Enfield, please ask us.

Both Mrs. Cisneros and Mr. Galvez thanked the Board and Mr. Drezek.

Mrs. Pickett stated she also did the PEP facilitator training a while ago. They had a youth PEP group. She would love to be involved with your group, so she will be in touch with you. She would love to give a little of herself to you.

Mrs. Pickett would like to know if there is a way for PLA to be part of PEP. This could be quite beneficial for both groups. Mrs. Cisneros stated when they are done with the PEP training, she has sent them to PLA. We have had PEP members graduate from PLA.

Mrs. Pickett added this is like a pipeline. She thanked them for being here and presenting PEP to the various populations in our community. We are all better together.

Mr. Hamre stated it is great to see Mr. Galvez and other members from the community here together tonight. He did not realize how much you are doing in our community. He urged the members of PEP to continue doing what you are doing.

Mr. LeBlanc stated the Latino population is growing and this program will continue to grow. He loved hearing about what you are doing in our community. Thank you for what you are all doing for our Enfield community.

Mr. Unghire asked what is the connection to UCONN? Mrs. Cisneros stated UCONN developed the People Empowering People program. She was certified by UCONN to be a facilitator for this program.

Mr. Unghire asked when does the PEP program start. Mrs. Cisneros stated the program will start in March 2023 and it is for 10 weeks.

Mr. Unghire stated he has a Hispanic family member, and he would like to learn more. He will have them reach out to you about PEP. Mr. Galvez added he will have his people contact your people. Mr. Unghire thanked them.

Madam Chair asked how many people will be in your classes and how do you reach out to the community. Mrs. Cisneros stated we have 10 people in a class. We have graduated 15 people. They can contact us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/comunidadlatinadeenfid](http://www.facebook.com/comunidadlatinadeenfid) or by contacting us directly.

Mr. Galvez added it is mostly by word of mouth or by using Facebook. Then we just get them together. Someone knows someone and they reach out to us.

Madam Chair asked if everyone in the audience that is wearing a blue shirt are all members and past graduates. Mrs. Cisneros stated yes. Everyone is welcome to attend PEP. If you know anyone that would like to attend our next program, please let us know.

Madam Chair will relay any information about PEP and share updates about your program with the community. Just let us know and we will get the word out. She thinks this is great what you are doing for our community and community members. She loves the quote on your shirts "as you grow older you will discover you have two hands, one for helping yourself and the other for helping others." This encompasses the work that you are doing. Thank you.

## **7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- a. EPS Open House Events** – as presented
- b. EPS Update**

Mr. Drezek stated every year Lori Gates will send thank you cards from our students to our service men and women and first responders. She was overwhelmed by the responses she received this year. He thanked Mrs. Gates for everything she does for our community, service members and first responders.

Mr. Drezek stated last Friday evening at an EHS football game, there was a medical emergency with an opposing team member from Woodstock Academy. The principal and parents have expressed their appreciation for how Enfield and the EHS football team helped during this situation. The student is recovering. He thanked our entire athletic staff and football players for how they responded. Our coaches did not flinch. Thank you for what you did. He also thanked Building and Grounds staff member for jumping into action and driving the ambulance on the field to get the student while the EMT's were assisting the student.

Mr. Drezek added our students have gone through a lot. We did not continue the game due to what occurred. Our EHS kids embraced the Woodstock kids. We were all shaken up. They looked at them as teammates and brothers. This is a testament to their coaches. We should all be extremely proud of these young athletes.

Mr. Drezek stated this is the first meeting since school has opened. He has gone to each of our schools and visited with the students and staff. This is the first time school has felt normal. For some of our kids, this is the first time they have eaten in a cafeteria. Our kids are happy to be with their friends and with their teachers. We need to thank our cafeteria workers also. It was a hot first week of school. He felt it was important for you to know our kids are doing well and they are happy.

Mr. Drezek stated 5 years ago, he and Mr. Longey discussed why we are doing this and who we are. We met with our administrators and asked them the same question. We all agreed on it and then asked our staff the same question. This is where we got our motto from, “we make a difference in Enfield for every child every day.” We all agreed on this statement, and we all embraced it. This has been our north star. The board has also embraced it. He has said this many times and it has been repeated by Board members and audience members.

Mr. Drezek stated our Teacher of the Year just told us why we are here. We need to do this again. We have work to do with equity. We hired our equity director Mrs. Cox-Blackwell. This is an ongoing initiative. We need a common starting place, and you need to know what equity means to us. You all may have your own definition of equity.

Mr. Drezek added he did this again starting with administration and then staff members about what we believe in. He has once again received an overwhelming response from staff. We agreed on this and our equity statement is “we believe every child is unique and the diversity of our students is what makes Enfield Public Schools exceptional. To thrive and excel, all are welcomed, accepted, respected and supported.” We will try to incorporate the every child, every day.

Mr. Drezek stated this is who we are as a district, and we are not done with our work. This is where we will start as a district. Some work has begun to meet the needs of our kids today. Our organization structure was designed 12 years ago. The needs of our kids have changed since then so we need to change. Changes are coming. We have made some organizational changes, and more are coming. We have advisory groups at the high school. He would like to expand this into the other schools. We also need to hear from our parents. Be patient with us, change takes time. We know changes are needed. Don't get frustrated and our kids need different things.

Mr. Drezek stated this equity statement is not the Board's statement. He has received the approval from EPS staff. The Board can adopt this statement if you choose.

## **8. AUDIENCES**

Madam Chair read a prepared statement about expectations for audience participation. We will continue to utilize a 3-minute time limit for audience participation tonight. She added that you will need to sign up to talk and she will not call up anyone from the audience to speak. Thank you.

Barbara Gilly, Buchanan Road – Mrs. Gilly stated PPRA is a federal law. Parents have rights to receive information until a child is 18 or until they are emancipated. She spoke about sex education laws in New Jersey, which starts in the second grade. Parents can look at the curriculum first and they have the option to opt out. They teach about body parts and discuss gender and feelings. Will this come to Enfield? Will parents have the option to opt out?

Madam Chair reminded audience members to remain quiet and not have conversations while someone is speaking.

Chrissy Asselin, Pearl Street – Ms. Asselin stated she has teenagers. We did not talk about things when she was younger like we do now with our children. We do not shame our kids. We have been listening to adults shaming other adults. Parents are being blamed for being

bad parents. She thanked our teachers for being there for our kids and talking to them about topics they have questions about. Thank you for including assignments they have questions about and for not shaming our kids. Thank you for being someone our kids can trust.

Ryan Schuetz, Church Street - Mr. Schuetz stated we are moving in the wrong direction. He has zero tolerance for bullying and racism. Equity is needed for all students. We do not want our kids to judge other students that look different from them. We all need to live together. We need to celebrate our differences. Teaching antiracism is not the way. We do not need to segregate and cause division. We need to look at everyone as a whole. Be proud of your heritage.

Madam Chair asked for audience members to stop the chatter.

Mr. Schuetz added we do not need more little boxes. He felt it was inappropriate for a Board member to discuss something that happened at the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade. People have been talking about hate and the hate is pouring out of you. He agrees we need change. Self-love is the key. Do not point fingers and blame others.

Tracey Jarvis, North Maple Street – Ms. Jarvis welcomed everyone back and hopes for an uneventful school year. She does not attend all the meetings but watches them from home. She does not like the strife and finger pointing. She wants everyone to live in peace and live their lives. We are all diverse. Any assignment that is divisive really needs and opt in option. Parents are very busy and are overlooking assignments. Teaching morality should be taught by parents. We need to diffuse the contention. Thank you.

Marcy Taliceo, Coolidge Drive – Mrs. Taliceo gave each Board member a handout. She is the only black person in her family. Someone mentioned that a Board members comments were inappropriate. Many of the conversations at the last Board meeting were ignorant. She is black and would be preferred to be called black. Not knowing the meaning of systemic racism is wrong. All Board member received training in February 2020. Racial slurs are being directed at black people in Enfield. This child was a victim of a hate crime. He was threatened to be shot on the basis of his color.

Alyssa Suitter, Prospect Street – Ms. Suitter stated this conversation hurts us all. We all grew up in a systemic society and it is time to do better. Some Board members have taken the time to educate themselves. You all had the same training. She explained systemic racism and it needs to be acknowledged. We live in a different world than black and brown children. These kids are experiencing exactly what happened to the student that was fundraising. Taking care of Enfield students is the reason you are here. Our kids feel unsafe in our schools. Many people in our community have been left without a voice.

Christina Lange, South Road – Ms. Lange lived in Enfield and moved away and is now back again. She watches the meetings from home. It is great to see our kids back in school. She was raised in Enfield and graduated from Enfield High School. She is appalled about what is being said about the racial incident. She went to the library and asked them about structural racism and took out several books. They have many books in the adult section and children's section about racism. She encouraged board members to read them and to be brave.

Liz Davis, North Maple Street – Ms. Davis thanked our teacher of the year for speaking tonight. She thanked all of our educators. You make our jobs as parents easier because of what you are doing in school. She is a graduate from the PLA class #8. Our PEP program is another great organization. Why do we keep saying we do not have a racism problem in this town. Let's take ownership and resolve this. Our children are being threatened. Her daughter took our sex education class. She can take her kid out of any class that she does not want her to attend. No one has the right to touch our children. Every child needs to be kept safe. She will keep coming to Board meetings to defend the education we are giving our kids. She is a voice for all our kids.



## **9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mrs. Cushman read a quote from Ronald Reagan and commented there are no easy answers but there are simple answers. We must have the courage to do what we know is the right thing. She also likes reading and has seen several explicit articles about sexually explicit and grossly inappropriate books that are finding their way into our classrooms and libraries.

Madam Chair asked for Mrs. Cushman to stop while people were exiting the building.

Mrs. Cushman added she is not saying this is happening here. Movies and songs have guidelines in place regarding obscenity. There are no set guidelines with books. We need clear guidance to discuss this. She would like us to be proactive and to protect our youth from objectional material being brought into our schools and classrooms. She would like our district to set clear guidelines to define what constitutes obscenity in books and having this item on our next agenda to start a conversation. Together this would be a good first step.

Mrs. Cushman stated September 17<sup>th</sup> is Constitution Day. Our constitution is a unique document. Federal law requires us to teach about the constitution. Our constitution is a unique and valued document. Everyone's voice and opinions matter. It is our duty to fight for it and defend the constitution. She hopes our teachers will take the time to teach about the constitution to our students in the coming weeks. Teachers can find fun and unique ways to teach about the constitution at the US department of Education website as well as [constitutionday.com](http://constitutionday.com).

Mrs. Cushman stated Parkman's PTO fundraiser encourages families to spend time together at an upcoming soccer game on October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM with the Hartford Athletics soccer team at the Trinity Health stadium. You can contact Parkman PTO for additional information.

Dr. Calnen spoke about how Covid for children under the age of five has risen over the summer. These numbers will increase as children come back to school. STOWE and Head Start requires mandatory masks for students and staff. Please get your child vaccinated. This epidemic is not over yet.

Dr. Calnen stated one of the challenges of early education is to identify children with learning developmental challenges so early interventions can be done. Success depends on timeliness. Questionnaires can be frustrating for parents to complete. The Office of Early Childhood has awarded the family resource center a grant to utilize the Sparkler app. This can be done digitally by parents at their leisure. Amy Morales will be working with an Ad Hoc Committee to see how this app can be best utilized at STOWE and how the results can be shared while remaining confidential.

Dr. Calnen stated Brianna Beckstrand with KITE has recently spoken to the Director of Early Childhood. They are determining the best way to address challenges with infant mental health. Kite was one of two community collaboratives they asked to participate.

Dr. Calnen stated in October, the first cycle of Circle of Security series will be provided to teachers at STOWE and Head Start. This will help parents to be able to talk knowledgeably about what they have learned and can offer to families. This process will be repeated again in the spring.

Dr. Calnen stated KITE held an in person meeting on September 7<sup>th</sup> and we reviewed ongoing activities, goals and collaborative goals.

Dr. Calnen added the 2Gen Committee also met. They decided it would be most effective if they limited their efforts to a single major obstacle for families. That obstacle for families is quality childcare facilities for working families.

Mrs. Acree thanked the members from PLA for your presentation and the work they are doing in our community. You are empowering our parents to become confident productive leaders in our community. She also enjoyed the PEP presentation and learning about what you are doing within our community. You are also helping different cultures and helping Enfield to become a better place.

Mrs. Acree stated Prudence Crandall Principal Duperre said it was great seeing all the smiling faces back in the building. Students and teachers are busing settling into their classroom routines and getting to know each other. Last Friday, they held a welcome back picnic with their sister school Henry Barnard. The PTO did an amazing job creating a welcome environment. They served hot dogs, juice and goodies. They also had a magician perform. They will have a spirit week on September 26-30<sup>th</sup>. Each day there will be a different theme.

Mr. Hamre thanked Mr. Drezek for the update about the football game. He was at the game and the response by our staff was amazing. Being there when there was no sounds coming from the fans was quite ere. He is glad to hear the student is recovering. He added the EHS football players were up 14 to 7 at that point. He doesn't remember the last time the score at an Enfield football game was in our favor so early in the game. The Band was playing, and they did a fantastic job.

Mr. Hamre extended his congratulations to our Teacher of the Year Mrs. Venoutsos. She was a teacher for one of his children. Your acknowledgement of your students is a testament of you as a teacher.

Mr. Hamre thanked both Amy Witbro and Malissa Griffith from PLA and Lorena Cisneros and Mr. Galvez for the PEP presentation. These are two amazing programs.

Mr. Hamre stated JFK has a new PTO president Leslie Lawler. She will be giving him updates about JFK PTO. They will hold their first PTO meeting on Wednesday at 6:30 PM. They will meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. They will rotate meetings to be in-person and virtually. All are welcome to attend. They will have their fall fundraiser starting up this week. They will have a booth at Family Day will sell crock charms and bracelets. Please support them.

Mr. Hamre appreciates the speakers and your opinions shared tonight. He wished everyone could have stayed around for the entire Board meeting.

Mr. Hamre asked via the Chair to the Assistant Superintendent if we have any policy that addresses this Board and future Boards about the steps that might be taken regarding censoring disciplinary actions for any Board member that forgets what our responsibility is and doing things that are in direct contradiction to the purpose of the Board and what we are doing. He would like to discuss this at our policy meeting.

Mr. Hamre added he is not surprised about the comment about books and obscenities. The barometer of the national level of politics is boiling down to us here in Enfield. There are no surprises left when it comes to control of what is being taught and what books are being offered. They are trying to diminish the expertise of our people in their roles that we trust to make these kind of decisions. We have subject matter experts on our payroll in Enfield that have this responsibility and are educated via countless years of studying to obtain the title of Librarian. He is not surprised that we need to talk about this again and is disappointed.

Mr. Unghire congratulated Mrs. Venoutsos. You are doing a great job and you are a great gift to us and your students. Your students will always remember you. You have made a positive impact on your students. We are very proud of your accomplishments.

Mr. Unghire stated Hazardville Memorial will have an open house on September 14<sup>th</sup>. They will hold their PTO meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup> via teams and they will hold a welcome back picnic

on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr. Unghire stated he likes happy Board meetings like tonight's meeting. We also need to deal with Board business, and he apologized for that. He agreed with Mr. Schuetz and is in favor of checks and boxes. We are all part of the human race and are members on the same team. We need to pull together and respect each other we will get a lot farther. At the last meeting, pizza gate was discussed and how we should put it to rest. This topic has been discussed many times. He would like for this to be done. Why are we still getting e-mails from concerned parents about this topic. Our parents are not done and want answers. They are not satisfied. They do not have the answers to their questions.

Mr. Unghire read some excerpts from an editorial. There are some Board members that do not know the answers. The only information provided to the Board was that it was a mistake. He would like to put an end to this. In an effort to do this, he is putting together questions to give to the superintendent to address.

Madam Chair stated you will need to give me your questions. Everything must go through the Chair.

Mr. Unghire stated we have let our parents in Enfield down. We need to know the answers to our questions. Full transparency is needed in our school system. Transparency should be a goal in Enfield. We would like to submit these questions directly to the Superintendent.

Madam Chair stated you will need to give those questions to me. Mr. Unghire stated we will submit them through the proper channels.

Mr. Unghire stated we asked for a parent advisory committee and have been working with Mrs. Pickett. This parent advisory committee would be helpful solving many questions. He does not feel this committee will address the questions being asked by the parents. He will submit questions through the chair to the superintendent about discrimination.

Mr. Unghire added that a video was released about discrimination by a religious group in Greenwich. The Governor held a press conference about this and denounced this. The Attorney General also held a press conference and is opening up an investigation. There are all kinds of discrimination. He would like to think this kind of discrimination is not embraced here in Enfield and would like it to be denounced and that all kinds of discrimination are denounced in Enfield. This is discouraging for our students and families to see this. Discrimination is not always based on race.

Mrs. Pickett spoke to Mr. Unghire, Mrs. Gill and Mrs. Jarvis. We addressed the pizza assignment regarding sex education assignment. Mr. Drezek has also addressed this. There is an opt out for parents. Parents receive forms. The topics are clearly addressed and how to reach your child's teacher. She encourages parents to reach out to your child's teachers with questions if you are not comfortable or would like additional information about the lessons. The State Department of Education has grade level standards – the Healthy and Balanced Living standards. They do not provide us with curriculum or lessons. It is based on grade bands and concepts that should be discussed at each grade level. Enfield Public Schools selects curriculum to meet those standards. Lessons delivered in classes are aligned to those standards. She added the mistake that happened was a mistake.

Mrs. Pickett stated the Parent Advisory Group Committee we have been working on will not be a pizza assignment investigation. There are many concerns we receive from families that represent far more than just a few e-mails. We should not be purposing agenda items or questions that were already addressed by Mr. Drezek. We have bigger issues that we should be addressing and discussing. She is done discussion sex education and health standards.

Mrs. Pickett encouraged Mr. Schuetz to build a relationship with your child's teacher. The way

you described equity is not happening in our schools. We need to accurately display that work and looks forward to hearing more about our equity work in our schools.

Mrs. Pickett thanked all our staff. Her best part of the day is picking up her kids. She talks to the other parents and listens to them. We get to play on the playground. She is hearing from the parents about the amazing things about Enfield. It was a great opening for school. She encourages parents to share these things with our teachers. We love our staff and teachers. Thank you for everything you are doing.

Mrs. Pickett likes the revised mission tagline. She would love to hear from our Director of Educational Equity Mrs. Cox-Blackwell for an update on the progress we are making. She commends Mr. Drezek for re-imagining our schools and organizational changes. There is a lot that is being discussed about education. It sounds like you have some tangible ways for doing this.

Mrs. Pickett stated Enfield Street held a family day picnic for their families. This was her son's first real live event due to Covid. The amount of families and staff that attended was unbelievable. The staff did an amazing job with this along with our amazing PTO. She cannot thank them enough.

Mrs. Pickett commends Mr. Lord and Mrs. Calado with the new classroom shoutouts in the newsletters. You are able to see what is happening in the various classrooms. Enfield Street will have open house on Wednesday from 6-7 PM. She encourages everyone to attend Family Day on the Town Green on Sunday from 11:30 – 4 PM. This is a fun filled day of events and activities. She thanked everyone for putting this together. This shows how our community comes together to support our families. The next PTO meeting will be held on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Picture day will be on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Pickett added ERfC will have a farm to table dinner on October 15<sup>th</sup>. You can find out about their programs and more by going to their website at [erfcinc.org](http://erfcinc.org).

Mrs. Pickett stated Prudence Crandall received a large donation from Walmart and Pack Dog Pack Leaders Rescue. Crandall teacher Mrs. Nuzzio was instrumental in setting this up. Teachers were able to shop for items they needed for their classrooms and share items with others.

Mrs. Pickett added this is Hispanic heritage month from September 15<sup>th</sup> – October 15<sup>th</sup>. Please take this opportunity to learn and share with others.

Mr. LeBlanc would like to look ahead to next year. He is requesting via the Chair to the Superintendent to receive an academic update as to where we stand when our schools are done with the first semester. It would be nice to get an update on academic standards.

Mr. Drezek stated Connecticut data was just released and our Curriculum Director will be able to give us a report on this information. She first will share this information with the members of the Curriculum Committee and then the full Board. This is in the works.

Mr. Ryder stated he appreciates Board members giving reports about your schools. Whitney was supposed to hold their welcome back picnic tonight, but it was delayed due to the weather. They held their open house tonight. He wishes all the Whitney Wolves all the best for the upcoming school year.

Mr. Ryder stated all grade 5 students at Edgar H. Parkman, Prudence Crandall and Eli Whitney can participate in the Grade 5 Instrumental Rental Night at JFK on September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

Mr. Ryder stated Eli Whitney will have an Earth Dome presentation for grade 3 and 4 students

on September 21<sup>st</sup>. The PTO will meet on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 PM. We will have an early release day on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Ryder commented that he said a lot in his invocation. He thanked all the schools for your support for Donovan Abbe and his family over the years.

Mr. Ryder asked our administrators to send him your school events and emails so he can post them on enfieldpto.com website. Please include him in your mailings. A lot of families visit the enfieldpto.com website. He keeps weekly updates up for several weeks for parents that might have missed something.

Mr. Ryder thanked all of our schools for a successful school opening. He also thanked our students. We actually just had our first Monday and first full week of school. He also thanked our administrators, staff, teachers, and anyone that has a hand in shaping our kids.

Madam Chair addressed Mrs. Jarvis about her concerns about sex health curriculum being taught by parents. Parents have that choice. We have kids living in many different living situations that do not feel comfortable talking about this topic. This is something we take into consideration.

Madam Chair asked Mr. Drezek about how many parents of the students that received the pizza assignment emailed us? Mr. Drezek stated he received one e-mail.

Madam Chair asked Mr. Drezek if we know how many of those parents e-mailed JFK? Mr. Drezek stated four emails were received.

Madam Chair asked Mr. Drezek how many students do we have in our district. Mr. Drezek stated approximately 5,000 students.

Madam Chair asked Mr. Drezek how many FOI request have we received regarding the pizza assignment? Mr. Drezek stated we received a lot of them.

Madam Chair asked what happens when we receive them? Mr. Drezek stated we need to spend money on an attorney.

Madam Chair stated some of those editorials were written as a result of the FOI requests. If we do not comply with the FOI request, we are putting ourselves in a legal situation. Any Board of Education e-mails that are on our server cannot be hidden. They are taken right from our server even if they have been deleted. Mr. Drezek agreed with what Madam Chair said.

Madam Chair asked Mr. Unghire about the questions that were answered. Were they not acceptable or is it a question about something else? This topic has been addressed several times. People on this Board have been responsible for feeding this frenzy. We have all seen what is in the emails. This has been very apparent in the FOI requests and how I am viewed on this Board. This is not the place to sit up here and campaign for the November election.

Madam Chair asked Mr. Drezek how many other superintendents have addressed the issue that occurred in Greenwich? Mr. Drezek stated only one that we know about.

Madam Chair stated if you are interested in that editorial you can search for it. There are always two sides to every story. As a Board member you can ask questions. We partner with parents with kids that are in our public school system. Every parent has the right to ask questions about what their child is learning. She has had parents tell her they are putting their child back in our school system. E-mail your child's teacher with questions about what they will be learning in health. It is a parents right if this is something they do not want their children to learn.

Madam Chair added this is becoming a political ideology. We have received threats as a result of this. There were people that were proud of this, and said we deserved these threats because we did not address this. This was a personnel matter. We do not get involved in personnel matters.

Madam Chair stated we have important issues we need to address in our town. We just lost a student to cancer. We had a student collapse at a football game. Fifty percent of our students are on a free-reduced lunch status. Being a district is standing up and being a partner and not running on political ideology at the expense of our kids. We are talking about hurting our kids. Were our kids ever tortured over reading a book that we read when we were in high school? We are trying to reverse time. We are trying to censure. We have teachers and educational leaders that have their master's degrees. She added don't tell me we did not answer it and say we are hiding anything. She is not going to listen to this anymore. Let's talk about real problems in this district.

Madam Chair stated she is very frustrated and reminded everyone that she is the Chair for the Board of Education, and everything goes through her.

Madam Chair thanked Mrs. Venoutsos. You encompass what Enfield Public Schools means to a lot of parents. The parents and students came up to you and hugged you as I was sitting here before the meeting started. We know exactly what you mean to them.

Madam Chair was very upset to hear about what happened at the football game to a player. It is very scary for parents. Seeing a student collapse on a field is upsetting. She knows firsthand how incredible our coaches and players are. She has seen this when her children were playing sports. They are another testament to how wonderful our district is. Her prayers go out to the student and family. If possible, she would like updates on the student's progress.

Madam Chair stated Mr. Ryder has spoken about Donovan Abbe very highly. She didn't have the pleasure of meeting him. She wished many prayers and sent her condolences to his family and friends. She has said this before that some of the strongest people in our lives are the ones that have cancer because they are very selfless.

Madam Chair stated Malissa Griffith Roy is also part of Safe Grad with Leslie Lawler. They will hold a Safe Grad Comedy night at Mount Carmel on September 24<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$35 each or you can purchase a table for \$300 for 10 seats. Safe Grad would also like residents to save your bottles and soda cans for them. They will hold a bottle drive in mid-October. They will be selling snow cones and pizza at Family Day on the Town Green. They are looking for donations of raffle baskets to help them raise money for the substance free graduation party for our graduating seniors.

Madam Chair asked Mr. Drezek about having student representatives back on the Board. Mr. Drezek stated we were just given the names today and will be scheduling an orientation for them. This item will be placed on the next agenda for Board approval. They should be here for the October meetings.

Madam Chair also thanked Lori Gates for what she does around September 11<sup>th</sup> for our first responders, servicemen and women and the Wreaths Across America program. She is looking forward to seeing if she can work her magic once again for Enfield.

Madam Chair added this is national suicide prevention awareness month. Mental health is looked at as a stigma. Many people suffer with this. She read this the other day and shared this message. She is sending love to those who deal with suicidal thoughts, lost a loved one to suicide, feel misunderstood by society, feel alone in their suffering, are scared to speak up, are in therapy, and lastly, you are loved, strong, capable and valid.

## **10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

## **11. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **a. Adopt New Policies & Policy Revisions – First Reading**

Mr. Ryder moved, seconded by Mr. Hamre that the Board opens the discussion about the first reading of the proposed new policies and policy revisions.

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

#### **Discussion:**

Mrs. Cushman has concerns with Policy #5141.71. We discussed this at the Policy Committee meeting. After the definitions are listed, there is a section with 4 topics. She has concerns with the “will not be limited” and other topics that may be addressed later in the policy. Those four topics list the minimum requirements suggest these may not be the only measures covered. She would like to add a fifth topic or measure related to proactive measures to prevent exertional heat illness. Can we table this and discuss it back in committee?

Mr. Longey stated we can table individual policies. You are questioning the language in this policy. He does not recommend adding language here. He would suggest tabling this policy and the Policy Committee can continue this discussion. We can place this one policy back on the next BOE agenda for a first reading once the Policy Committee has made and approved any changes.

Mrs. Cushman also had a concern with Policy #4111.3. It discusses the development and implementation of a written plan. The superintendent would make this written plan. Who reviews this plan and is there an opportunity for feedback. Does it require approval?

Mr. Longey stated this would be a policy change. So if this policy revision is approved, the superintendent or his designee would create a plan. This plan will not be approved by the Board.

Mrs. Pickett emailed Mr. Ryder with her questions. Regarding Policy #5141.213 and opioid overdose response. She is questioning the implementation of the policy. How will we determine if this is an opioid overdose? There are times when you can create more problems by responding if it is not an opioid overdose and what about training for staff, students and families. Will we have a support plan in place for students to prevent opioid use? How do we support students if something should happen?

Mr. Ryder stated we have other policies that are related to this. This policy is specific to a request from the nurses office that was brought to Mr. Longey’s attention. What was our Director of Health Services Jess Spera intention for this policy?

Mr. Longey stated Mrs. Spera was looking for a policy from the Board that would support administering Narcan. There is a lot of training involved around this. Nurse Jess trains all the nurses at the beginning of the year and then all certified staff are trained. We are waiting for the policy to be approved before this can happen. We have purchased the devices but are waiting for approval. This potentially could be a sensitive subject. There is support for this to happen. It is a very good thing for our staff to be trained. He spoke to Nurse Jess about families, and she does not have anything yet but thought that was a good idea. She is able to work with staff and students. Some of our health curriculum at the high school will address controlled substances, illegal substances and the signs of an overdose.

Mrs. Pickett also has questions regarding Policy #6148 and if this policy can also be tabled. She is wondering what we are currently doing to encourage FASA completion and how this policy differs.

Mr. Drezek asked for Board members to be patient with this one until Friday before you ask any questions about this. He would recommend tabling this one also. He is not at liberty to tell you why, but on Friday you will know why.

Mrs. Pickett stated her real question was it being tied to graduation requirements. She would hate to see any barriers. We know there are many reasons why students do not complete the FASA. Mr. Longey added this is not tied to graduation requirements.

Mrs. Pickett commented about Policy #4111.3. She is excited to see this policy and it is definitely needed. There is guidance on the State department of Education Talented website. They have a toolkit and a guidebook. She encouraged people to check this out. She would be interested in how we will create this plan. There is information in the policy about this being potentially connected to an alliance plan. Since we are an alliance district, what does this mean for us? There is also a piece around the residency program. Is this something we are considering? How are we evaluating our current recruitment efforts and ensuring that we will select strategies that will welcome staff of color? We need to make this a welcoming and inclusive place.

Mr. Longey stated that was a lot. Mr. Drezek stated our structure has changed. You will hear about some of these changes we have made and how central office is structured. This will address the residency program you mentioned and recruitment, how we are recruiting, how we are evaluating our recruiting, and is this an environment that is conducive for the candidates we are looking for. This is all in the works. You will hear more about this. Thank you for bringing up these points. He is not sure if he answered your question.

Mrs. Pickett added she supports the policy it is all the little things that come out of the language of the policy. She just wants to make sure we are thinking about all of this.

Madam Chair closed discussions.

Mr. Hamre moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education approves a First Reading for Policy #4112, 5141.72, 5141.213, 4111.3, 4141, 5131.6 and tables Policy #5141.72 and #6148.

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

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

Mrs. Pickett moved, seconded by Mr. Hamre to add to the agenda the Equity Statement of the District.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Hamre stated he supports this statement and looks forward to seeing it on a sweatshirt. Madam Chair stated this is a discussion as to why we would put this item on the agenda.

Mrs. Acree asked for more information about this.

Mrs. Pickett read the equity statement that Mr. Drezek shared with us tonight – We believe every child is unique and the diversity of our students is what makes Enfield Public Schools exceptional. To thrive and excel, all are welcomed, accepted, respected and supported.”

Mr. Drezek stated this is the equity statement of the district. We will still keep the motto.

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



## **b. Accept the Equity Statement of the District**

Mrs. Pickett moved, seconded by Mr. Hamre that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the Equity Statement of the District.

### **Discussion:**

Mr. Hamre stated he supports this statement.

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

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

Curriculum – Mrs. Pickett reported the Curriculum Committee will meet on September 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM. We will be discussing African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino History Courses.

Finance – Dr. Calnen reported the Finance Committee met on September 12<sup>th</sup>. We reviewed financial statements and our TAG investments. We will be meeting with representatives from Wolf associates in November.

Policy – Mr. Ryder reported the Policy Committee will meet on September 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM. He would like the two policies that were tabled tonight to be added to the agenda for further discussion.

Leadership – Madam Chair reported Board Leadership was unable to meet tonight due to a personal matter she needed to deal with. We will reschedule this meeting.

Joint Facility – Mr. Ryder reported the Joint Facility Committee was supposed to meet last Thursday. They moved the meeting two weeks and will meet on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

JFK Building Committee – Mr. Ryder reported he does not have the date for their next meeting. He thanked them for opening up JFK on time. They are working on a few loose ends. All major construction has been completed. He thanked them for everything and would like to bring the members from the JFK Building Committee to a Board meeting and would also like to arrange for a tour of the building for Board members.

Joint Security – Mr. Ryder reported the Joint Security Committee was supposed to meet on September 7<sup>th</sup>. We are waiting for a report that will be coming out soon and will reconvene at that point to review the report. No date has been set yet.

Enfield Mental Health Wellness Workgroup – Dr. Calnen reported the town has allocated \$25K on August 29<sup>th</sup> to hire a planning consultant to work with leadership to address the mental health needs of the Enfield community. We will have 3 co-chairs on this committee: Representative Tom Arnone; a representative from the BOE and TC.

Dr. Calnen added the Board will continue to work on our own separate mental health plan to address urgent issues.

Enfield Cultural Arts Commission – Mr. Hamre stated they were meeting tonight. They are still looking to fill vacancies.

## **13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Pickett moved, seconded by Mr. Ryder that the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 23, 2022, be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

**14. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS AND PAYROLL**

Dr. Calen moved, seconded by Mr. Ryder that the Enfield Board of Education approves the following Line Item Transfers:

From:	100 Salaries	\$	
	400 Repairs/Maintenance		32,809.00
	500 Support Services		1,320,550.00
	600 Tech/Supplies/Material		495,626.00
	700 Equipment		165,270.00
	900 Other Use of Funds		<u>1,055,387.00</u>
			\$3,069,642.00
To:	200 Benefits	\$2,638,286.00	
	300 Professional Services	<u>431,356.00</u>	
		\$3,069,642.00	

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

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

- The month of June 2022 the total expenditures amount to \$7,189,113.46, broken down between payroll totaling \$5,125,159.01 and other accounts totaling \$2,063,954.45 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 document.

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

Dr. Calnen moved, seconded by Mr. Hamre that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of June 2022 total Grant and Head Start expenditures amount to \$4,821,109.46 broken down between payroll totaling \$1,333,111.15 and other accounts totaling \$3,487,998.31; 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 document.

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

Dr. Calnen moved, seconded by Mr. Hamre that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of July 2022 the total expenditures amount to \$1,379,234.93, broken down between payroll totaling \$623,837.05 and other accounts totaling \$755,397.88 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 document.

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

Dr. Calnen moved, seconded by Mr. Unghire that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of July 2022 total Grant and Head Start expenditures amount to \$323,771.68 broken down between payroll totaling \$141,199.79 and other accounts totaling \$182,571.89; 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 document.

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

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

- The month of August 2022 the total expenditures amount to \$2,933,928.72, broken down between payroll totaling \$787,049.10 and other accounts totaling \$2,146,879.62 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 document.

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

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

- The month of August 2022 total Grant and Head Start expenditures amount to \$187,367.53 broken down between payroll totaling \$121,692.55 and other accounts totaling \$65,674.98; 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 document.

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

## **15. CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATION**

Mr. LeBlanc received a Family Day Flyer, and he listed the events being held on Sunday, September 18, 2022 on the Town Green from 11:30 AM – 4:00 PM.

## **16. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Hamre moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education enter into Executive Session for matter(s) related to Personnel.

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

Both Mr. Drezek and Mr. Longey joined the Board in Executive Session at 10:03 PM.

No Board action occurred while in Executive Session.

## **Open Session:**

The Board returned to open session at 10:13 PM.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Pickett moved, seconded by Mr. Unghire to adjourn the Regular Meeting of September 13, 2022.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously. Meeting stood adjourned at 10:14 PM.

Jonathan LeBlanc  
Secretary  
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary