

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 9, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held at Town Hall in Council Chambers, located at 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT on January 9, 2018.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rich Regnier, Ashley Depeau, Chris Rutledge, Charlotte Riley, Tina LeBlanc, Sarah Hernandez, Tim Neville, Scott Ryder and Walter Kruzel

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Christopher J. Drezek, Superintendent; Mr. Andrew B. Longey, Assistant Superintendent; EHS Student Representatives, Meghan Connery and Matt Campo

6. **BOARD GUEST(S)** - None
7. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
 - a. Student Representatives – as presented
 - b. Snow Days – as presented
 - c. FY2018-19 School Calendar – as presented
 - d. MLK Day - NS – as presented
 - e. January Events – as presented
 - f. JFK Update

Mr. Drezek gave the Board an in-depth timeline overview regarding JFK and the boilers. He added that Mr. Sargalski is available to answer any additional questions from the Board.

Chairman Kruzel thanked Mr. Sargalski for everything that was done since the start of the new year.

Mr. Sargalski thanked the Board for their support. He also thanked Mr. Drezek and Mr. Longey for their support. The boilers are old, and everything went as well as it could have. He thanked his staff for their resiliency. Once the staff realized there were heating issues, they were sharing their rooms and moving students to warmer parts of the building. We were able to move the students from the White Wing to the Library.

Mr. Sargalski reiterated what Mr. Drezek said, at no time was there no heat in the building. Pockets of the building were chilly. They renamed one of the boilers to the “the little boiler that could”.

Mr. Sargalski added the math and science teachers used this as a teachable moment and taught the students about average and ambient temperatures. The second day, the students brought in blankets and ski hats from home to keep warm. We made the best of the situation.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated her son is a student at JFK. He did not feel the temperatures were too cold. She appreciates Mr. Sargalski speaking about the teachers taking care of their students. She was offended by some of the social media comments. We need to look at what happened at JFK as a bigger picture. We have a lot of buildings with older boilers and this could happen at any of our buildings. We appreciate the communication.

Mrs. Riley also thanked Mr. Sargalski for everything. She was given a tour of the building. She met the custodial and building and grounds staff. She also thanked the teachers for everything they did. They all did an amazing job and deserve our thanks.

Mr. Neville also thanked Mr. Sargalski. It was unfortunate that this happened during a cold snap. He felt the comments on social media were exaggerated. These comments disrupted the process. Our staff are loyal to the students and will go out of their way to make sure they are comfortable. He also thanked the teachers, administration and building and grounds staff for everything you did. The communication we received during this was excellent. The staff at JFK knows what to do and care about the kids. Parents need to trust us and don't listen to what is on FaceBook.

Mr. Sargalski stated some of our great parents called to get the correct information. Mr. Neville added our parents need to trust us and let our professionals do what they need to do. He thanked the JFK teachers for everything they did.

Mr. Sargalski added our DPW members are great. They were here around the clock making sure everything went correctly. He publicly thanked them all for everything they did.

Chairman Kruzal thanked Mr. Sargalski. He added it was never colder in the building than it was outside. This was also posted on social media. He thanked the teachers and building and grounds staff for everything they did.

Mr. Drezek added that Mr. Sargalski earned his stripes and thanked him for what he did. We never had any questions or doubts about the way Mr. Sargalski was handling this. He handled this flawlessly.

8. AUDIENCES - None

9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Rutledge shared his e-mail address and phone number for anyone to contact him with any questions. He appreciates you reaching out to us with your comments and questions. We are all available and appreciate you attending the Board meetings. There are some things we can't discuss like personnel or student privacy concerns.

Mr. Rutledge stated someone asked a question about air quality at the last Board meeting. He forwarded this to Mr. Drezek to address.

Mr. Rutledge stated buildings were also mentioned at previous meetings and if we care. We all care about the quality of our buildings and our school system. Building maintenance falls under the Town's jurisdiction. The Joint Facilities Committee has done an excellent job prioritizing the repairs that are needed for our buildings.

Mr. Rutledge added his vision for the Board is in-line with our motto. We need to work together, build bridges between ourselves and the community, work on providing better

opportunities and to encourage our students to take advantage of these opportunities whether they are in the culinary, manufacturing or AP tracks and to continue to foster better communication with his constituents and members of the Board.

Mr. Ryder wished everyone a happy New Year! The Whitney Wolves are leading the pack with PBIS. The students are learning about hallway and cafeteria etiquette. He spoke to Principal Brooks and he is seeing more respect from the students. They will hold a pep rally on Friday, January 12th. We will be starting the monthly assemblies in February and they will be PBIS based.

Mrs. Hernandez stated she is the Head Start Liaison. She visited the school and is very excited to be their liaison. The staff is very welcoming. There is so much joy at Head Start with the students and staff. They are so warm and welcoming. The Head Start Policy Committee will hold a meeting on January 18th. She is looking forward to this meeting and to visiting Head Start often.

Mrs. Hernandez congratulated Enfield High teacher Tony Allegro for the opportunities he has provided his students. She thanked the administration for this program. There is an article in the Enfield Patch regarding his Community Action Learning program. This is such a powerful experience we are offering our students. We offer so many AP classes for our students to take advantage of at the high school level. We are giving our students such an opportunity. She started at a community college and her debt ratio is far less than some of her colleagues. We are giving our students many opportunities whether they will go on to college or into the trades. She is thrilled to hear about this and what we are preparing our students for in life.

Mrs. LeBlanc attended the Gr. 8 Band Concert on December 20th. What a difference a year makes. They are awesome and are so confident. It was an enjoyable concert. The JFK PTO meeting was cancelled due to the boiler issue. The PTO is selling their winter hats for \$20. She asked Board members to let her know if they would like one, so we can wear their gear. You can also go to their website at jfkmiddleschool.pto@gmail.com to order them. They will be holding a purse bingo on February 3rd. This is another momentous event to attend.

Mr. Neville wished everyone a happy New Year! He agreed with Mrs. Hernandez that the Enfield Head Start is wonderful. He asked her to let the Board know when they are looking for us to read to the students. It is usually around Dr. Seuss's Birthday. He loves to read to the students.

Mr. Neville asked Mrs. LeBlanc to Shepard the JFK hats for us like you did with the Enfield High gear. Mrs. LeBlanc added she has already marked you all down for a hat.

Mr. Neville stated KITE will be attending the January 23rd Board meeting. They will give us an update on their program.

Mr. Neville also congratulated Tony Allegro. He is one of our homegrown talents. He started at JFK and is now at the high school. He is doing such a fantastic job with his students. We need to highlight the good things that are going on in our schools.

Mr. Neville congratulated everyone involved with the Rachel's Challenge Pancake Breakfast. The event was a momentous success and the hall was packed with families. What a tribute to Rachel Scott. This event is done in the true spirit of the season. This is another great Enfield event. He hopes that we will continue to offer this pancake breakfast each year.

Mr. Regnier brought warm greetings from the Hazardville Huskies. He is the Board liaison at Memorial. The PTO held a meeting last week and Mrs. Hunter gave a PBIS presentation to parents. She will also hold a coffee with the principal where parents can have a one-to-one conversation with her about any concerns they may have. She is doing a wonderful job at

Memorial.

Mr. Regnier added that the Memorial students held an assembly with a Christmas Holiday sing-a-long at Barnes & Noble by grade levels. The students did a great job, but the parents could not see their children due to the space constraints at Barnes & Noble. Mrs. Hunter opened the gym for the students to perform for their parents. It was a great event and to see so many smiles on the students and Hazardville Memorial family faces.

Mrs. Riley requested through the Chairman to the Superintendent about the JFK progress reports and if there were any concerns. Mr. Drezek stated the promise date was December 15th. They were still dealing with a couple of kinks and sent them out on December 18th and everything went off without any problems.

Mrs. Riley stated the Wreaths Across America event at Parkman School was amazing. This was the first time she attended this event. It was incredible.

Mrs. Riley stated the First Readers Trivia Night will be held on February 24th at 7:00 PM. Please check out their website or FaceBook page for tickets. The next graduating class of First Readers will be held on March 5th at Enfield High.

Mrs. Riley reminded parents that January 10th is an early release day for a half day staff professional workshop day.

Mrs. Riley attended the Henry Barnard PTO meeting before coming to tonight's Board meeting. They are working on filling up the Food Shelf Boat. They will hold a fundraiser event at Chipotle's on February 8th. She also wished Rhonda Rawlinitis good luck at her new job. She will be missed by the Barnard families.

Mrs. Riley wished everyone a happy New Year!

Mrs. Depeau requested through the Chairman to the Superintendent if there were any other heating concerns at any of the other schools. Mr. Drezek stated we reached out to each school. There was one classroom at Prudence Crandall. They offered the teacher to move to another room to use. There was also a blower issue in one of the other rooms.

Mrs. Depeau is the Enfield Street liaison. The PTO will have some fundraising events coming up in the future. We also discussed the achievements that come from the fundraisers and what events they support. It is amazing what they can do from fundraising events. She urged everyone to support your schools PTO. She thanked the parents that have supported the PTO. They do so many wonderful things for the students.

Chairman Kruzel stated Buzz Robotics is working on this year's robot. They are now in the design phase. He will keep you posted on their progress over the next six weeks.

Chairman Kruzel attended the Rachel's Challenge Pancake Breakfast. He oversaw quality control and the pancakes were great.

Chairman Kruzel stated we all care about what is going on in our schools and our community. We give our time and attend all kinds of meetings. All nine Board members care.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

Motion to Suspend the Rules to Add an Item to the Agenda:

Mr. Regnier moved, seconded by Mr. Neville that the Enfield Board of Education adds under New Business Item #11e BOE Policy Revision #6111 School Calendar as a First Reading.

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

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. Action if any, regarding a Prospective Supply Company

Mr. Neville moved, seconded by Mrs. Riley that the Enfield Board of Education approves a One Year Contract Extension with Smyth Bus Company as presented.

Discussion:

Mr. Neville supports this contract extension. Our history with Smyth Bus has been great. They will continue to provide us with the same services with a zero percent increase, he trusts them totally.

Chairman Kruzel agrees with Mr. Neville.

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

b. FY2018-19 Budget Presentation

Mr. Drezek presented his FY2018-19 proposed budget recommendations to the Board. He reviewed some of the many accomplishments made from each school, K-12 Computer Technology, K-12 STEAM, K-12 Guidance, K-12 Library Services, Music, K-12 Health & Physical Education, K-12 Reading, Prek-12 Special Education, K-12 Visual Arts, 6-12 Athletics, 7-12 Business, 6-12 English, Family & Consumer Science, 6-12 Mathematics, 6-12 Science, 6-12 Social Studies, 7-12 Technology Vocational Education, 6-12 World Languages, Curriculum, District-wide Instruction, Transportation Services and Nutrition Services.

Mr. Drezek reviewed our District Goals, Vision, who we are, per pupil expenditures and funding streams. He reviewed the budget increase divers, spending projections and requested initiatives. He reviewed the timeline for the budget process and the five initiatives to move us forward. He added the five initiatives he is proposing will not cost us anything.

Mr. Drezek presented a 1.85% budget for a \$70,977,330 budget. He reviewed some of the unknowns such as retirements, health and insurance costs, magnet school tuition, Special Education and excess cost grant funding. He reviewed the historical budget perspectives and the value added to his FY2018-19 proposed budget recommendation.

Mr. Drezek concluded by saying we are trying to find a balance of what is needed. We all understand the predicament we are in as a state and as a town.

Chairman Kruzel thanked Mr. Drezek for his presentation. He asked the Board if they have any questions. The Board will place this on the next agenda for discussion and action.

c. Discussion & Action regarding Appointing an Elector to the Joint Facilities Committee

Mr. Neville moved, seconded by Mr. Rutledge to reappointed Randy Daigle as our Elector to the Joint Facilities Committee.

Mr. Rutledge moved, seconded by Mr. Neville to close nominations.

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

A vote by **roll-call 9-0-0** passed unanimously to appoint Randy Daigle as our Elector to the Joint Facilities Committee.

Chairman Kruzel added that he and Mr. Neville are also members to the Joint Facilities Committee and we will also add Rich Regnier and Scott Ryder to this committee.

d. Action if any, regarding Matter(s) to Collective Bargaining

Chairman Kruzel stated this item will be addressed after Item #16.

e. BOE Policy Revision #6111 School Calendar - First Reading

Mr. Regnier moved, seconded by Mr. Neville that the Enfield Board of Education approves the Proposed Policy Revisions to BOE Policy #6111 School Calendars as a first reading.

Discussion:

Mr. Regnier reviewed the proposed changes to BOE Policy #6111 School Calendars with the Board.

Mr. Neville asked about Item #1. He thought the CREC regional calendar was a requirement and not a recommendation.

Mr. Drezek explained that we are not required to follow the CREC Regional Calendar this year. This has also been pushed down the road. We have added this caveat for the future and as a recommendation.

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

12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Curriculum Committee

Mr. Neville reported the Curriculum Committee will meet on January 11, 2018.

b. Finance, Budget Committee

Mrs. Riley reported the Finance, Budget Committee met on January 8, 2018 and we will be approving financial reports for the Board to approve later on the agenda.

c. Policy Committee

Mr. Regnier reported the Policy Committee met on January 2, 2018 and reviewed several CABA policies. We will meet again on February 6th and will continue reviewing the 1000 series.

d. Leadership Committee

Chairman Kruzel reported the Board Leadership Committee met on January 3, 2018 and worked on the Board's priorities.

e. Joint Facilities Committee

Chairman Kruzel reported the Joint Facilities Committee has not met this year. He has reached out to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor about meeting.

f. EHS Building Committee

Chairman Kruzel reported the EHS Building Committee will meet on January 11, 2018.

g. Any Other Committees

Mr. Neville reported KITE will attend the January 23rd Board meeting.

13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Rutledge moved, seconded by Mrs. Riley that the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2017 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

14. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYROLL

For the Months of September, October, November and December 2017-18

Mrs. Riley moved seconded by Mr. Rutledge that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of September 2017, total expenditures amount to \$7,330,719.34, broken down between payroll totaling \$5,682,784.78 and other accounts totaling \$1,647,934.56; and
- The month of October 2017, total expenditures amount to \$5,543,973.59, broken down between payroll totaling \$3,965,650.52 and other accounts totaling \$1,578,323.07; and
- The month of November 2017, total expenditures amount to \$5,442,233.97, broken down between payroll totaling \$3,949,550.12 and other accounts totaling \$1,492,683.85; and
- The month of December 2017, total expenditures amount to \$6,712,292.71, broken down between payroll totaling \$3,908,149.39 and other accounts totaling \$2,804,143.32.

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. Mr. Neville was not present for the vote.

Line Item Transfers - None

15. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS - None

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Riley moved, seconded by Mrs. Depeau that the Enfield Board of Education enters Executive Session for Matter(s) Related to Personnel and Matter(s) Related to Collective Bargaining.

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

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

No Board action occurred while in Executive Session.

Return to Open Session:

The Board returned to open session at 10:27 PM.

Item #11d - Action if any, regarding Matter(s) to Collective Bargaining

Mr. Rutledge moved, seconded by Mr. Neville that the Enfield Board of Education approves the CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Paraprofessionals Bargaining Unit Agreement as presented.

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

Extend Meeting Past 10:30 PM

Board members unanimously agreed to extend the meeting past 10:30 PM.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Rutledge moved, seconded by Mrs. Riley to adjourn the Regular Meeting of January 9, 2018.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 10:54 PM.

Tina LeBlanc
Secretary
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary