

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 24, 2009**

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 February 24, 2009.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Chairman Greco.
2. **INVOCATION OR MOMENT OF SILENCE** Vincent Grady
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Vincent Grady
4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT** Chairman Greco announced the fire evacuation announcement.
5. **ROLL CALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT Joyce Hall, Vincent Grady, Judy Apruzzese-Desroches, Tom Arnone, Patrick Droney, Greg Stokes, Susan Lavelli-Hozempa, Charles Johnson and Andre Greco

MEMBERS ABSENT None

ALSO PRESENT Dr. John Gallacher, Superintendent of Schools and Mr. Anthony Torre, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Droney moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the special meeting minutes of February 10, 2009 be approved. There was one correction – the Hazardville Memorial PTO will host a cabin fever dance. Motion passed by a **show of hands 9-0-0**.

7. **BOARD GUESTS**

a. Demographic Advisory Committee

Chairman Greco reviewed the charges of the Demographic Advisory Committee. The DAC met weekly and they will present scenarios for Board members. They used the past Demographic Committee's report and information from Dr. Peter Prowda's enrollment presentation. The DAC information is factual. Board members will make recommendations relative to the budget. The presentation was put together without emotions which was a difficult task. The DAC should be commended for the job they did.

Glenn Hart, the DAC chairman introduced committee members Thomas Barry, Maureen Brennan, Daniel Coogan, Rebecca Kalagher, Jennifer Rancourt, Matthew Sylvester and Robert Tkacz. Mr. Hart thanked Enfield Public School Administrators Mrs. Beaulieu, Mr. Ellis, Mrs. Mazzoli and Mr. Neville for their help.

Mr. Hart and Mrs. Brennan will present the DAC's presentation. Mr. Hart reviewed the committee's charge and modified charge. Mrs. Brennan reviewed busing and busing waivers at the high schools. Busing software is recommended. Mrs. Brennan reviewed high school and middle school options.

Mr. Hart reviewed elementary school options for redistricting all nine schools, closing one school and moving some 6th graders to JFK and closing one school and redistricting the remaining eight. Mr. Hart reviewed class sizes. Mr. Hart reviewed the pros and cons of closing Alcorn, Enfield Street, Hale and Stowe. Mr. Hart reviewed estimated cost savings for closing an elementary school and moving some 6th graders to JFK. Mr. Hart reviewed cost savings for closing an elementary school and redistricting the remaining 8 elementary schools.

Mr. Hart stated that all options will be disruptive to students, parents and staff. Busing software must be purchased to realize efficiencies. Mr. Hart stated the scenarios do not consider long-term planning for education such as full-day K, universal pre-school or grade reconfiguration. Mr. Hart stated that implementation of any proposed option by September 2009 will require an immediate decision by Board members.

Mr. Hart further stated that the DAC has raw data available for Board members if needed. The DAC is available to continue their charge if the Board would like them to look deeper into the scenarios.

Chairman Greco thanked Mr. Hart and Mrs. Brennan for their presentation and asked if any DAC member would like to add anything.

Mr. Tkacz stated that the group of 12 DAC members was able to produce solid conclusions. The Board will either implement or reject the DAC's scenarios. If the Board needs the DAC to continue with another charge, we are ready. Mr. Tkacz thanked Chairman Greco.

Mrs. Brennan thanked Chairman Greco for his remarks and the members of the DAC. We are a group of citizens and administrators that care for the quality of education for the children in Enfield. We worked diligently. The DAC is recommending the purchase of busing software. Many of the DAC struggled with the Board's revised charge. Mrs. Brennan stated that she would have preferred recommending education enhancements. Mrs. Brennan further stated that she is glad to be part of the DAC and the proposed scenarios they prepared.

Mr. Hart stated he is sympathetic to the Board's budget dilemma and knows their decisions will not be easy.

Mr. Arnone supports the Board looking into purchasing busing software. We can do a lot with busing. Mr. Arnone attended elementary school in Enfield and was bounced from one elementary school to another and does not want to see that happen. Mr. Arnone does not want us to play musical schools. If we make a mistake now, we will suffer for it in the long run. Mr. Arnone does not want us to sacrifice our budget needs of today, tomorrow is another day. We need to be careful with any redistricting for the sake of our children. Mr. Arnone is in favor of the DAC continuing.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated as the BOE liaison to the DAC, she witnessed the pain some of the committee members went through. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches commends the DAC members for their presentation and hard work. This is an emotional subject. Committee members were looking forward to improving the system instead of restructuring to save costs and not harm the students in the process.

Mr. Grady asked what the class size would be for sixth graders at JFK with the two elementary schools and how many classes would there be? Mr. Hart stated around 22-23 students per class with six to eight classes.

Mr. Grady asked about putting all sixth graders at JFK. What would be needed? Mr. Neville stated we would need 18 classes. JFK does not have enough classroom space for that many students and he would not recommend it.

Mr. Grady asked about the elimination of an elementary or parochial bus run. Mr. Hart stated that the high school has 36 buses, the middle school 27 and the elementary/parochial has 41. Mr. Hart stated there are 18 classes in each wing at JFK. If we moved all of the grade six students to JFK, you would have class sizes of 29-30 students in a classroom.

Ms. Hall asked if the music and art classes were taken into consideration when looking at closing an elementary school and redistricting the remaining eight. Mr. Hart stated that there would be rooms for music and art classes at each redistricted elementary school.

Mr. Droney thanked DAC members and apologized for changing the charge. Mr. Droney asked if the DAC looked at a K-3 and 4-6 grade configuration. Mr. Hart stated the committee originally wanted to look into that but with the time constraints we decided not to.

Mr. Droney asked if the DAC looked at 7-8-9 and 10-11-12 grade configurations. Mr. Hart stated the committee discussed looking into that but with the time constraints we decided not to.

Mr. Stokes thanked the DAC for the work they have done. We are looking at a \$4 million dollar deficit. Mr. Stokes asked if the committee has taken into consideration communicating with parents the implementation date of September 2009. When you close a school you usually announce the school closing at the start of the school year to give everyone time to digest the change. Mr. Hart stated this could be done for September 2009 but there is no time to waste. The Board would need to make a decision quickly. Mr. Stokes thanked Mr. Hart.

Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated the DAC did an excellent job of looking at the facts. You should be congratulated for the job you did. Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa appreciates the commitment of the DAC.

Mr. Johnson appreciates the effort of the DAC and stated that it was a difficult task. The DAC's scenarios could potentially save us \$1 million dollars. Board members need to look at the bottom line this year. Mr. Johnson hears Mr. Arnone's concerns but we do not have the money.

Chairman Greco asked about the grant payback and the school being used for some type of educational purposes. Mr. Hart stated that the vacant building would need to be used for some type of education program. Chairman Greco further stated that we could place our Transitional Learning Academy in the vacant building and the State would be ok with that. Dr. Gallacher stated that is correct. By doing that, the building would be basically empty (no administrators, secretaries, nurse or certified staff members).

Chairman Greco asked about sixth grades being moved to JFK and where would they fall with the Strategic School Profiles (SSP). Mr. Neville stated they would be part of the JFK's SSP. The school would be reconfigured for NEAS&C. Chairman Greco asked how this would impact the JFK subgroups. Mr. Neville stated that he is not sure. This would need to be looked into.

Chairman Greco thanked everyone on the DAC for their hard work.

Mr. Grady asked about the timeline for paying back the State. Dr. Gallacher stated he is not sure if it is 10 years or 20 years if you are not using a building. Dr. Gallacher stated that he will call the State Department of Education to see exactly how long it is.

Chairman Greco stated if we move the TLA into a vacant building and with more due diligence, he believes the cost savings could be more than \$1 million dollars.

Mr. Arnone stated that rushing a decision to close a building can do the district more harm. Saving \$1 million dollars would be a great thing, but rushing can cause more harm than good.

Chairman Greco agrees that no Board member wants to make a poor decision. We have strong data and Board members will need to conduct due diligence and make an informed decision for the budget. The past three years, Board members have made many tough cuts to the budget and there are minimal areas that can be touched. Chairman Greco stated that we will need to live with the number that is allocated by the Town Council.

Recess:

At 8:25 PM, Chairman Greco stated the Board will take a brief recess. The Board returned from recess at 8:34 PM.

8. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Information regarding Student Absences;
- b. Flyer regarding A Community Forum in regard to High School Graduation Requirements with Representative Karen Jarmoc on March 4, 2009;
- c. Additional Policy Changes from the 02-24-09 Policy Meeting.

9. AUDIENCES

Nikki Price, Enfield Street – Mrs. Price stated she is here tonight because of a problem with the Board of Education. There are no set rules for audience members to receive answers to their questions. Board members can pick and choose which questions will be answered. The concerns of many go unanswered due to the structure of the meeting. Because of this, the public feels alienated. The findings of the DAC should be addressed in an open forum before any decisions are made by the BOE. Mrs. Price thanked Board members for listening to her.

Sue Braun, Light Street – Mrs. Braun is parent of two students that attend Stowe Elementary School. Mrs. Braun appreciates the work of this DAC and the past DAC. Mrs. Braun has a 5th grader and does not want her son to be moved to JFK as a 6th grader. Her son will also need to walk to JFK. Mrs. Braun stated that her son is not prepared to walk to school. Some 6th graders go to day care and will need to be picked up at JFK. Mrs. Braun feels that the Board needs to give parents more than 4 a month notice with their decision. Mrs. Braun thanked Board members.

Tina LeBlanc, David Street – Mrs. LeBlanc is the Stowe PTO President and has 3 children at Stowe school. Mrs. LeBlanc thanked the DAC for their hard work. Mrs. LeBlanc is upset that we will be closing a school. We have a \$4 million dollar deficit. We will still be short \$3 million dollars. The decision will cause problems across the district. Mrs. LeBlanc appreciates Mr. Grady's work he does at each school and you have the children's best interest at heart. Mrs. LeBlanc appreciates Ms. Hall's comments regarding there being no increase in our budget over the past seven years. Teachers should not have to spend their own money for supplies for their students. This year at Stowe, the Christmas vacation work packets for students were not sent home because the paper needs to be rationed. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches has been approached by concerned citizens as to why a school needs to be closed and her reply was find me \$4 million dollars. Mrs. LeBlanc appreciates your response but that is the reason we voted you all in as Board members. Mrs. LeBlanc believes there is a divide between the Board and Town Council and would like to see this end. Mrs. LeBlanc does not believe that any school should be closed. Cutting \$4 million from our budget is unacceptable.

Jack Sheridan, Buchanan Road – Mr. Sheridan stated that he agrees with everything said tonight. Mr. Sheridan stated that it is amazing that we continue to get such great citizens to

volunteer on these committees. Mr. Sheridan asked if we could share the bus software with another district. Mr. Sheridan asked if the IT department have been working on the Admins program to track information. Mr. Sheridan is concerned that the information obtained from the facilities subcommittee will be lost with the maintenance department shift going to the Town. Mr. Sheridan thanked Board members.

Ilene Maxwell, Wilson Court - Mrs. Wilson has two sons at Eli Whitney. Mrs. Wilson met with Dr. Gallacher in 2005 regarding a food policy for children with severe food allergies. Because of the dedication of the faculty and staff implementing our food allergy policy at Eli Whitney, Mrs. Wilson stated that her son has been able to attend school for 3 ½ years without any incidents. Mrs. Wilson gave special thanks to Mrs. Lavendar, Mrs. Greene, Mrs. Stroiney, Mrs. Vayda and Mr. George. Mrs. Maxwell stated that her son did have 2 allergic reactions this year but not because of anything the school didn't do. It was because of hand-to-hand contact on his way to school. Because of her son's teacher (Mrs. Pixton) observations, she recognized the signs and brought him to the school nurse. With the help of Mr. Van Tassel, he was transported by ambulance to the hospital both times. Mrs. Maxwell appreciates the dedication of the Whitney staff. If the class sizes increase, would a teacher notice the signs on her son? Mrs. Maxwell also thanked Mrs. Dippel and Mrs. Desrosier. Our teachers are also our children's guardians. Eli Whitney is full of angels. Mrs. Maxwell thanked Board members.

Erin Humphrey, Windsor Street – Mrs. Humphrey has a child in the preschool program. If we close a school where there is a preschool program, what will happen to those students? Will another program be opened up at another school? Mrs. Humphrey thanked Board members.

10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Droney addressed Mrs. LeBlanc – all Board members have had or have children in the school system and our decisions are made with the best interest of all students. Unfortunately, sometimes we are dealt with hands we don't want to deal with. Mr. Droney is optimistic and appreciates everyone coming to tonight's Board meeting. We need to play out the hand we are dealt. Board members will take into consideration everything. Tough decisions need to be made. Mr. Droney stated the FHS Jazz Festival will be held on March 7 at Fermi. Mr. Droney encourages you to attend.

Mr. Stokes stated that Congressman Joe Courtney was at JFK. Both Mr. Grady and Mr. Stokes attended the assembly. Mr. Stokes was quite impressed with the students and the questions they asked Congressman Courtney. Mr. Stokes stated that emotions are running high and this is not the way Mr. Stokes would like to have addressed school demographics. Every Board member will lose sleep over this subject matter. Being reactionary is part of the job. Mr. Stokes stated we need to respond to emergency situations. Mr. Stokes urged community members to contact him if you have any questions via phone or e-mail.

Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated that Enfield lost a special friend to Enfield Public Schools last week – Agnes Mercik. Mrs. Mercik was on the Audit Committee, was a substitute teacher and friend to many. Mrs. Mercik was instrumental in getting Nick Maiorino and the Internship Committee in Enfield. Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated if you would like information regarding the Internship Committee to call her at 253-0677. Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa extends her condolences to the Mercik family. Mrs. Price commented that our meetings are not open. Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated that she has fought for transparency in Enfield. Mr. Sheridan discussed the facilities information being transferred to the Town. These recommendations will be given to the Town Council. The other items addressed by the Audit Committee will be placed on future Board agendas. Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated that Board members care greatly about the children in Enfield but we are also aware of what is going on fiscally. Difficult decisions need to be made. Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa thanked everyone for coming.

Mr. Johnson thanked Mrs. Maxwell for sharing her story with Board members. Whitney is a great school. Mr. Johnson addressed Mrs. LeBlanc and commented Board members do not want to close a school or lay off teachers. Board members are here to give the students the best education we can. Mr. Johnson addressed Mrs. Humphrey and commented that Board members have not decided if we will close a school yet. It is too early at this time. Mr. Johnson thanked everyone for coming.

Mr. Arnone stated that everyone is here at the correct location but on the wrong night. Mr. Arnone stated Board members set the budget based on what the Town Council gives us. The Town Council has directed us with a zero increase budget. This is where the problem lies.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches read an article in Newsweek eliminating cursive writing. The article is very good. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated this is her fourth budget. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches commented that when she was elected, the last thing she thought she would be concentrating on is to do no harm. This is incredibly frustrating. She thought that she would be doing things to enhance our children's education. Board members are struggling to keep what we have and we have very few options left. We have been lean for such a long time. Someone mentioned the Board reacting to ideas. Before becoming a Board member, Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches commented that she was on several committees, but was lucky because the money came through in the budget and we did not have to react. Board members are being pushed. Closing a school is emotionally painful. If we didn't have to do it for financial reasons, we would have \$1 million dollars to use. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches thanked Mr. Sheridan for the idea of sharing software. Thank you for coming tonight and for your comments.

Mr. Grady attended an assembly at Parkman – One School, One Book Program. Each Family was given a book to read. Channel 3's Scott Haney was also there. The students were dressed as little mice and it was quite entertaining. This program is done because of the generosity of McDonald's, Hallmark Cards, Parkman Teachers & PTO, the Rotary Club and Barnes & Noble. Mr. Grady stated the assembly at JFK with Congressman Courtney was the first time a congressman has been to JFK. Students were in awe of the congressman. Mr. Grady thanked Mrs. LeBlanc for her comments. Mr. Grady thanked Chris Drezek for the things you did for the Enfield School District. It has been a pleasure working with you and you will be missed.

Ms. Hall stated that we have heard a lot of good comments tonight – thank you. Mrs. Hall stated on February 26 at 4:00 PM at the Public Library a discussion on the Educational Foundation in Enfield will be held. This is something we have needed in Enfield for a long time. On February 28th at 2:00 PM Congressman Courtney will be at Asnuntuck to discuss the stimulus package we will receive. On March 4th at 6:30 PM in the JFK Library, Representative Karen Jarmoc will be discussing High School Graduation Requirements. This is the program that will raise the number of credits to 24 in order for students to graduate. Please come and talk to Karen Jarmoc.

Chairman Greco thanked Mrs. Maxwell for sharing and publicly thanking staff members. Chairman Greco stated the Board's plan was to be proactive not reactionary. The DAC was designed to be proactive. Unfortunately we need to play the hand that we are dealt – economic shortfalls. Chairman Greco would like for us to not be reactionary but that is not the case. We need to be able to live within our budget without impacting the needs of our students. Chairman Greco agrees with Mrs. Price – we need more discussions. Tonight is the first the Board has heard the DAC's presentation and assures Mrs. Price that the Board will have a minimum of at least one community conversation relative to closing a school. Chairman Greco agrees with Mrs. Braun that 6th grade students should not be placed at JFK. It would take more time to make that decision. Chairman Greco addressed Mrs. LeBlanc and stated that he is a Stowe parent & liaison and past PTO president and has seen many e-mails on school closings. But not one Stowe parent has contacted him regarding closing a school. You can't get the information you need or want if you don't ask. The preschool question Chairman

Greco will refer to Dr. Gallacher. Dr. Gallacher stated we would move the preschool classes to another school. We are obligated to provide the services. Chairman Greco thanked Mr. Drezek. It has been an honor and a privilege working with you. Chairman Greco knows what you have to do on a daily basis and appreciates everything you have done for the Enfield Public School System and wishes you the best of luck in Wethersfield.

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- a. Pequot League– as presented
- b. Fermi OCR Compliance – as presented
- c. Personnel Report – as presented
- d. ITPC Update – as presented

12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Hall reported that she attended the CREC Council meeting last week. CREC magnet school application deadlines have closed. The State Department of Education Accountability and School District Improvement committee gave an overview. The Legislative Priorities from CAGE were reviewed. ECS is no longer a sacred cow. Ms. Hall stated there is strong support for postponing the in-schools suspensions for at least two years. Ms. Hall stated that Dr. Douglas commented when the Sheff agreement came into place and magnet schools were initiated, the State would pay for the magnet schools and not impose tuitions on the schools. Ms. Hall read a statement regarding magnet schools and tuitions. Ms. Hall stated this is something that will be felt Statewide.

Mr. Droney reported that all the security cameras are up and running at JFK, EHS and FHS.

13. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS AND PAYROLL - None

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Final Reading of Suggested Changes to Several Policies

Mr. Johnson stated that policy #1240.1 Volunteers in Schools will not be discussed tonight. This policy will be discussed further at the next policy meeting. This policy needs further clarification.

Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Enfield Board of Education accepts policies 3161 Transfer of Funds; 3260 Disposal of Educational Materials; 3293 Restitution for Property Damage (Vandalism); 3320 Purchasing Policy; 3511 Fire Safety Program; 3512 Pest Management Program; 3545 Transportation of Students; 3546.1 Reduced Price and Free Lunches; 41111 Personnel Administration; 5123 Promotion/Retention/Assignment and 5410 Nondiscrimination – Title IX as final readings.

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

b. Proposed FY09-10 School Calendar

Chairman Greco asked for clarification as to what constitutes the first day of school? Dr. Gallacher stated the first day the students are in school. The proposed calendar does not follow the Board policy. Chairman Greco stated we have several challenges to the calendar. The proposed calendar does not follow our BOE policy. If it did, the first day of school would be September 1. The second challenge is we need to adopt a calendar by February 28th. Chairman Greco stated we can vote to suspend the rules and adopt the policy or we can table the discussion until we hear from legislation regarding the start date.

Mr. Droney moved, seconded by Mr. Grady to suspend the rules and the policy until we hear back from the State regarding the start date.

Parliamentarian Point of Order:

Chairman Greco asked what would be the best way to make this motion. Mr. Stokes stated that we should waive the policy and then table the agenda item.

Mr. Droney amended his original motion to waive policy #6111 School Calendars, seconded by Mr. Stokes. A vote by **show of hands 9-0-0.**

Mr. Droney moved, seconded by Mr. Grady to Table the Proposed FY09-10 School Calendar indefinitely.

Point of Clarification:

Mr. Stokes stated that when a motion to table is placed, you can assign a date or it will be indefinite.

A vote by **roll call 8-1-0**, motion passes with Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa in dissent.

15. NEW BUSINESS

a. First Reading to 8000 Series Policies

Ms. Hall would like to see policy #8251 keep school district in the policy. Mr. Johnson stated the policy committee is trying to make this policy more in line. Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated to make the policy read the benefit of students and residents of the district. Mr. Droney stated we should refer to the school district in the policy. Mr. Stokes stated we are in charge of students in the school district. Chairman Greco stated to make the change to benefit of the school district, students and residents of the town.

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches that the Enfield Board of Education accept the proposed changes to policies #8110 Role of the Enfield Board of Education and amended changes to #8251 Bylaws of the Board of Education as a first reading.

A vote by **roll call 7-2-0** passed with Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa and Mr. Johnson in dissent.

Mr. Johnson stated that policies #8252 Relations with Vendors and #8341 Meetings have a reviewed date of February 24, 2009 added.

b. First Reading of IT Related Policies

Mr. Johnson stated that both IT Policies will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

c. Adopt FY09-10 Proposed Budget

Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa that the Enfield Board of Education adopt the FY09-10 Proposed Budget of \$63,093,625.00 and submit the proposed budget to the Town Council.

Ms. Hall stated if we receive additional funds through the Town, will we receive any of those dollars? Chairman Greco stated we would go after any funds received from the Federal Government aggressively.

Mr. Arnone stated that we have been told by the Town Council and this will cause irreversible damages to the school budget and he can not support this proposed budget.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated that she has heard that we will receive a -01% budget. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches agrees with Mr. Arnone and is frustrated.

Chairman Greco stated that many Towns have put forward increases in their proposed budgets. Chairman Greco appreciates the Town for telling us upfront what they can give us. Chairman Greco stated this is by far the worst of the four budgets he has presented to the Town Council. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated last year we went through the trauma with Blue Sheets and appreciates putting the budget together hopefully only once this year. We struggled for months and then had to redo the budget. Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated that she trusts the Town Council to do what is best and fair for everyone.

A vote by **roll call 7-2-0** passed with Mr. Arnone and Mr. Grady in dissent.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Droney moved, seconded by Mr. Stokes that the Enfield Board of Education enter into executive session to discuss:

- a. Matter(s) Related to Collective Bargaining – Nurses’ Contract;
- b. Discussion Concerning Information Contained in a Confidential Document (i.e. Perspective Public Supply Contract) – Bus Contract;
- b. Matter(s) Related to Personnel – Superintendent’s Contract.

A vote by **show of hands 8-1-0**, motion passes with Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches in dissent.

Dr. Gallacher, Mr. Torre and Dr. Cooke joined the Board in Executive Session at 10:15 PM. At 10:40 PM, Dr. Gallacher, Mr. Torre and Dr. Cooke were asked to leave Executive Session.

Mr. Droney moved, seconded by Mr. Grady to end the Executive Session and return to Public Session at 10:58 PM. Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands 9-0-0. No other actions were taken while in Executive Session.

Return to Public Session:

15. New Business Continued:

d. Action, if any, on Nurses’ Contract

Mr. Stokes moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Enfield Board of Education ratify the Memorandum of Agreement dated February 24, 2009 between the Board and the Enfield School Nurses’ Association as presented.

Mr. Stokes thanked the Nurses Association for extending their contract with freezing their wages and helping out the district in these difficult economic times.

Chairman Greco concurs with Mr. Stokes. To have an organization step-up and help us is highly commendable.

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

e. Action, if any, on Bus Contract

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Enfield Board of Education, acting in the best interest of the school system waives competitive bids per Policy #3320 Purchasing Policy in order to allow for the potential extension of the current bus contract with Smyth Bus, Inc. to June 30, 2012 and that the annual rates for July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2012 be amended as presented in the amended Appendix A. This amendment reflects the rates for FY09-10 as being frozen at the FY08-09 rates. Smyth Bus, Inc. will notify the Board by November 1, 2010 if they elect to exercise their option to extend the contract to June 30, 2012 at the amended rates.

Mr. Droney thanked Dick Smyth for negotiating with us. They have always done a great job and thanks Mr. Smyth and his company.

A vote by **roll call 8-1-0** passed with Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa in dissent.

f. Action, if any, on Superintendent's Contract

Mr. Stokes moved to table the Superintendent's Contract indefinitely, seconded by Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches.

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

17. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mr. Droney to adjourn the Regular Meeting of February 24, 2009. All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 11:10 PM.

Joyce P. Hall
Secretary
Enfield Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary