

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
April 27, 2010**

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 April 27, 2010.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Stokes.
2. **INVOCATION OR MOMENT OF SILENCE** Stacy Thurston
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Stacy Thurston
4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT** Chairman Stokes announced the fire evacuation announcement.
5. **ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Tom Sirard, Donna Szewczak, Judy Apruzzese-Desroches, Joyce Hall, Vincent Grady, Stacy Thurston and Greg Stokes

**MEMBERS ABSENT** Peter Jonaitis & Charles Johnson

**ALSO PRESENT** Dr. John Gallacher, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Anthony Torre, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Enrico Fermi High Student Representative Meghan Ruff and Enfield High School Student Representative Regina Casale

Chairman Stokes stated that Mr. Jonaitis is home, along with his wife recovering from their recent motorcycle accident. Mr. Johnson is also home recovering from his illness.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Hall moved, seconded by Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches that the Special Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2010 be approved. Motion passed unanimously by a **show of hands 7-0-0**.

Ms. Hall moved, seconded by Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches that the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2010 be approved. Motion passed unanimously by a **show of hands 7-0-0**.

Ms. Hall moved, seconded by Mrs. Szewczak that the Special Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2010 be approved. Motion passed unanimously by a **show of hands 7-0-0**.

Ms. Hall moved, seconded by Mrs. Szewczak that the Special Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2010 be approved. Motion passed by a **show of hands 6-0-1** with Mr. Grady abstaining.

7. **BOARD GUESTS**

a. **Andy Zander, Enfield Food Shelf**

Chairman Stokes welcomed Andy Zander to the Board meeting. Mr. Zander distributed packets to Board members regarding his benefit concert that will be held on July 23, 2010. The benefit concert is to raise funds for those in need to help end "Hunger and Thirst". Mr. Zander thanked Board members, Dr. Gallacher and Mr. Torre for inviting him to the Board

meeting. Mr. Zander stated he was once a client of the food shelf and his circumstances have changed and he wanted to give back to Enfield. Mr. Zander spoke to the directors at the Enfield Food Shelf and came up with the idea of a benefit concert. Tom Chapin will perform at the benefit concert. Tickets are \$15. Mr. Zander asked for Board members help to spread the word about this benefit concert. Mr. Zander asked the Board to distribute flyers to the students for additional publicity. The Enfield Food Shelf serves around 350 families each week. Times are tough but this will help out the Food Shelf. Mr. Zander stated they are looking for sponsors. This will be their mega fundraiser. Mr. Zander stated contact information can be found on the flyers or by going to [www.enfieldfoodshelf.org](http://www.enfieldfoodshelf.org).

Chairman Stokes thanked Mr. Zander and stated we can send the flyers home with the students. We can also put this on our web page.

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- a. ITPC Meeting Minutes;
- b. Public Hearing Notice;
- c. Handouts from Andy Zander.

## **9. AUDIENCES - None**

## **10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

FHS Student Representative Meghan Ruff urged students to keep up their grades even though the end of the year is fast upon us. Colleges do look at your fourth quarter grades.

Mr. Sirard congratulated the BUZZ Robotics Team for their 6<sup>th</sup> place accomplishment. We are extremely proud of you.

EHS Student Representative Regina Casale thanked Mr. Zander for his presentation. It is a great cause and she will tell her friends about it.

Mrs. Thurston stated Eli Whitney will host a Grade 3 Poetry Night tonight. They will also have a BOGO Book Fair. The Grade 4 Students will go to Mystic Seaport this week. Mrs. Thurston stated that any Eli Whitney Student that displays a positive attitude can attend an additional PE class. Eli Whitney will hold a talent show on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Hall attended the 70<sup>th</sup> NSBA (National School Board Association) Conference the last weekend in March. She attended several workshops and information regarding the workshops can be found on the NSBA website. Ms. Hall stated the topic she found most interesting was regarding the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning. Ms. Hall has information to share with anyone that might be interested regarding 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning. Ms. Hall also has a book from one of the presenters entitled the Death & Life of the Great American School System by Diane Ravitch to share with anyone that might be interested. Ms. Hall also brought back advertising blocks to be used on fences. Ms. Hall stated attending this conference gives you the opportunity to meet Board members from across the country. It is definitely worth it.

Chairman Stokes stated the Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup> Strategic Planning Committee meeting has been cancelled. The bus software is almost ready and will be ready for viewing at our next meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Stokes extended his sympathy to the Sullivan Family and Alcorn School Families for the loss of Noreen Sullivan. Noreen Sullivan's love for teaching and her involvement in the community will not be forgotten.

## **11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- a. Public Hearing on Budget – as presented
- b. Racial Imbalance Letters – as presented

Board members were in agreement to go forward with the plan and to ask for help from the State. Chairman Stokes agrees to allow the Policy Committee to work on any required policies that may be needed and to hold any community conversations that may be required.

Ms. Hall asked if the outcome of the Strategic Planning Committee could be used as a plan. Dr. Gallacher stated this could definitely be used. Race would need to be taken into consideration with the plan. The State would still need to look at our numbers once a plan is in place.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated the plan that is needed needs to be in place within 120 days and a hearing will need to be held and the plan needs to be approved by the State. How will this feed into the Strategic Plan. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated we were talking about doing something in September 2010. Dr. Gallacher stated the plan needs to go to the State within 120 days. They have 60 days to approve it. The plan would be for September 2011 not 2010. We could also submit an action statement stating what we have done.

Mr. Sirard asked what would be the consequences to the District. Dr. Gallacher stated as you read through the materials, it will list the consequences. They will tell you what you need to do.

- c. ITPC Update – as presented
- d. Grants Report – as presented
- e. Personnel Report – as presented

## **12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Ms. Hall reported that she attended a CREC meeting and potential legislation was discussed. Legislation is still in session and most of the bills have not been passed yet. Charter Schools, High School Reform and increasing funds to Project Choice Recipients have not been passed yet. Unless these get passed, it will defeat the RTTT second phase applications. Ms. Hall believes that each Board will be asked again to support the RTTT before June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Ms. Hall reported that each Board member will receive an invitation to attend the annual CREC meeting. This year, Ms. Hall will be elected as Chairperson. Chairman Stokes asked for the date of this meeting. Ms. Hall stated it will be held on Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Stokes congratulated Ms. Hall. This is a tremendous honor. Ms. Hall stated that she will receive automatic notices from legislation when bills are passed as the CREC Chairperson.

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

### **a. For the Month of March FY2008-09**

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Ms. Hall that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification as follows: "I hereby certify that in the month of March FY2008-09, total expenditures amount to \$559.71 broken down between payroll totaling \$0 and other accounts totaling \$559.71. All payments have been made in accordance with the approved

budget and are properly accounted for within the books of accounts. Copies of approval for check invoices are properly documented.”

A vote by **show of hands 7-0-0**, motion passed unanimously.

**b. For the Month of March FY2009/10**

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Ms. Hall that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent’s certification as follows: “I hereby certify that in the month of March FY2009-10, total expenditures amount to \$10,911,660.44, broken down between payroll totaling \$3,420,472.32 and other accounts totaling \$7,491,188.12. All payments have been made in accordance with the approved budget and are properly accounted for within the books of accounts. Copies of approval for check invoices are properly documented.”

A vote by **show of hands 7-0-0**, motion passed unanimously.

**c. Line Item Transfers, if any - None**

**14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**a. Discussion on RFP for Reorganization and Action(s), if any (Tabled 04-13-10)**

Board members agreed to keep this item tabled.

**15. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Approve Services of Demographer**

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Mrs. Szewczak that the Enfield Board of Education approve the services of a demographer.

A vote by **roll call 7-0-0**, passed unanimously.

**b. Approve English/Language Arts Curriculum Guides**

Mrs. Szewczak moved, seconded by Ms. Hall that the Enfield Board of Education approve the curriculum guides as presented.

**Discussion:**

Ms. Hall stated as a result of our discussion at the Curriculum meeting with Jeris Griffin, changes were made to the curriculum guides.

A vote by **roll call 7-0-0**, passed unanimously.

**16. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mrs. Szewczak moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard that the Enfield Board of Education enter into Executive Session to discuss:

- a. Matter(s) Related to Pending Claims & Litigation
- b. Discussion of Confidential Document Protected by Attorney-Client Privilege

Motion passed unanimously by a **show of hands 7-0-0**.

Superintendent Gallacher, Assistant Superintendent Torre and Director of Human Resources Mr. Drezek joined the Board in Executive Session.

No Board actions occurred while in Executive Session.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mrs. Thurston to adjourn the Regular Meeting of April 27, 2010. All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Joyce P. Hall  
Secretary  
Enfield Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary