

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 28, 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 April 28, 2009.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Greco.
2. **INVOCATION OR MOMENT OF SILENCE** Andre Greco
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Andre Greco
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, Charles Johnson and Andre Greco

MEMBERS ABSENT Susan Lavelli-Hozempa

ALSO PRESENT Dr. John Gallacher, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Anthony Torre, Assistant Superintendent of Schools and Enrico Fermi Student Representative Samantha Reid

Ms. Hall asked Dr. Gallacher to check on our Student Representatives. They have not attended the last several Board meetings.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Droney moved, seconded by Ms. Hall that the Special and Regular Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2009 be approved. There were no corrections. Motion passed by a **show of hands 8-0-0.**

7. **BOARD GUESTS**

a. **Ryan & Matt Coppinger**

Chairman Greco welcomed Ryan and Matt Coppinger to the Board meeting. Chairman Greco stated that Ryan and Matt are here tonight to discuss a recycling program they are part of. Mr. Coppinger thanked Board members for inviting them. They have started a juice pouch brigade at Henry Barnard Elementary School. They have submitted 800 juice pouches and have an additional 1,200 ready to be shipped and 300 that need to be bundled up. They are hoping that other schools will join the juice box brigade.

Ms. Hall asked if it costs a lot to ship the pouches. Mr. Coppinger stated the shipping is free.

Chairman Greco asked what they will do with the money they collect. Mr. Coppinger stated he will use the money to purchase books for classrooms and the library at Henry Barnard.

Board members thanked the students.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- a. Proposed Revised Charge for the Demographic Advisory Committee;
- b. Invitation to attend the EHS Lamplighters production "Frankenstein Unbound";
- c. Health Advisory regarding the Swine Influenza;

Chairman Greco stated that he spoke to Mayor Kaupin and Matt Coppler this afternoon regarding information they received from our State Representatives concerning MBR (Minimum Budget Requirement) legislation that will most likely be passed unchanged. The MBR states that Towns must fund Board's of Education at least the same amount of money that was funded the previous school year. The TC will now need to adjust their budget deliberations by \$2.3 million dollars. The Board of Education can reduce our reductions by \$2.3 million dollars. Chairman Greco stated on the Superintendent's Budget Recommendations there is a note approaching MBR Zone. We will now need to go back to square one and come up with new budget recommendations from the Superintendent. We could work our way back up through Tier III. This is good news for us. There will be some levels of impact, but it will not be as severe as before.

Dr. Gallacher stated that this will be a pleasant task to put \$2,336,950.00 back into programs for next year.

9. AUDIENCES

Paul Gaudet, Carmella Terrace – Mr. Gaudet would like to see the Portfolio Art Program put back into the budget. Portfolio is one of most important classes in the school system. He will pursue his art education in Boston next year. Portfolio prepares you how to problem solve, critically think and articulate. Colleges can look at your artwork and tell you about their schools. Without Portfolio there will be fewer electives for students to chose and the remaining art classes will fill up quickly. He knows 16 students that are planning to take Portfolio next year. Mr. Gaudet thanked Board members

Ben Ide, Fairview Avenue – Mr. Ide is looking forward to a new era of rational and long term planning when it comes to education in Enfield. Mr. Ide stated that a lot of people believe Alcorn is on the chopping block because of revenge, strategies or low standardized test scores. Dr. Gallacher has the welfare of all of our children at heart. No one wants to incur additional costs by closing a walking school. Busing non-minority students to Alcorn is a good idea. Mr. Ide thanked Board members and is looking forward to the upcoming year.

Daniel Clement, Queen Street – Mr. Clement stated the State is pushing for schools to become data driven. Mr. Clement shared data regarding business. Business is the highest major for college students pursuing a four year degree. Do our student numbers match up with the entire United States? Enfield High does not track information regarding careers only the institutions they attend. Fermi had information from the class of 2005. The majority of students chose business as their intended major, the next was undecided. Our students see the value of business; do Board members see the value? Mr. Clement thanked Board members.

Sarah Brown, Elm Meadows – Ms. Brown is a JFK Music Teacher, taxpayer and a registered voter. We want our students to graduate from the Enfield Public School System loving their experiences and to be prepared for life. We want them to stay in Enfield and have their own families grow up in Enfield. We are losing the big picture if we do not support Education in Enfield. We are cutting classes some students need in order to succeed in school and graduate. We need to meet the needs of all students. Our students are our future. Ms. Brown urged Board members to think of this when making budget cuts. Ms. Brown thanked Board members.

Meghan Ruff, High Meadow Lane – Ms. Ruff is a junior at Enrico Fermi High School. She is concerned with some of the budget cuts that will affect her getting into college. It is hard for a public school student to get into a prestigious college. Ms. Ruff is an honor student. Ms. Ruff would like to see us keep Latin and French classes to give students options. Ms. Ruff plays three sports and this will cost her family additional money next year. Ms. Ruff is also an art student that wants to take Portfolio next year as well as many other art students. Ms. Ruff stated that every test she takes is critical at this time. Ms. Ruff thanked Board members.

Jessica Vaughn, South Road – Ms. Vaughn is here tonight regarding possible cuts in the art classes. Ms. Vaughn stated she contemplated dropping out of school in 9th and 10th grade. She enrolled in Visual Arts I and loved it. Ms. Vaughn stated she has never truly fit in and found that she was accepted when she started taking art classes. Ms. Vaughn has also taken Drawing I and is planning to take Portfolio next and is looking forward to going to college. The Fermi Art teachers have given me faith and hope to succeed. Ms. Vaughn urged Board members to not cut art courses to give other students the opportunity to change their lives like she did.

Sara Levinthal-O'Farrell, David Street – Mrs. Levinthal-O'Farrell stated the benefits and pitfalls of closing a school would be realized. She has attended Board and Town Council meetings and has made a concerted effort to understand all view points. She believes political posturing with all parties has hindered a progressive rational and well thought out solution to this crisis. A climate of mistrust has been made. We never should have been contemplating cutting \$6.8 million dollars to the education budget and cutting 120 positions is senseless. Mrs. Levinthal-O'Farrell just does not get it. The assault on the teacher union and the teachers in Enfield is not fair. Their contract compared to other Towns is reasonable. Our teachers deserve our respect and thanks. She would like to see the BOE and the Superintendent fight hard for our children and education in Enfield. Question the Town Council and tell them the funds they are allocating are not enough. Fight for quality education our children have to matter. Mrs. Levinthal-O'Farrell thanked Board members.

Claire Markey, Coslin Road – Ms. Markey stated the budget cuts will now be reduced and that is great but nothing is definitive at this time. Ms. Markey is voicing her opinion regarding Portfolio Preparation. This was the most important course she took in her entire high school career. You are taught the skills and discipline to further your education. Pursuing art colleges is different than other academic colleges. Ms. Markey hopes that Board members will reconsider their decision to cut Portfolio art classes. This course is extremely important to aspiring artists. Ms. Markey will attend the Maine College of Art in the fall and is concerned for the aspiring artists next year. Ms. Markey thanked Board members.

Susan Hart, Cynthia Circle – Mrs. Hart thanked the Town for providing air conditioning at the meeting tonight. Mrs. Hart stated she is here to talk about the unions and is assuming that work is still going on behind the scenes. Mrs. Hart stated that this is a suggestion and asked Board members to put something down in writing similar to Dr. Gallacher's Tiers to union members. If strategies were given with more shades of gray to work with, union members could see options. Mrs. Hart stated an example would be, if union members gave us a one year wage freeze they would get this in return. If union members gave us a two year wage freeze, they would get this in return. Mrs. Hart asked at what point can we guarantee that no union members will be cut. Mrs. Hart has not heard anything and this is her small contribution tonight. Mrs. Hart thanked Board members.

Kathy Parrow, Thompson Court – Mrs. Parrow was glad to hear about the MBR funds and thank you for listening to us. It was nice to hear from the Art students. Mrs. Parrow stated that she treasured her teachers in Enfield and they made her who she is today and she is grateful. Mrs. Parrow stated there is too much political drama going on. The TC and BOE look like Tom and Jerry pointing their fingers at each other. Mrs. Parrow will help Board members

cut the budget and would like to see a department by department list of expenses. We trust you to make the cuts that are needed. You need to have a humane and generous mind. Mrs. Parrow thanked Board members.

Sue Braun, Light Street – Mrs. Braun stated that she has attended Town Council meetings and will continue to do so and now really appreciates Board meetings. Audience members at TC meetings are rude and talk behind your back. Board members actually look at you when you speak and TC members should take a lesson from the BOE. If Board members entrust the DAC with a new charge, they will come through for us again. Even with the MBR funds, our cuts are too huge. Next year will be another tough budget year and we need to think outside of the box. Everyone needs to think of the needs of all the students in Enfield. We need to make our school system one of the best. Mrs. Braun thanked Board members.

Bob Tkacz, Bernadino Avenue – Mr. Tkacz stated everyone last November voted for change. Mr. Tkacz previously stated that the next budget cycle would be different. Many committees have made recommendations for change in the school system and if the changes were implemented we would not be in the dilemma we are in today. We need to be proactive. Numbers are declining and we have not downsized any of our schools or system. Mr. Tkacz reviewed school rankings. This administration has not figured out how to give our students equal education to enhance their learning. We need to help our students learn better and to raise school rankings. Major changes are needed and the Board will need to get involved. Mr. Tkacz thanked Board members.

Kathy Thomson, Duff Drive – Mrs. Thomson enjoyed hearing from the art students and the MBR funds. Mrs. Thomson would like to know why the Board has set firm dates for graduations for 2010. Mrs. Thomson does not want to see a school close. Education is important to a community. Closing a school will have a detrimental effect on our school system and community for years to come. Mrs. Thomson stated she was amused when TC members put the blame on BOE members last week when residents spoke to Town Council members regarding budget cuts. Mrs. Thomson would like us to be able to dip into the rainy day fund. Mrs. Thomson thanked Board members.

10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Enrico Fermi Student Representative Ms. Reid is proud of her fellow art students for coming here tonight and speaking. It was something that was definitely needed.

Mr. Droney stated that Spencer and Tyler Reese will be the 2009 Co-Valedictorians for Enrico Fermi High. The CAS Scholars are Claire Markey, Andrew Pizzuto and the CIAC Fermi Scholar Athletes are Jeffrey Pruden and Jessica Carvajal. Ms. Erica Hines will be attending Brown University. Congratulations to these Fermi students.

Mr. Stokes appreciates the information regarding the MBR funds and everyone who spoke tonight. Board members are also concerned with budget cuts. Mr. Stokes commented to Ms. Vaughn and stated you spoke so articulate and never let anyone judge you by what you wear or how you look. Mr. Stokes stated that if we had a rainy day fund mentioned by Mrs. Thomson, we would go after it. You are referring to the reserves for bonding that have been secured.

Mr. Johnson appreciated the students speaking tonight and supports arts and music programs. Board members need to look at the needs of all students and support them in any of their aspirations. Mr. Johnson agrees with Mrs. Braun by thinking outside of the box and spending needs to be curbed.

Mr. Arnone commented that he can live with the MBR mandate and is sorry that the State has to tell us what to do with the money. Mr. Arnone is glad to hear that Mr. Gaudet will be furthering his education in college. There is no conspiracy with Alcorn School. Mr. Arnone is not totally convinced that some of the contingency demutualization money can't be squeezed out for education. Fermi held a science fair and it was huge success. Mr. Arnone thanked 360 Federal Credit Union for helping the students at Prudence Crandall. The Enfield High CAS Scholars are Matthew Morrow and Seth Price. Congratulations to all the students.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches thanked everyone for coming and speaking especially Ryan and Matt Coppinger. It is great to hear first hand from the students.

Mr. Grady attended Parkman's Cultural Chinese Acrobatic Team and encourages other PTO's to have them perform at their school. It was truly amazing. Mr. Grady enjoyed walking on the streets of Boston and looking at the Music and Art Colleges. It will be a shame if we cut these programs because none of the kids from Enfield will be going there. It is a shame that we have to look at cutting classes where the participation numbers are really low. Mr. Grady also supports music and the arts.

Ms. Hall thanked the artists that came out tonight and the art exhibit displays at Enfield High. Ms. Hall had a question for audience speaker Dan Clement regarding the declining number of students taking business courses. It is hard to balance the information we received regarding class participation numbers with your figures.

Chairman Greco thanked everyone for coming and speaking tonight. Chairman Greco is happy with the MBR announcement and agrees with Mrs. Braun that we need to look at the long term picture and next year. After we are done with the budget cycle and move forward with the revised DAC charge, we can take a more proactive approach. Chairman Greco stated that all Board members care about education and is personally offended. Chairman Greco addressed the speaker that doesn't get it, and stated you are absolutely correct.

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Gallacher addressed the health advisory letters regarding the Swine Flu. Dr. Gallacher has spoken to Bill Blitz from the Health Department and we will send out a letters with information regarding the flu to all parents and will post the information on our website. They are stressing not to panic and to use health precautions and further stated if you are feeling sick, stay home.

- a. Racial Imbalance Letters – as presented
- b. Stimulus Funds – as presented
- c. Public Hearing on Budget – as presented
- f. NHS Dinner – as presented
- g. Personnel Report – as presented

12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Hall reported that the Head Start Policy Committee met and later on the agenda, we will address a grant application. Head Start will undergo a federal review in June. The last time this review was done, they received a perfect score. The Enfield Head Start does a wonderful job. Several of the organizations that meet with the Policy Committee (New Directions, DCF, and NADA) are also dealing with budget cuts. The Head Start Program has been flat funded for several years and they have also been making cuts.

Ms. Hall attended the CREC Council Meeting. The membership of the CREC Council is comprised with representatives from the Hartford County and they are undergoing layoffs also as well as CREC. Board members, Dr. Gallacher and Mr. Torre are invited to attend the

annual CREC Meeting on May 20th. If you are interested, please let Ms. Hall know. Ms. Hall distributed a list from CABA about current legislation. CABA supports and opposes some of the proposed legislation and is looking for our support. One of the items proposed would require our school nurses to be registered and to be nationally certified. This would require a higher pay for nurses.

Mr. Stokes reported that Curriculum Committee met and we will address this item later on the agenda.

Mr. Stokes reported that the Finance Committee met earlier this evening and welcomed our new Business Manager Chris Chemerka. The committee agreed that Ms. Chemerka's focus will work inline with the Superintendent with our budget for the next few days. The committee will leave her alone while she acclimates herself.

Mr. Johnson reported that the Policy Committee met earlier this evening and we address a new policy later on the agenda for a first reading.

13. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS AND PAYROLL

a. For the Month of March FY2007-08

Mr. Stokes 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 FY2007-08, total expenditures amount to \$10,077.38 broken down between payroll totaling \$0 and other accounts totaling \$10,077.38. 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**, motion passes.

b. For the Month of March FY2008/09

Mr. Stokes 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 \$7,347,997.68, broken down between payroll totaling \$4,536,727.53 and other accounts totaling \$2,811,270.15. 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**, motion.

c. Line Item Transfers, if any - None

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Revised Charge(s) for Demographic Advisory Committee

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches read the following new charge for the DAC.

***Enfield Board of Education
Demographic Advisory Committee
Revised Charge – April 2009***

The Demographic Advisory Committee will investigate and recommend to the Enfield Board of Education a K to 12 education model for Enfield. The model should serve the district for a minimum of one decade.

The model must minimally address the following (in alphabetical order):

- *Address the proposed state curriculum changes,*
- *Best serve the educational, social and emotional needs to the students,*
- *Best utilization of the facilities,*
- *Developmental needs of the students,*
- *Financial impact to the community,*
- *Meet or exceed the current Board approved curriculum K-12,*
- *Racial balance.*

The charge will be addressed in a two-step process.

Step One: *A subcommittee of the full Demographic Advisory Committee (DAC) will be formed to concentrate on the educational design (vision) of the district. Members of this subcommittee will include:*

- *Chairperson of the DAC,*
- *2 members of the full DAC appointed by the Chair,*
- *Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of Schools,*
- *Representatives of the administration from each of the High Schools (a Fermi representative is already a member of the DAC),*
- *Representative of the administration from the Middle School (already a member of the DAC),*
- *2 Elementary Principals (already members of the DAC)*
- *2 liaisons from the Board of Education (1 member already assigned),*

The subcommittee will be chaired by either the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent and report their recommendation to the full Board by October 30, 2009.

Step Two: *Once the Subcommittee's recommendation has been approved by the Board of Education, the full DAC will be recalled and have responsibility for formulating an implementation plan to bring the design to reality. In addition to the existing DAC membership, the committee will be expanded to include:*

- *2 additional members of the public,*
- *1 additional liaison from the Board of Education (assigned to the subcommittee)*
- *2 liaisons from the Town Council.*

The full committee will report their recommendations to the full Board of Education by February 28, 2010.

Mr. Stokes mentioned at the last Board meeting devising a long term plan and planning for the future. The revised charge of the DAC will accomplish this.

Ms. Hall moved, seconded by Mr. Droney that the Enfield Board of Education approves the revised charge(s) for the Demographic Advisory Committee.

A vote by **roll call 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

b. Continue Discussion on Potential School Closing

Ms. Hall moved, seconded by Mr. Arnone that the Enfield Board of Education not close a school.

Discussion:

Mr. Johnson asked if this is something we really want to do at this time since we do not have a budget in place. Ms. Hall stated that by closing a school now, it would not save us enough money to make a difference one way or another.

Mr. Stokes stated that the Superintendent will redo his list of recommendations based on the information we received from Chairman Greco.

Parliamentary Procedures:

Mr. Stokes stated that parliamentary procedures state that if the motion passes tonight to not close a school, any Board member on the affirmative side can bring the vote back up for reconsideration.

Mr. Johnson asked if this would need to take place at the next meeting. Mr. Stokes stated a motion to reconsider must be done at the next meeting. A motion to rescind can be done at any meeting but would require a 2/3 majority vote.

Mr. Johnson does not support closing a school, but does not want to limit our abilities at a later time. We just gained roughly \$2 million and we are limiting ourselves.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches appreciates Mr. Johnson's concern but would like Board members to make a decision one way or the other and make a plan for putting our budget in place.

Mr. Grady asked if Dr. Gallacher will have his revised list of reductions for the next BOE meeting. Dr. Gallacher stated that he would have them ready for the next meeting. Mr. Grady further stated that it is not a bad idea to vote on this tonight but if the recommendations warrant closing a school we can do that at a later time. Mr. Johnson stated that if we vote on this again in two weeks it will be even more confusing to the public.

Mr. Stokes stated if we closed a school, we would most likely send the students affected by the closing to four different schools. Redistricting at this time would not be possible. The DAC has a long term plan and we do not have the final plan or numbers. We are at a point where we would not gain anything by doing this now.

Mr. Arnone stated we have a lot of anxiety out in the district. We need to put this behind us and move forward.

Mr. Droney stated originally we were looking at a savings of around \$800K. The numbers are now much lower and the possibility of losing money is greater. Mr. Droney agrees with Mr. Arnone and Mr. Stokes that we need to put this item to rest and release some of the anxiety.

A vote by **show of hands 7-1-0** passed with Mr. Johnson in dissent.

Ms. Hall moved, seconded by Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches that all the current schools be reorganized so that the class sizes will be more equivalent.

Chairman Greco stated that we have a motion to redistrict the school district between now and the end of the school year. Ms. Hall further stated in preparation for next year.

Discussion:

Mr. Droney agrees that we need to do something regarding class sizes, but we need to let the DAC work on their new charge.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches also agreed with Mr. Droney but we have our policy for out-of-district students. Students can voluntarily go back to their home schools and minor tweaks can be made in order to balance some classes instead of doing a complete redistricting.

Mr. Arnone would like to wait until the budget is set and then take a look at what we need to reluctantly cut in the system.

A vote by **show of hands 1-7-0** motion failed with Mr. Johnson, Mr. Grady, Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches, Mr. Arnone, Mr. Droney, Mr. Stokes and Chairman Greco in dissent.

c. Continue Budget Discussion

Chairman Greco stated that Board members can ask Dr. Gallacher any questions regarding his budget recommendations at this time.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches asked if the JFK librarian was the only librarian proposed to be cut. Dr. Gallacher stated that is correct. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches asked if one of the other librarians would fill in for this person. Mr. Neville stated it was a reduction not a recommendation. This cut would allow us to not cut another reading or classroom teacher. Mr. Neville stated the JFK Librarian works with classes all the time. This cut would affect our accreditation.

Dr. Gallacher stated the elementary Librarian is Jim Bowman and he will be working in the elementary schools. The library clerk at Parkman could possibly help out at JFK. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches asked if there are certain administrative tasks that someone else would need to do at JFK. Mr. Neville stated yes, some things we would need to do and some things the classroom teachers would need to do.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches asked about Board funding for field trips and should this be cut. Dr. Gallacher stated it was a nominal amount and it did not warrant being cut. It could equal around \$10K. Most of the trips are self funded. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated we do not pay for the teachers to travel to Spain. Dr. Gallacher stated that is correct. We cover the sub costs.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches asked about the \$90K for the IT fund. Dr. Gallacher stated he will discuss this with Mr. Russell and is hoping that some of the stimulus money can help with this. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated that we should have a say regarding this amount and what our money will be spent on. Dr. Gallacher stated that we have received so much from the IT co-op and did not want to cut this line item. Dr. Gallacher further stated that he will meet with IT on Thursday to discuss bus software.

Mr. Stokes asked about eliminating the in-school suspension program and would this eliminate some paras? Dr. Cooke stated that was correct.

Mr. Droney asked if there is a requirement in the teacher's contract that coaches need to be a certified teacher in order to coach. Dr. Gallacher stated they need to be a certified coach and we look at teachers first when filling a coaching position. Mr. Droney asked if we can use parent volunteers to coach? Dr. Gallacher stated they would need to be paid but they could give the money back. We need to honor the teacher's contract. This is mandated by wage and hour and ETA contract.

Mr. Droney asked about the music participation fee. What expense does the district incur for children that participate in instrumental music? Dr. Gallacher stated busing costs and this would be a revenue enhancer. Dr. Gallacher stated the numbers are for students in 5th grade and up. Mr. Droney stated the number is a little high.

Mr. Johnson asked if this was a fee for students taking a class. Dr. Gallacher stated a usage fee was also discussed.

Mr. Droney does not believe 840 students are utilizing busing. Mr. Droney asked if we were going to charge high school students for co-curricular credits. Dr. Goodnight stated that 340 students are 5th and 6th graders.

Mr. Johnson asked if this is a musical instrument class or is this for transportation. Mr. Johnson asked if all of the 840 students would be charged this amount? Dr. Gallacher stated this would be my plan, not Dr. Goodnite's plan. Dr. Goodnite does not want us to touch anything musically related. These are Dr. Gallacher's recommendations.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated this is the extra piece that we are asking them to pay for. Maybe it should not be all of the 840 music students. If we are charging students for something that is not part of the academic rigor, they should pay for the busing.

Dr. Gallacher stated that we discussed charging for student handbooks. We looked at everything.

Mr. Johnson stated we are charging the student to pay for an academic class. Dr. Goodnite stated we require the students to participate in these parades. It just doesn't seem fair.

Ms. Hall stated that some of the instruments are school owned. Mr. Johnson does not have a problem with charging a student a fee for a school owned instrument. He does have a problem with charging a student for a course.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches does not have a problem charging the students that are using transportation and does not want to charge the elementary students for transportation.

15. NEW BUSINESS

a. New Policy #5141.221 Communicable Disease and Infestation – First Reading

Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches that the Enfield Board of Education adopts as a first reading new policy #5141.221 Communicable Disease and Infestation as presented.

Discussion:

Mr. Arnone asked if we have any policies in place regarding vaccinations when entering or leaving foreign countries. Dr. Gallacher stated they need to submit a medication report to the nurse for any field trips and CIRMA may recommend certain vaccinations for the particular country the student may enter.

A vote by **roll call 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

b. Approve Connecticut Head Start Grant & ARRA Application

Ms. Hall moved, seconded by Mr. Grady to accept the Head Start Grant for \$127,486.00 and the Federal COLA and ARRA funds for \$77,769.00 for the coming year.

Discussion:

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches asked when the money is gone is this something we will need to fund. Ms. Hall stated that we will not need to come up with any additional funding. Dr. Gallacher stated that the district is required to have a certain percentage of in-kind funding. This is all interchangeable. If the stimulus money disappeared, we would still need to fund this. Mr. Torre stated this will not increase any salary and will offset what they already have.

Mr. Johnson stated the cost of living increases will be paid by the Federal Government. When the grant is over will the Town be responsible. Mr. Torre stated no. The money is available to us and we would like to accept it.

A vote by **show of hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

b. Curricula Adoptions – Reading Grades 7 & 8

Mr. Stokes moved, seconded by Ms. Hall that the Enfield Board of Education adopts the Curricula Adoptions - Reading Grades 7 & 8 as presented.

Mr. Stokes stated this will be the last curriculum brought before the Board during this fiscal year. Foreign Language and Math Curriculum revisions were put on hold a month ago.

A vote by **roll call 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

- a. Matter(s) Related to Personnel – Central Office Position(s);
- b. Matter(s) Related to Personnel – Elementary Principal Position(s).

Dr. Gallacher, Mr. Torre and Dr. Cooke joined the Board in Executive Session.

Mr. Droney moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson to end the Executive Session and return to Public Session at 10:15 PM. Motion passed unanimously by a **show of hands 8-0-0**. No other actions were taken while in Executive Session.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Hall moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson to adjourn the Regular Meeting of April 28, 2009. All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 10:16 PM.

Joyce P. Hall
Secretary
Enfield Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary