

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 25, 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 May 25, 2010.

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

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT**   None

**ALSO PRESENT**           Dr. John Gallacher, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Anthony Torre, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; and Enfield High School Student Representative Connor Spain

6.     **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Hall moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 11, 2010 be approved. Motion passed unanimously by a **show of hands 9-0-0**.

Chairman Stokes stated that the Board has the need to add an item to the agenda pertaining to the 2010 graduations.

**SUSPEND THE RULES AND ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA:**

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson to suspend the rules and add an item to the agenda.

A vote by **roll call 9-0-0**, passed unanimously. Chairman Stokes asked Mr. Jonaitis and Mr. Sirard to clarify their "here" vote with either an affirmative or negative vote. Both Mr. Jonaitis and Mr. Sirard responded with a "yes" for the record.

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson that the Enfield Board of Education affirms the Enfield Board of Education's intention regarding modification of the interior of the First Cathedral for the 2010 Graduation of Enfield High School and Enrico Fermi High School with the understanding the modifications will be as follows:

1.     The banners in the lobby will be masked or removed;
2.     The visitors table with the banner in front will be removed;

3. The bookstore/gift shop will be closed, and items will be removed from the exterior windows;
4. The fountain in the lobby will be turned off and covered;
5. Areas of the upper and lower hallways that do not need to be accessed in order to enter the auditorium, enter the staging room, enter the reception room, or use a restroom will be roped off from access by graduation attendees;
6. All framed art in the lobby, the upper and lower hallway areas that are not roped off, the staging area, and the reception area, which contain a religious image or message will be covered;
7. The word "sanctuary" will be covered at the entrance to the auditorium;
8. The banners in the auditorium will be masked or removed;
9. The light behind the stained glass at the rear of the stage will remain off, as will the recessed lighting in the area of the baptistery;
10. The communion table will be removed from the auditorium;
11. The images in the carpet in front of the stage will be covered;
12. The image of a dove at the podium will be covered;
13. The numerous flat screen televisions throughout the auditorium will only show the graduation events, and will have no image regarding First Cathedral;
14. All First Cathedral flyers, brochures, hymnals, bibles, donation envelopes, and informational papers of any kind will be removed from any area accessible to graduation attendees;
15. No First Cathedral staff will serve as greeters to the graduation attendees, or will interact in any way with the attendees, other than as necessary to provide the services contracted for by the Enfield BOE.
16. Any religious image or message not specifically described above will be masked or removed if discovered, the only exceptions being the cross at the top of the structure, and what has been represented to be a cross in the stained glass formed by the steel window mullions above the front entranceway.

A vote by **roll call 8-0-1**, passed with Mr. Grady abstaining.

## **7. BOARD GUESTS**

### **a. TC/BOE Strategic Planning Committee**

Chairman Stokes welcomed members from the TC/BOE Strategic Planning Committee to the Board meeting. Members of the TC/BOE Strategic Planning Committee consist of Mayor Scott Kaupin, Council Members – Bill Lee, Pat Crowley and Cindy Mangini, Chairman Greg Stokes, Board Members, Judy Apruzzese-Desroches, Joyce Hall and Vice Chairman Chuck Johnson, Town Manager Matt Coppler and Superintendent of Schools John Gallacher. Mayor Kaupin gave an overview of the joint committee meetings to date and presented the findings.

Members of the TC/BOE Strategic Planning Committee recommend the following:

- Combine into one high school for grades 9-12
  - o Subcommittee to report to the BOE by October 2010 with recommendations considering the following key elements:
    - Administrators' recommendations
    - ED049 timeline for school construction
    - Concept designs of both high school building including:
      - Required code work
      - Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) requirements

- Campus concept at Enfield High School including the existing Enfield Street and Head Start
- Middle School for grades 6-8
  - o Move the sixth grade to the middle school
    - 50% of the students in September 2010 followed by the balance in September 2011 or 100% of the students in September 2011
    - Use John F. Kennedy or the open high school building once the high school reconfiguration is completed
- Establish separate elementary buildings to support PK-2 & 3-5 in September 2011
  - o Assumes ½ Kindergarten
  - o Sister School concept grouping PK-2 and 3-5 schools together to establish a path from PK -5
  - o Redistrict entire town
  - o Reutilize one to two additional schools at the end of this process
  - o Consider the use of the open secondary school for elementary level use
- Subcommittee was asked to prioritize buildings for reutilization:
  - o HB Stowe – 7 of 7 first choice votes
  - o Nathan Hale – 7 of 7 second choice votes
  - o Enfield Street – 4 of 7 third choice votes
  - o Alcorn School – 3 of 7 third choice votes

Mayor Kaupin stated at the Community Conversation, over 42 audience members spoke. Some spoke several times. The subcommittee met after the community conversation and asked Dr. Gallacher to provide a pros and cons list for elementary recommendations and net cost savings for closing the above listed four elementary schools.

Mayor Kaupin stated this is a starting point of a long term process. The reason Town Council (TC) members are on this committee is because this is a joint process and we are willing partners.

Chairman Stokes stated Dr. Gallacher will give his presentation next.

Mr. Jonaitis asked Mayor Kaupin which recommendation are you recommending and with a 0% budget, how can this be done for next year? Mayor Kaupin stated this would be very difficult to do for next year. The savings will be found at the high school.

Chairman Stokes stated it is not fair to ask members of the TC budgetary questions at this time. This is the recommendation of the joint BOE/TC committee. Mr. Jonaitis believes this is relevant. How can we do the recommendation if we can not afford it? Mayor Kaupin stated the Board did not present the TC with a budget with details. The Town budget has also been cut.

Mr. Jonaitis asked structurally, if there is a difference in bringing in half of the sixth graders? Mayor Kaupin stated based on Mr. Neville's recommendations, they can bring in 50% of the sixth graders in September 2010 or 100% in September 2011.

Mr. Jonaitis asked about the physical places for the sixth grade students at JFK. What will change between now and September 2011? Chairman Stokes stated that Mr. Neville has reassured us this can be done. Some physical changes will be needed. We are not sure what walls will need to be moved. Mayor Kaupin does not believe there is a problem or concern with space for the incoming students.

Mrs. Szewczak stated she was told there would be Town support with Town personnel to make the moves. Mayor Kaupin stated that is correct. An estimated cost of \$20K was prepared by Mr. Coppler for moving the sixth graders. Mrs. Szewczak asked if this cost will come from CIP funds. Mayor Kaupin stated it will come out of salaries and CIP funds if needed.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated in Mr. Neville's presentation to the subcommittee on May 13<sup>th</sup> it lists the partial and full needs for preparing for incoming sixth graders. Mr. Neville along with his staff started preparing for bringing the sixth graders to JFK back in January.

Chairman Stokes stated the subcommittee will continue to work together and thanked the Town Council members for being part of this.

Dr. Gallacher thanked the principals for working on the information. We will make sure that whatever information is handed out tonight, Mr. Coppler receives a copy.

Dr. Gallacher stated there were so many questions at the community conversation regarding the elementary grade reconfigurations that the Mrs. Beaulieu and the elementary principals produced a list of benefits. If this is ok with the Board, we will post this information on the website for the public.

Dr. Gallacher stated the BOE/TC subcommittee members were under the assumption to produce concepts. There are still a lot of questions that need to be answered.

Mrs. Beaulieu gave an overview of the Pre-K-2 and 3-5 benefits of re-organization. If the Board chose to go with this concept, the other elementary principals (Mr. Van Tassel, Mrs. Cox-Blackwell and Mrs. Sampl) will review the plan to go along with this concept.

Mrs. Beaulieu reviewed educational impacts, consolidation of resources and staffing, professional development and collaboration and cost savings.

Mrs. Beaulieu stated there is need to change and the Pre-K; 3-5 modules can be viable to our school system. The transition from a Pre-K – 6 systems is complicated. Planning and preparation is needed. We are asking for time to prepare families. We have been asked to look at our educational system as a business. We want to keep customers informed of the reconfiguration changes are thought out and reasonable.

Mr. Jonaitis thanked Mrs. Beaulieu for preparing this and further stated it is a well thought out plan.

Chairman Stokes thanked Mrs. Beaulieu for this presentation.

Dr. Gallacher stated the following presentations will show how the elementary students will fit if they are moved to certain schools. These are still estimates and they do not include retentions or students that move in or out of the district.

Mr. Van Tassel stated the scenarios look at school mergers for next year. Mr. Van Tassel reviewed classroom numbers and sizes for moving students and staff from Nathan Hale to Eli Whitney. The PAL program would need to be relocated at Hazardville Memorial. No Hale students are within walking distances to Eli Whitney. All sixth grade students would go to JFK. The total reduction of FTE staff for the Whitney/Hale merger would reduce 4.5 teachers.

Mrs. Cox-Blackwell reviewed classroom numbers and sizes for moving students and staff from Nathan Hale to Hazardville Memorial. Art and music would need to be on carts. Memorial could not accommodate the PAL program. No Hale students are within walking distances to Memorial. All sixth grade students would go to JFK. The total reduction of FTE staff for the Memorial/Hale merger would reduce 5 teachers.

Ms. Hall questioned the Hale to Whitney move and why there wasn't any art or music on carts. Mr. Van Tassel stated that is correct. Our art and music rooms are not full size classrooms and we would be able to keep them. If we keep the TLC program, Mr. Van Tassel may need to use the art room as a classroom and that would put art on a cart.

Mr. Grady asked if moving the Hale students to Whitney it would make them a Title I School. Mr. Van Tassel replied that he does not know if they would be a Title I School at this point but does not believe so since Hale is not a Title I School.

Mrs. Sampl reviewed classroom numbers and sizes for moving students and staff from Harriet Beecher Stowe to Edgar H. Parkman. Art and music would need to be on carts. Parkman could not accommodate the TLC program. Seventeen Stowe students are within walking distances to Parkman. All sixth grade students would go to JFK. The total reduction of FTE staff for the Parkman/Stowe merger would reduce 2 teachers.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches asked if the ASD & ECP classrooms at Parkman could be moved to another school like Whitney. Mrs. Sampl stated the programs could be moved to another school that had room.

Mrs. Sampl reviewed classroom numbers and sizes for moving students and staff from Thomas G. Alcorn to Edgar H. Parkman/Harriet Beecher Stowe. Art on a cart would be needed at Stowe and music would need to be on carts at both Parkman & Stowe. There are no students from Alcorn that are within walking distances to Parkman or Stowe. All sixth grade students would go to JFK. The total reduction of FTE staff for the Parkman/Stowe/Alcorn mergers would reduce 4.5 teachers.

Mrs. Szewczak asked if we send the Alcorn students to Parkman and Stowe, the Alcorn students have TLC and Stowe would need it. Dr. Gallacher stated the Title I grant will stay the same. We would have to re-determine our need from the free and reduced lunch applications. It might not follow the Alcorn students.

Mr. Jonaitis does not like the kindergarten breakdown. The class sizes of 21/22 are large for a kindergarten class. Mrs. Sampl stated we are trying to balance out class sizes. Dr. Gallacher stated when Board members start working on the budget, the class size numbers will go up while balancing class numbers. It is unavoidable.

Mrs. Sampl reviewed classroom numbers and sizes for moving students and staff from Enfield Street to Edgar H. Parkman/Harriet Beecher Stowe. Art on a cart would be needed at Stowe and music would not need to be on carts at both Parkman & Stowe. There is room for the TLC program at Parkman. There are no students from Enfield Street that are within walking distances to Parkman or Stowe. All sixth grade students would go to JFK. The total reduction of FTE staff for the Parkman/Stowe/Enfield Street mergers would reduce 4.5 teachers.

Ms. Hall stated all of these were to illustrate if one of the four schools were closed. Mrs. Sampl stated that is correct.

Dr. Gallacher reviewed cost estimates for buses, principal's office staff and classroom & resource room staff at selected schools considered for reutilization.

Mr. Sirard stated there should be an additional savings of \$27.5K for the .5 reduction of a SPED teacher on the ESS to Parkman/Stowe merger. Dr. Gallacher stated that is correct. Dr. Gallacher will make this change on his document before sending it out.

Ms. Hall stated based on your document and if we moved Hale to Memorial, we would have \$463,627.00 to help balance our budget? Dr. Gallacher stated that is correct. The Board will be making these kinds of cuts regardless to balance our budget.

Mr. Johnson stated this would be 10% of our budget shortfall. Additional cuts will also need to be made. Many other adjustments are needed.

Mr. Johnson asked if the costs for keeping Alcorn and the racial imbalance are included. Dr. Gallacher stated all we have to do for Alcorn at this time is to follow our policy and hold a public hearing regarding the racial imbalance and submit our plan to the State. This needs to be addressed for 2011. We just need to plan.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated logically by restructuring, we will no longer need to reduce some of the teaching positions.

Mrs. Szewczak stated our budget is telling us we need to eliminate 40 teaching positions across the board.

Mr. Jonaitis asked what would be the average team class sizes at JFK for 7 & 8 grades. Mr. Neville stated the team size is 116 students per team.

Dr. Gallacher stated we will double check all of our numbers.

Chairman Stokes thanked the principals for their presentation and appreciates your hard work.

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- a. Memo from NEAS&C regarding Enrico Fermi;
- b. Memo from Dr. Gallacher regarding End-of-Year Student Activities;
- c. 05-20-10 TC/BOE Strategic Planning Subcommittee Community Conversation – Meeting Notes;
- d. Newspaper Article regarding Graduation Hearing.

## **9. AUDIENCES**

Gary Lucero, Eastgate Lane – Mr. Lucero addressed the Board about a bullying incident that happened at JFK and his concern with a cover up from the administrators. It took over 5 discussions before he learned that he needed to complete a bullying form to make this official. The Board policy indicates the bullying incidents are kept on record. According to the record only 1 incident has happened at JFK. Mr. Lucero would like the Board to look into the cover up regarding this. Mr. Lucero presented Dr. Gallacher with a bullying incident form.

Gretchen Ide, Fairview Avenue – Mrs. Ide likes the idea of restructuring. Mrs. Ide would like to keep full day kindergarten and would like to wait until 2011 to move the grade 6 students. Closing Alcorn would take away many programs and activities. Businesses have started in

Thompsonville because of Alcorn. Mayor Kaupin has a revitalization plan in place. Alcorn is a walking school and many of the parents do not have cars and would not be able to pick up their child if they are moved to another school. Alcorn is a vital part of the Thompsonville community.

Sue Braun, Light Street – Mrs. Braun stated when Alcorn was closed in 1991, it was condemned. What we did 20 years ago worked. This was before NCLB, IDEA and State & Federal mandates. Now it is different. The budget has been cut. Mrs. Braun would like us to wait until the restructuring plan is in place before closing an elementary school. If programs and teachers aren't saved, will it be worth it or what will be the point except that we can close a school in Enfield.

Heather LeBlanc, Susan Circle – Mrs. LeBlanc asked Board members to have a plan in place and make a clear informed decision on how the schools should be redistricted. Have a master plan to make Enfield schools great again.

Mary Scutt, Willard Drive – Mrs. Scutt would like the Board to slow down and not make any hasty decisions. We need to get our children ready and would like us to wait until 2011. Mrs. Scutt would like to see no additional cuts to Memorial based on the information provided tonight. Moving Hale students to Memorial is where we would see the most cost savings. Class sizes will be large. We need to protect the students in the school. Mrs. Scutt would also like to see the staff and students welcome the incoming Hale students with open arms. Work with your staff to make this happen.

Tina LeBlanc, David Street – Mrs. LeBlanc would like us to wait until 2011 to move the grade 6 students to JFK. Some students will need to move more than 3 times if we do this now. If you wait, you will have the community on your side. You can make a change to our education system that will make us better. Mrs. LeBlanc stated when you look back on your political career you can say that you had the support of the community. The community understands what is needed.

Jessica Duga, Cottage Road – Mrs. Duga is not in favor of closing a school this fall. Numbers are important and the classroom sizes will increase. Schools will go back to having art and music on carts. Mrs. Duga asked Board members to look at the whole picture. What will be the quality of education when we will be stuffed to the gills? Please keep TLC program. It is an amazing program.

Jack Sheridan, Buchanan Road – Mr. Sheridan stated he asked for a list of textbooks purchased by the Board and was given purchase orders with limited information on it. He asked the same from the Town Council and they gave him a list spent from the CIP accounts. There is something wrong here. The school will say it is the ADMINS system that will not give them a proper list. Mr. Sheridan would like this information posted on the website. This is a matter of accountability. The books used in the school should be listed at the public library. Mr. Sheridan appreciates the Board's work.

Carrie Barnes – South Meadow Lane – Mrs. Barnes thanked the administration and Dr. Gallacher for the great job they are doing. The budget topic is awful and to make additional budget cuts will make it disastrous. Mrs. Barnes attended a JFK band concert and it was truly amazing. Mrs. Barnes has been happy with her children attending Enfield schools. At what point do we say the disruption is worth it. What efficiencies are gained by moving the 6<sup>th</sup> graders to JFK?

Bob Tkacz, Bernadino Avenue – Mr. Tkacz stated that Enfield is not the only Town making restructuring decisions. School Boards across the county are making with the same kind of changes. We need to start the process this year. We will have a better school system in the long run with more efficiency. In California, the parents in one town came up with the budget difference.

Scott Beiler, Armstrong Road – Mr. Beiler did his homework and bought a house in the Memorial district. Will you move some of the Memorial students that are out-of-district back to Barnard? Dr. Gallacher has done his homework. Take it slowly and listen. We can get through this if we work together. The Board has a hard decision to make.

#### **10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Jonaitis stated that Board members sympathize with everyone, but we have to work within our budget allocation. Mr. Jonaitis wishes we did not have to do any of this. Tough decisions need to be made. Thank you for coming and expressing your opinions.

Mr. Sirard stated we are listening to everything you are saying. This is not easy. Changes need to be made. We have asked for relief from the State but did not get any. Everyone wants us to wait another year. We are looking at a system that can save us money. We have to work with the cards we have been dealt. Something needs to give.

Mrs. Szewczak stated implications were made that Alcorn was only fixed because it was condemned. Prior referendums were turned down and the Alcorn referendum passed. We are looking at another change. We are not the same as we were 10 years ago. We are asking for the communities help to make necessary changes.

Mr. Johnson stated bullying forms need to be available to the students and parents. We appreciate everyone's concern regarding closing schools. We are looking at 10% of the funds we are already short. We have a budget shortage. None of us wants to do this but we need to look at this educationally. We need to live within our means. Mr. Johnson stated the music department will hold band concerts at many of the schools in June. Come and see what our students have learned. You will be amazed. Mr. Johnson would like the non-residents students to be looked at and moved back to their home districts. This is the only fair thing to do. Mr. Johnson asked community members to remember those that have fought for our freedom and those that have lost their lives.

Mrs. Thurston agrees with what everyone has said. This is horrible and it stinks. We have a tough decision to make. We will not make everyone happy. We will do our best for the students.

Mr. Grady thanked the Nathan Hale staff for his birthday pencil he received. Kudos to Ms. Gus at Stowe for the career day they held. It was great. Mr. Grady asked why we are wrestling with our budgets. Why aren't we getting support from the council? Other school systems in the state have received financial support from their Towns. We received zero support from our Town Council and that is why we are in the bind we are in.

Ms. Hall stated every book purchased is displayed at the library for a minimum of 4 weeks. We also look for comments regarding the textbooks prior to being adopted. Ms. Hall stated budget cuts will be made and the class sizes will increase and that is a huge concern. Assessing parents for budget shortages like they did in California would need to be a formal decision. Beginning with the 2014 high school class, bill #438 (high School Reform) will come into play. This will cost us more dollars to support this. Starting with grade 6, every student will need a mentor. High school

reform does not include students that don't want to go to college. Ms. Hall stated the next 2 years will be even harder. We need to plan for the future.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated this is the best and worst time of the year. There are many student events going on in our schools. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches likes to think about these great activities to offset what stinks. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches recognized Fermi as being a Cool School. She also recognized the Fermi Honors students and the breakfast that was held in their honor. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated we read your e-mails and hear your concerns. We are looking at the best interest of the district. We do not want to harm anyone. It was said at the last meeting that our budgets will reflect our values. What does this say about Enfield? Enfield's budgets do not reflect education and this makes her sad. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated our children feed off of our reactions. We need to present the restructuring as an opportunity, not a trauma.

Chairman Stokes thanked everyone for coming out. We appreciate the administration for the information they have provided us. Chairman Stokes congratulated Joyce Hall for being honored and inducted as the CREC Chairperson. Chairman Stokes will talk with the policy chair (Mr. Johnson) and Dr. Gallacher to make sure we are following our bullying policy and will follow-up with this. We do not want bullying going on in our schools.

Chairman Stokes stated we will start our budget meetings after the Memorial Day holiday.

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

- a. Veteran's Ceremony – as presented
- b. Adult Education Graduation – as presented
- c. Memorial Day Parade – as presented
- d. Personnel Report – as presented
- e. Grants Update – as presented

Chairman Stokes stated the Board budget workshops will be held in the Barnard Board Conference Room at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, June 10<sup>th</sup> if needed.

#### **12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS - None**

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

##### **a. For the Month of April 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 April FY2008-09, total expenditures amount to \$0 broken down between payroll totaling \$0 and other accounts totaling \$0. 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 with Mr. Jonaitis and Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches were absent during the vote.

##### **b. For the Month of April 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 April FY2009-10, total expenditures amount to \$4,638,350.15, broken down between payroll totaling \$3,558,537.98 and other accounts totaling \$1,079,812.17. 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 passed unanimously with Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches absent during the vote.

**c. Line Item Transfers, if any**

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Ms. Hall that the Enfield Board of Education approves the line item transfers as presented.

<b>From:</b>	Certified Salaries	\$9,091.04
	Certified Salaries	\$3,051.00
	Certified Salaries	\$44,444.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$56,586.04</b>
<b>To:</b>	Certified Salaries	\$56,586.04
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$56,585.04</b>

A vote by **show of hands 8-0-0**, motion passed unanimously with Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches absent during the vote.

**14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**a. Discussion on RFP for Reorganization and Action(s), if any (Tabled 05-11-10)**

Board members agreed to keep this item tabled.

**15. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Approve Grades 3-8 Computer Technology Curriculum**

Mrs. Szewczak moved, seconded by Ms. Hall that the Enfield Board of Education approves the Grades 3-8 Computer Technology Curriculum.

A vote by **show of hands 7-1-0**, passed with Mr. Jonaitis in dissent. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches was absent during the vote.

**b. Request Excess Cost Funds**

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Mrs. Szewczak that the Enfield Board of Education tables the Request for Excess Cost Funds.

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

**c. Approve Continuation of Adult Education Program Improvement Grant**

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Ms. Hall that the Enfield Board of Education approves the Continuation of the Adult Education Program Improvement Grant.

A vote by **show of hands 8-0-1**, motion passed with Mr. Jonaitis in abstaining.

**d. Approve TC/BOE Strategic Plan Subcommittee Recommendation(s)**

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches would like to break this into three separate components – proposed structure and finalizing, implementation of the proposed structure for September 2010 and what school.

Chairman Stokes stated this would be a logical way to start.

Mr. Jonaitis asked if the action was for one or two separate schools.

Chairman Stokes stated the overall concept is to combine high schools into one grade 9-12 School with the TC/BOE Strategic subcommittee to continue working on this and bring back recommendations to the Board in the fall. The second part would be to move all the grade 6 students to JFK. The third concept would be to reconfigure the elementary school district totally with the possibility of going to 7 schools with the grade configurations being examined. This will start the wheels moving on what high school, moving grade 6 to JFK and redistricting. The next thing will be to set a time frame.

Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Enfield Board of Education starts the overall concept process of combining both high schools into one high school within a couple of years, moving the grade 6 students to JFK and reconfigure the elementary schools into 7 possible schools with the grade configurations being examined without a time frame.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Jonaitis asked if the subcommittee will still look into these items. Mrs. Szewczak stated the subcommittee is still standing. Chairman Stokes further stated this is moving the district forward and to begin the preparation for the moves. Whatever the data drives will come through the subcommittee. This is a starting point that will start the process.

Mr. Jonaitis asked why the Board isn't doing this instead of the strategic subcommittee. Chairman Stokes stated the Board has subcommittees so the work can be done. Any decisions need to be approved by the Board. Mr. Jonaitis is having difficulties with the subcommittee making the high school a two or three year project. The major cost savings will come from consolidating the high schools. Make the change in one year. The elementary schools are going to make major adjustments and the high schools should as soon as possible. Mr. Jonaitis likes the campus idea at EHS. This will drag it out if we wait too long. Past Board's have run into this.

Mrs. Szewczak further stated three concepts are needed and the time frame will come after. The concept is 1 high school, a 6-8 middle school and 7 elementary schools. That is the concept. If we make it too complicated we will not get through the first process. Time frame needs to come next. The motion needs to be adjusted.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches moved, seconded by Mrs. Szewczak to amend the motion not to include a time frame in the motion with single high school, a middle school that encompasses

grades 6-8, and an elementary district that will consist of 7 or 6 buildings depending on how the data drives it and consider the structure of the buildings and how the grade configurations should be and the subcommittee should move forward with the administration and work towards that with no time frames.

Chairman Stokes asked about redistricting. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches would hope the elementary district would be redistricted. Chairman Stokes stated the amendment covers everything.

**Discussion:**

Ms. Hall would prefer the third part to reflect what has been discussed tonight about K-2 and 3-5 without specifying how many schools will be closed. Chairman Stokes stated we are over complicating this.

Board members all agreed to withdraw their motions. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches moved, seconded Mrs. Szewczak to withdraw the amended motion. Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Grady to withdraw the original motion. Chairman Stokes stated there are no motions on the table at this time.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches, moved seconded by Mrs. Szewczak that the Enfield Board of Education move forward with the concept of restructuring the district to a single high school, a 6-8 middle school and the elementary level will be redistricted and reconfigured to a Pre-K-2, 3-5 sister school concept.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Jonaitis stated it was all good until you said sister school. If we are going to a 6-8 concept and 1 high school, this would be a nice place to move the 6-8 middle school at the open high school. This would leave us with a large building that could house grades 3-5. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated that is implementation not a concept. Mr. Jonaitis asked how a k-2 concept can be done.

Mr. Sirard asked Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches to withdraw the motion and we will make one motion at a time.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches and Mrs. Szewczak withdrew the motion.

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the concept of a single high school.

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

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Mrs. Szewczak that the Enfield Board of Education establishes a 6-8 middle school.

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

Mr. Sirard moves, seconded by Mrs. Szewczak that the Enfield Board of Education reconfigures the elementary school to a Pre-K-2 and 3-5 structure.

**Discussion:**

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches asked about redistricting. Mrs. Szewczak stated when your reconfigure, you will also redistrict.

Chairman Stokes is all for the Pre-K-2 and 3-5 concept but did not think this would be discussed until the subcommittee came back to us with more details. Mrs. Szewczak stated if the Board is comfortable discussing this now, we should discuss it. It will come back to us anyway.

A vote by roll call 8-1-0, passed with Chairman Stokes in dissent.

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson that the Enfield Board of Education moves 100% of grade 6 to JFK in September 2010.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Johnson would like to bring the entire grade 6 to JFK at one time but has changed his mind. He is in favor of bringing over a smaller percent.

Mr. Jonaitis is in favor of the motion. Why not bring over both 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> graders as new students. The building will be filled with students that don't know what is going on opposed to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders knowing what is going on. It will be a lot of work but 2/3 of the students would be in the same boat.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches moved, seconded by Mr. Grady to amend the motion to move the grade 6 students to JFK in 2011-12 year.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Jonaitis asked if you can make an amendment that opposes the original motion. Chairman Stokes stated you can. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated we are just changing the date.

Mr. Johnson stated we have a \$4 million dollar deficit. How will this be paid for? Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches further stated regardless of if we do something in September, we are still looking at cutting 40 teachers. We are looking at major cuts. She does not like parts of this, but does not want to do any more harm. We will devastate the school system and will have terrible class size numbers. We are going to get rid of things we need. Mr. Johnson stated we will be in a worse situation if we don't consolidate schools. Mr. Johnson is against it.

Mrs. Thurston agrees we need a place to start but we are here for another year. We can make this happen.

Mrs. Szewczak would like to start with a smaller percentage to give the administration the chance to start and make the second move that much easier. Moving all the students at once is huge. We need to do something.

Mrs. Thurston stated we need to do this correctly.

Mr. Sirard stated if you vote no for 100% implementation, it will take 2011 off of the table.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches asked if in her motion was by or to. Mrs. Zalucki confirmed it was to move the grade 6 students to JFK in 2011-12 year. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches would like to change her amendment to state by 2011-12 year.

Mrs. Szewczak stated this is getting too complicated. Mrs. Szewczak would like to see 100% implementation for 2010 for moving grade 6 to JFK.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches and Mr. Grady withdrew the amendment.

Mr. Sirard is leaning towards 100% implementation. By doing this right away it prolongs the pain. It will move us forward with our redistricting plans. We are going to lose the teachers, let's do it effectively.

Mr. Jonaitis stated if we wait until 2011 we will have extremely large classes in 2010. Savings will come from cutting personnel. Larger classes should be at the high school as well as the elementary schools.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated class sizes will increase across the district regardless if we close an elementary school or by moving the sixth graders based on Dr. Gallacher's presentation. We will be eliminating programs and electives in our district is a given. Mr. Neville stated he can not successfully handle all the sixth graders at one time. She believes when Mr. Neville says this can not be done in September 2010 and will not vote for this.

Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mrs. Szewczak to amend the motion to move 50% of the sixth graders to JFK in September 2010.

A vote by roll call 4-5-0, failed with Mr. Grady, Mrs. Thurston, Mr. Jonaitis, Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches, Ms. Hall and Chairman Stokes in dissent.

Chairman Stokes asked for the original motion to be read. Mrs. Zalucki stated it is for 100% of the grade 6 students to be moved to JFK in 2010.

Mr. Jonaitis asked to be careful when you use the words experts.

Mr. Johnson stated we just killed moving 50% of the grade 6 students to JFK this year. We do all in 2010 or in 2011.

Chairman Stokes stated that is why he did not vote in favor of the amendment.

A vote by roll call 3-6-0, failed with Mr. Grady, Mrs. Thurston, Mrs. Szewczak, Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches, Ms. Hall and Chairman Stokes in dissent.

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches that the Enfield Board of Education moves all of the grade 6 students to JFK in 2011.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Jonaitis stated if someone voted for a motion, they could vote to rescind the motion. Mr. Johnson stated that is correct. Mr. Jonaitis stated parliamentary procedures allow this.

Mr. Johnson moved to amend the motion, to rescind the previous motion. Chairman Stokes stated you can not rescind on an amended motion. Rescinding will need to be a separate motion.

Mrs. Szewczak moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson to amend the motion and take 60% of the sixth graders and moves them to JFK for the fall of 2010.

**Discussion:**

A vote by roll call 3-6-0, failed with Mr. Grady, Mrs. Thurston, Mr. Jonaitis, Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches, Ms. Hall and Chairman Stokes in dissent.

Chairman Stokes stated the motion on the table is to move all the grade six students to JFK in 2011.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches called for the question. Chairman Stokes stated 2/3 votes are needed for this to pass. It is not debatable. A call for a question is for the debating to stop and we go automatically for the main motion vote.

Mr. Jonaitis asked for clarification for a yes or no vote. Chairman Stokes stated a yes vote will mean it passes and we will go directly to the main motion for a vote.

A vote by roll call 4-5-0, failed with Mr. Jonaitis, Mr. Sirard, Mrs. Szewczak, Mr. Johnson, and Chairman Stokes in dissent.

Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard that the Enfield Board of Education amends the main motion to move 55% of the grade 6 students to JFK for 2010.

**Discussion:**

Mrs. Thurston stated this is ridiculous and embarrassing. She is embarrassed to be part of this Board. Can we please just make a decision!

A vote by roll call 3-6-0, failed with Mr. Grady, Mrs. Thurston, Mr. Jonaitis, Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches, Ms. Hall and Chairman Stokes in dissent.

Mr. Johnson asked for the original motion to be read again. Mrs. Zalucki stated the motion is to move all of grade 6 to JFK in 2011.

A vote by roll call 8-1-0, passed with Mr. Johnson in dissent.

Mr. Grady moved seconded by Mrs. Thurston to implement the elementary reconfiguration in 2011.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Johnson asked for clarification. Will this mean not making any changes to the district for this year? Chairman Stokes stated that is correct. Mr. Grady stated we need to give it time to work.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated this is for implementation. Closing a school doesn't have anything to do with this.

Mrs. Szewczak stated if she heard correctly, we can still close a school if this motion passes. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated that is correct. Mrs. Szewczak stated we will still have 18 available classrooms. Chairman Stokes stated let's get through this motion first.

Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Grady if he can withdraw his motion so we can make a motion to extend the meeting past 11:00 PM. Then you could put your motion back on the table.

Mr. Grady and Mrs. Thurston withdrew the motion.

Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mrs. Szewczak to extend the meeting past 11:00 PM for 30 minutes.

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

Mr. Grady moved seconded by Mrs. Thurston to implement the elementary reconfiguration in 2011.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Jonaitis asked what does this mean. Mr. Grady stated start what ever the process of reconfiguring and start in 2011. Get the plan in place and start it. That could be a Pre-K-2 and 3-5 or Pre-K-5 configuration. Mr. Jonaitis stated we could still close a building. Chairman Stokes stated that is a separate issue.

Mr. Jonaitis but if we are going to wait a year for the elementary, we need to do it across the board.

A vote by roll call 8-1-0, passed Mr. Sirard in dissent.

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches to adjourn the May 25, 2010 meeting.

A vote by roll call 4-5-0, failed Mr. Jonaitis, Mr. Sirard, Mrs. Szewczak, Mr. Johnson, and Chairman Stokes in dissent.

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson that the Enfield Board of Education to close a school in 2010.

**Discussion:**

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches asked what school we are voting to close. Mr. Sirard stated we are just talking about a concept.

Chairman Stokes stated we started the process with the TC and the subcommittee and it has been very productive. He has spoke to Board members and thought the subcommittee brought forward their ideas in a well thought out manner and was ready to vote on their recommendations. Chairman Stokes has a hard time voting on an amendment when we are making major changes. We are going to lose 40 teachers and the subcommittee's plan at least made sense to him. We are now just picking things out of a hat. Chairman Stokes further stated if he votes to close a school without knowing why, God help him. Chairman Stokes will vote against this.

Mrs. Szewczak asked about the RFP being on the table. We need to have the two high schools looked at so we can make a more informed decision.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches expected to annoy a lot of people tonight. Sometimes we out smart ourselves with the process. We need to stop and pause. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches agrees with Chairman Stokes that closing a school now does not make sense and will also vote no.

Mr. Sirard stated he made the motion so Board members could talk about it. Mr. Sirard stated a motion and an amendment are still votes that matter. Mr. Sirard is frustrated. By waiting to move the sixth graders to JFK it will cost us money. If Board members would like Mr. Sirard to withdraw the motion, he will.

Chairman Stokes stated he came here tonight prepared to vote in favor of moving 50% of the sixth graders to JFK and closing an elementary school based on the data provided. A main motion is thought out. When an amendment is made it changes the motion. Chairman Stokes did not want to be on the record for voting on an attachment to a main motion. This is Chairman Stokes own personal belief and principal. This is his conviction.

Mr. Sirard asked if he made a motion for 50% would that be a main motion. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated we would need to rescind everything else. Chairman Stokes stated you can't do two different things.

Mr. Jonaitis stated closing an elementary school equates to 1 school. Mrs. Szewczak stated that is correct after the Board makes the necessary budget cuts.

Mr. Sirard and Mr. Johnson withdraw the motion to close a school in 2010.

Mr. Sirard asked if it is possible to begin the process of moving the grade 6 students to JFK in 2010. It would be complete in 2011.

Chairman Stokes stated he is not sure about this. He would need to check with our parliamentarian.

Mrs. Thurston stated it is 11:10 PM. We need to stop and adjourn. Continue this at our next meeting. Mr. Johnson stated our next meeting is on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Grady stated we have special meetings planned. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated they are budget meetings.

Mrs. Szewczak stated we voted and we are doing it. At this point, we need to look at the high school. We voted to slow this down but we need to speed up the process to look at the high schools.

Mr. Grady moved to adjourn.

Mr. Jonaitis is aggravated with what the subcommittee has done to us. If Mr. Jonaitis wants to argue about something, he does not mind doing it in front of everyone. We haven't even discussed this amongst ourselves. This is aggravating.

### **Parliamentary Procedure:**

Mr. Sirard asked if a motion can be amended by someone else. Doesn't it have to be amended by the person who made the motion? Chairman Stokes stated anyone can amend a motion.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated she can sense Mr. Jonaitis' frustration. It frustrates me when I hear about things your TAG group is doing that hasn't come before the Board. This is how the Board operates. We have subcommittees that will do the grunt work. There is no way the nine

of us can do everything. The committees bring back the information to the Board for the Board to make decisions. There are a lot of things that Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches does not like about some of the subcommittees but the Board gets to question and vote when it comes before the Board. My one vote counts. It can be very frustrating.

Mr. Jonaitis stated in defense of TAG, it has come to a screeching halt because we do not know what will be there next year. Mr. Jonaitis would rather see the nine of us discussing things. He didn't even vote for the subcommittee.

16. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - None

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mrs. Thurston to adjourn the Regular Meeting of May 25, 2010. All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 11:15 PM.

Joyce P. Hall  
Secretary  
Enfield Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary