

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 28, 2008**

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 October 28, 2008.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Chairman Greco.
2. **INVOCATION OR MOMENT OF SILENCE** Joyce P. Hall
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Joyce P. Hall
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 Dronney, Greg Stokes, Charles Johnson, Susan Lavelli-Hozempa and Andre Greco

**MEMBERS ABSENT** None

**ALSO PRESENT** Dr. John Gallacher, Superintendent of Schools; Anthony Torre, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Enrico Fermi Student Representative Samantha Reid; Timothy Neville, John F. Kennedy Middle School Principal; Sarah Collins, John F. Kennedy House Master; Andy Longey, John F. Kennedy House Master; John Coleman, John F. Kennedy House Master; Maureen Sampl, Edgar H. Parkman Principal; Robert Fenton, Harriet Beecher Stowe Principal and Timothy Van Tassel, Eli Whitney Principal

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Dronney moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 14, 2008 be approved. There was a correction on Page 3 – Mr. Grady asked about the Rockville Bank logo. Motion passed by a **show of hands 9-0-0.**

7. **BOARD GUESTS**

a. **2008 Connecticut Mastery Test Performance – JFK, Parkman, Stowe, Whitney**

Chairman Greco stated that Mr. Neville, Mrs. Sampl, Mr. Fenton and Mr. Van Tassel will present their school's CMT results and plans for improvement for the CMT's next year. Chairman Greco stated that the remaining elementary and high school principals will present at a subsequent Board meeting.

Mr. Neville thanked Board members for allowing them to present their results and introduced JFK Housemasters Mrs. Sarah Collins – Red House, Mr. Andrew Longey – Blue House and Mr. John Coleman – White House to Board members. Mr. Neville stated that JFK did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and has been identified as a school in need of improvement – Year 3. Mr. Neville addressed subgroups at JFK; targets to make AYP in Math and Reading; whole school targets that were met in Participation, Mathematics, Reading and Writing;

subgroups with less than 40 students; subgroups that did not make AYP targets – Economically Disadvantaged Subgroup for Reading and Students with Disabilities Subgroup for Reading & Mathematics; Reading & Math Strand Performance strengths. Mr. Neville discussed what JFK is doing and how they are adhering to the district plan. Mr. Neville explained the data analysis being used at JFK and the opportunities for improvement at JFK. Mr. Neville discussed specific strategies that are used and measuring success at JFK, the long term plans and goals at JFK, the available resources and the needs at JFK. Mr. Neville stated that they need a remedial math teacher, an updated reading curriculum, updated technology, curriculum related software and increased professional development.

Mr. Droney asked Mr. Neville about strand criteria. Mr. Neville stated we evaluate all the strands and determine what are the three lowest strands are and we then form intervention groups.

Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated that she was impressed with the benchmarking used at JFK and asked how long has this been in place. Mr. Neville stated two years and this year the information was placed on an excel spreadsheet to continue showing improvement and areas of growth potential. We need to be able to share information as students move on to the high schools. Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa commented that she likes what is being done at JFK.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches asked if they have any historical information or is it the same students and same problems with the four weakest strands. Mr. Neville stated we are starting to look at trends by looking at root causes. The math curriculum has been redesigned. We do not have a lot of hard data yet.

Ms. Hall asked if the numbers represent an improvement from previous years. Mr. Neville stated that CT Reports has a lot of the information available and this has helped us out tremendously. Mrs. Collins stated that they reviewed vertical groups and each group has made gains. Some students have made more improvements, but students overall have made gains. Ms. Hall thanked Mrs. Collins. Ms. Hall further stated this is the type of information we are looking for.

Ms. Hall asked about the reading teachers that are now working with teams consulting, what were they doing before? Mr. Neville stated they were teaching their classes separately. Now they are working with the classroom teachers.

Ms. Hall asked about wireless technology and moving towards the next step. Mr. Neville stated that we need additional teachers to become more proficient and efficient with technology.

Ms. Hall asked about curriculum software? Mr. Neville stated supplementary software is needed to go along with the content areas. Ms. Hall asked if the data analysis information can be found in Pentamation as part of data collection. Mr. Neville stated that CT Reports has done a better job of analyzing the strand information for us. This would take us a lot of time to input the information into Pentamation.

Ms. Hall stated as a teacher, she would like to see if her grade 3 student that is now in grade 6 has mastered the skill that they were having difficulty with back in third grade. Will this type of information show up anywhere? Mr. Neville stated that we have the ability to retrieve this type of data, but we do not have the staff resources or the technology for this.

Ms. Hall stated that she is impressed with the reading strands at JFK. Ms. Hall asked if the students are developmentally ready for the subjects they are being tested on. Mr. Neville stated that all students learn at different levels and are receptive to learning differently. Testing monitors what we are doing. The benchmarks monitor the effectiveness of us teaching the curriculum.

Mr. Arnone stated that the label that has been placed on JFK is not fair. You need to review the data for JFK. Mr. Arnone stated our subgroups are improving but the bar is being raised each year and it is making it more difficult to obtain AYP. Ninety percent of the students at JFK are doing better and that is what should be reported. Students at JFK are getting the education they need. Mr. Arnone complimented Mr. Neville and his staff for the fine job they are doing.

Chairman Greco appreciated Mr. Neville highlighting the accomplishments. Mr. Neville stated that JFK is not a failing school and he is upset that the SPED subgroup is having difficulties and is being penalized. Mr. Neville further stated that we should highlight our accomplishments. Chairman Greco further stated that JFK has received a bad rap not obtaining AYP. When you dig into the data, you will see that we are delivering a quality education to our students and the effort is being put forth to make these changes. Chairman Greco appreciates the accomplishments JFK has made. Mr. Neville stated that his staff works really, really hard and they deserve the credit.

Chairman Greco asked about the strategies and the changes in instruction that are helping to impact the students. Mr. Neville stated by using power and collaboration, we are raising skill levels. We are also using BEST practices. All Reading, English and Special Education Teachers received training in BEST practices to teach reading. We are training our staff and they train the teams that work with the students. Mr. Neville stated we review the data collected for the students and create intervention groups to work with small groups two times a week.

Chairman Greco thanked Mr. Neville.

Mrs. Sampl stated that she is extremely proud of Parkman students, staff and parents for their achievements. Parkman had 100 percent participation and made AYP in math and reading. Mrs. Sampl discussed whole school targets that were met in Participation, Mathematics, Reading and writing. Mrs. Sampl discussed subgroups for Math and Reading and subgroups with less than 40 students. Parkman did not have any subgroups that did not make AYP. Mrs. Sampl reviewed Stands for Performance in Math and Reading. Mrs. Sampl discussed Opportunities For Improvement (OFI) in Math and Reading. Mrs. Sampl discussed what Parkman is doing and how they are adhering to the District Plan. Mrs. Sample discussed specific strategies and interventions at Parkman and how they measuring success. Mrs. Sampl discussed the long term plans and goals, available resources, additional needs at Parkman and the need for an additional Language Arts Consultant.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches congratulated Mrs. Sampl and the staff at Parkman for experimenting and thinking outside of the box.

Mr. Arnone asked about the SPED teachers working with 1's and 2's. Dr. Gallacher stated that students in grades K-8 qualify for help. Mrs. Sampl stated that SPED teachers are working with math and language arts consultants and the classroom teachers. Mrs. Sampl stated that the language arts consultant at Parkman is working with 8 students at the same time and it is not working. Some of these students will need to be serviced by the classroom teacher.

Mr. Grady congratulated Mrs. Sampl for Parkman's continued success.

Ms. Hall addressed the Language Arts Consultant by stating you are looking for additional staff. Mrs. Sampl stated that last year she lost staff. Ms. Hall asked if there are empty classrooms. Mrs. Sampl stated they are being used by intervention groups but otherwise they would be empty.

Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa asked about the music program at Parkman. Mrs. Sampl stated that students in grades 5 & 6 receive music 30 minutes per week.

Chairman Greco thanked Mrs. Sampl.

Mr. Fenton stated Harriet Beecher Stowe made AYP in all areas. Mr. Fenton discussed whole school targets that were met in Participation, Mathematics, Reading and Writing. Mr. Fenton discussed subgroups for Math and Reading and subgroups with less than 40 students. Stowe did not have any subgroups that did not make AYP. Mr. Fenton reviewed Stands for Performance in Math and Reading. Mr. Fenton discussed Opportunities For Improvement (OFI) in Math and Reading. Mr. Fenton discussed what Stowe is doing and how they are adhering to the District Plan. Mr. Fenton discussed specific strategies and interventions at Stowe and how they are measuring success. Mr. Fenton stated they do not have the TLC program at Stowe by choice but they use part of the TLC program. A program called START (teaching applications of reading strategies) which is short 15-20 minute blocks of reading to students in grade 1 by the reading consultants. Students receive intense reading strategies for 6-8 weeks and then the consultants will move on to the next group of students in grade 1. Mr. Fenton discussed the long term plans and goals, available resources, additional needs at Stowe in technology, math and reading support.

Ms. Hall asked when the students would have available time to use the accelerated reading and math software. Mr. Fenton stated that students read at home, at lunch time and at snack time. Students earn additional points and they can win awards. Students get tested at lunch or during library time. The accelerated math program is done differently and is done during class time. Students work on the same objectives as our curriculum. Some students are working at upper level math levels.

Chairman Greco thanked Mr. Fenton.

Mr. Van Tassel stated that Eli Whitney did not achieve AYP. Mr. Van Tassel discussed whole school targets that were met in Participation, Mathematics, Reading and Writing. Mr. Van Tassel discussed subgroups for Math and Reading and subgroups with less than 40 students. Eli Whitney did not make AYP in the Economically Disadvantaged subgroup. Mr. Van Tassel reviewed Stands for Performance in Math and Reading. Mr. Van Tassel discussed Opportunities For Improvement (OFI) in Math and Reading. Mr. Van Tassel discussed what Eli Whitney is doing and how they are adhering to the District Plan. Mr. Van Tassel discussed specific strategies and interventions at Eli Whitney and how they are measuring success. Mr. Van Tassel reviewed data analysis at Eli Whitney. Mr. Van Tassel discussed the long term plans and goals, available resources, additional needs at Eli Whitney in technology, reading materials and math.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches thanked Mr. Van Tassel for involving Whitney parents and stated that parent support is definitely needed.

Mr. Grady asked if the Economically Disadvantaged subgroup is growing. Are more students coming to Enfield or are the students that are currently here in this subgroup? Mr. Van Tassel is not sure if they are new students or not but we have identified additional students that qualify for free and/or reduced lunches. Mr. Van Tassel stated with the way the economy the way it is, this could increase over the next several years. Mrs. Collins stated that the free and/or reduced lunch applications have increased at JFK also.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches asked if this is the first year Eli Whitney has had this subgroup. Mr. Van Tassel stated that is correct.

Ms. Hall asked about Mr. Van Tassel's request for additional non-fiction reading materials. Mr. Van Tassel stated materials are needed for all elementary grade levels for guided reading.

Mr. Stokes thanked all the principals for their presentations and their hard work.

Chairman Greco thanked Mr. Neville, Mrs. Sampl, Mr. Fenton and Mr. Van Tassel for their presentations.

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- a. Invitation to attend the CABA/CAPSS Leadership Awards Reception. *Ms. Hall stated that the Enfield Board of Education will be award a leadership award – this will be our ninth time receiving this award. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches and Ms. Hall will accept the award for the BOE.*

### **Recess:**

The Board will take a brief recess at 9:25 PM and returned to open session at 9:35 PM.

## **9. AUDIENCES**

Kathy Thomson, Duff Drive – Mrs. Thomson discussed her dissatisfaction with the decision to hold graduations at First Cathedral. Board members stated last year that the graduations being held out of town were a temporary solution. Mrs. Thomson applauds Mr. Stokes and Mr. Grady for voting against holding the graduations at First Cathedral. The students were not asked where they would like to hold their graduations. Why wasn't a protective covering purchased as part of the field renovations? Mrs. Thomson stated the money spent on Dr. Fusco could help to offset graduation costs. Why was only one set of bleachers replaced at Enfield High? There used to be two sets. Mrs. Thomson stated that we keep hearing that it is cheaper to hold graduations at the Cathedral. Why after over 4 decades is it too expensive to hold graduations in Enfield? Enfield High School has a phrase – dignity, pride and tradition. Ms. Thomson stated her graduation was held outside on the fields at EHS. Mrs. Thomson asked Board members to reconsider their decision and hold the graduations in town. Mrs. Thomson thanked Board members.

Roger LeBlanc, Birchwood Road – Mr. LeBlanc stated that he is a retired educator and parent of two teachers and is currently a volunteer. He is the president of the Enfield Food Shelf. Mr. LeBlanc is proud of the student volunteers, faculty and administrators for their donations over the years and applauds them. Mr. LeBlanc is truly thankful for traditional standards received from students that volunteer at the Enfield Food Shelf. Students learn immeasurable and far beyond proficient lessons by volunteering at the Enfield Food Shelf. Mr. LeBlanc stated that we average 300 families each week. Mr. LeBlanc stated that the Enfield Food Shelf needs 500 turkeys to service families in Enfield. Mr. LeBlanc encourages everyone to come to the Food Shelf during their food drive that starts on November 19<sup>th</sup> ending on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and please bring a frozen turkey. Thank you for everything you have done in the past.

Donna Dubanoski, Betty Road – Mrs. Dubanoski stated that both she and her husband were extremely upset when they read in the papers the graduations would be held at First Cathedral. Mrs. Dubanoski stated that the cost of the graduations costs twice as much if they are held in town and would like someone to explain this to her. Mrs. Dubanoski stated that her son and his friends would like the graduation to be held in town. Mrs. Dubanoski asked if it is the administration or the students that do not want have the graduations in town. Students want to have their graduations in their home town. The economy in Enfield can benefit from graduations being held in town. Mrs. Dubanoski is very disappointed with the Board's decision and asked what can be done to change the decision. Mrs. Dubanoski

graduated from Enfield High and would like her son to graduate from his school – Enrico Fermi. Mrs. Dubanoski thanked Board members.

Carol Hall, Long Hollow Road – Mrs. Hall stated that her son is graduating this year from Fermi and has two other children that graduated from Fermi. Mrs. Hall stated that her son did not know that he would not be graduating from Fermi as well as his friends. Mrs. Hall stated the last thing she heard was that the Board was committed to bringing graduations back to Enfield and was surprised to learn differently. Mrs. Hall stated it is a shame not to have the student's graduate from their schools. The blogs are a very easy way for people to express their concerns and can see why more people do not come to Board meetings. To wait two and a half hours to speak to Board members is a bit much and she would like to see the public communications be placed first on the agenda. Mrs. Hall asked Board members to reconsider their decision and hopes that people that are watching will e-mail Board members. Mrs. Hall thanked Board members.

David Wawer, Carriage Drive – Mr. Wawer stated he is speaking as the Registrar of Voters in Enfield. Mr. Wawer thanked Dr. Gallacher for his support and cooperation. The new facilities director has been helping us visit polling sites. Mr. Wawer thanked Lori Grigley for all that she does. Without her as the sergeant, nothing would get done. Mr. Wawer stated that our projected turnout is 16,000 to 20,000 people. Mr. Newton, Mr. Duffy and Doc Taylor have 16 high school seniors to help work the polls. The custodial staff at the schools does a great job helping us set up and Mr. Wawer thanked them for their efforts. Stowe & Enfield Street School will hold bake sales this year. Mr. Wawer is asking staff to park in areas away from where the voters will park. We do not want the voters to be inconvenienced. Mr. Wawer stated that legislation has changed the way youth voting can be done. The youth vote can not be held in the same room as the tabulators. Mr. Wawer stated that a place holder will be placed at the end of the line at 8:00 PM so that everyone in the line will be able to vote. Mr. Wawer appreciates your assistance. Mr. Wawer thanked everyone

Bob Tkacz – Bernardino Avenue – Mr. Tkacz stated that he attended a tournament at Foxwoods and they have a different theme each month. The theme was Mad Scientists to promote science. This might be something the schools might want to look into to motivate students. Mr. Tkacz stated the demographics are showing 400 students graduate each year. The numbers are declining and should be looked into. The drop out rate is larger than what is being reported. Mr. Tkacz commends the Board for holding graduations at First Cathedral. Mr. Tkacz attended Enfield High's Graduation last year at the Cathedral and it was first rate. The cost factor is amazing. Mr. Tkacz stated for \$7,000 you get an amazing graduation ceremony and commends the Board for their decision. Mr. Tkacz thanked the Board.

## **10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Droney stated that the Fermi student representative stated that the majority of Fermi students want to go to the Cathedral. Mr. Droney spoke to 100 students and this gave him a good pulse of the school. Mr. Droney was not aware of any opposition at Fermi. Mr. Droney further stated that if we conducted all of our business by polls and popular opinion, we would never get anything done. Mr. Arnone and Mr. Droney attended the National Honor Society Induction at Fermi and congratulated the students and Mr. Newton. Mr. Droney stated the Fermi Band attended a competition last Saturday - USSBA New England Championship and the Marching Falcons won the Division 4a Championship. The students will perform this again at the Saturday football game. Mr. Droney would like to have Mr. Reppucci and some of the students attend the next Board meeting to show off their awards. Mr. Droney expressed his concern for the CIAC realignment and stated that this is a big mistake. Students will be traveling longer distances next year to compete in athletic contests.

Mr. Stokes thanked everyone that came to the Board meeting and spoke about graduations. Mr. Stokes complimented the EHS and FHS students for the debates. The students conducted themselves very professionally and the questions were not soft.

Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa thanked everyone for coming tonight and agrees that the audience portion of the meeting should be first. Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated that she has a spreadsheet from last year with the costs for graduations and will get a copy for Mrs. Dubanoski. Dr. Fusco donated his time and we reimbursed him \$30 for expenses. Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated that the graduation decision is something that the Board can possibly revisit. A decision needs to be made as to where the money is going to spent. Education needs to get the majority of the money budgeted. Ms. Hall and Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa worked at the Jack-O-Lantern Festival and had a great time. Kudos to the parents that were involved at this event. Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated the students did a great job at both debates. Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa thanked Mr. LeBlanc for his request for turkeys.

Mr. Johnson stated that we appreciate everything Mr. LeBlanc does and your request was well taken. There are a lot of sentimental reasons for holding graduations in town. Mr. Johnson was lucky to walk down the hill for his graduation but was not able to attend his two brother's graduation due to rain. Mr. Johnson stated by having graduations at the Cathedral, everyone in your family can attend. Mr. Johnson stated the debates were great. The students did a wonderful job.

Mr. Arnone asked if Board members have a say regarding the CIAC decision. Dr. Gallacher stated that he does not believe there is anything that can be done except to petition the two representatives to vote no. Mr. Arnone stated that this is academically wrong. Dr. Gallacher stated the Nutmeg league has disbanded and EHS will be looking at a new league. They are long commutes and maybe the games could start earlier. Mr. Arnone stated by starting games earlier, parents will not be able to attend. Mr. Bernstein can look into other conferences for Enfield to compete with.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated that the start times for athletic games need to be looked at. Students are not getting home until late in the evening. Dr. Gallacher stated that we can have Mr. Bernstein and the two high school principals attend the next BOE meeting to address this topic. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated that there is a problem with the volleyball post in the EHS gym floor. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated that she is amazed with how many parents do not attend parent/teacher conferences. Parents need to be involved at all levels. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches asked if the question asked by the Audit Committee Members regarding the resolution of the missing funds has been addressed. Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated that the Finance Committee is still looking into this and will bring the results forward once they are completed. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches asked the parliamentarian for the correct way to bring an item back up for reconsideration. Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches was not present for the graduation location vote.

Mr. Stokes stated that if a Board member was absent at a vote, reconsideration of a vote can be brought up at the next meeting by a Board member that was not present at the previous meeting. Therefore, Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches can make a motion to reconsider the vote of the high school graduation site and it can be seconded by any Board member.

Mr. Johnson asked if Board members need to take a vote to add the item to the agenda. Mr. Stokes stated no. This is to reconsider a vote and it does not need to be added to the agenda.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches moved, seconded by Mr. Grady to reconsider the vote for the location of the graduations.

A vote by **roll call, 5-4-0**, motion to reconsider passes with Ms. Hall, Mr. Droney, Mr. Johnson and Chairman Greco in dissent.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that each senior class is allowed to vote on the location of their graduation.

**Discussion:**

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches stated that her son will want to graduate on the fields at his school in two years. The students believe it is their graduation and they want to do it at their school. Both schools do not have to do the same things. Enfield high is very traditional. If Fermi wants to graduate at the Cathedral, it should be their decision.

Mr. Stokes stated that he will vote in favor of the motion, but the idea of bringing this back up is a disservice to future boards. This becomes an emotional issue and this is not a good way to govern. Mr. Stokes would prefer the motion be to bring the students back home for their graduations. No matter what, someone will disagree with this and Mr. Stokes is concerned that taking polls is not a good decision.

Mr. Arnone would like amend the motion to have the Town Council put graduations as a referendum question for next year, seconded by Mr. Droney.

Mr. Arnone stated that this is a cost issue. The parents and taxpayers need to make this decision until the graduation location is decided permanently.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Stokes stated we will be taking an emotional issue and compounding it. Making this a referendum questions will create a heated debate and is not in favor of this.

Mr. Droney addressed the first motion. We are getting into management by blog and this is wrong. We can not let anonymous postings govern the way Board members conduct business.

Mr. Grady aggress with Mr. Droney and asked who are we to change tradition. Last year EHS did everything they could to hold their graduation at Enfield high. There are other options, if there is a will there is a way.

Ms. Hall stated she read some of the items in the blog. The comments in the blog that the Board decided they would bring graduations back to Enfield this year are not true facts. This was not a motion or a formal decision of the Board. Regarding the cover for the field, this was never raised by the fields committee to protect the fields before the fields could be used for graduations. Ms. Hall stated that her personal opinion is that graduations are an important step in a student's life and should be a serious occasion. The graduations that are held at the Cathedral are well done, serious and solemn occasion. Ms. Hall stated that Mr. Duffy has done an exceptional job with the graduations at EHS by keeping the students under control and can not say the same for the ceremony at FHS. Students got the message at the First Cathedral that this is a serious occasion and it is not just another day at the beach. This is a Board of Education event. Diplomas could be mailed home to students. This is something that Board members could cancel at any time. Parents and grandparents want to see their child/grandchild graduate.

Mr. Stokes appreciates Ms. Hall's opinion regarding the graduation ceremony being dignified. Mr. Stokes stated graduations are for the community. This event can bring a community together. By sending this event to another Town, it contradicts what we stand for. Mr. Stokes

further stated that he is not against bringing up the issue for reconsideration but is against the idea of polling the students. Board members should make one decision final.

Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated we are flying blind and are not aware if the Town can provide the materials for the fields. Mr. Stokes stated the Town can provide the protective covering.

Ms. Hall stated that she is concerned that we have two motions on the table. Mr. Stokes stated that according to Roberts Rules of Order, you can have two motions on the table at the same time. Ms. Hall stated only if they are related and they are not. Mr. Stokes stated they are related in the subject area.

Mr. Arnone stated that he withdraws his motion to have the Town Council put graduations as a referendum question for next year. Mr. Droney withdrew his second.

Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches does not want to manage by blog, but she was not here for the original vote.

Chairman Greco asked if we have given a deposit to First Cathedral yet. Dr. Gallacher stated that he is not sure and will need to check with Mr. Drezek. Dates at the Cathedral are booked. Chairman Greco stated if we were to take a poll, the dates at the Cathedral will still be locked in.

Chairman Greco stated that the motion on the table is for each senior class member to be polled on the location of their graduation being on the fields or at the Cathedral.

Mr. Grady moved to amend the motion, seconded by Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches to have the graduations moved back to the fields permanently.

A vote on the amendment **by roll call, 3-6-0** motion fails with Ms. Hall, Mr. Arnone, Mr. Droney, Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa, Mr. Johnson and Chairman Greco in dissent.

Chairman Greco stated the main motion on the table is to poll Enfield and Fermi Seniors on the location of the graduation being either at the fields or at the First Cathedral.

Mr. Johnson moved to amend the motion to poll the parents as well as the students. There was no second on the amendment.

A vote on the main motion to poll Enfield and Fermi Seniors on the location of the graduation being either at the fields or at the First Cathedral **by roll call, 5-4-0** motion passes with Ms. Hall, Mr. Arnone, Mr. Droney and Mr. Johnson in dissent.

#### **Extend Meeting Past 11:00 PM:**

Mr. Droney moved, seconded by Mr. Stokes to extend the meeting past 11:00 PM. A vote **by show of hands 9-0-0**. Motion passes.

Mr. Grady stated that he attended the Jack-O-Lantern Festival and Parkman won, Montessori came in second and Memorial came in third. Congratulations to all three schools. Mr. Grady stated that he attended the Teacher of the Year Award. Mr. Crane is extremely passionate about his job and it is nice to see this. Mr. Grady attend the EHS DECA induction ceremony. There were 41 students that were inducted and Mrs. Stone is another passionate teacher. Mr. Grady attended Ms. Buck's Kindergarten class at Alcorn and viewed the Lively Letters program that starts in Kindergarten thru grade 1. If you have a few minutes, stop by visit them. The program is amazing.

Ms. Hall commented on voting. Thirty states allow early voting and many are experiencing 4 hour waiting times. This year's election is going to be a big one. Ms. Hall stated that we have heard from many people regarding graduations, but not enough from people on the topic of new science equipment, new music equipment or additional textbooks. Ms. Hall would like to see this level of enthusiasm on other issues like when we cut a team at JFK.

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

- a. November 4<sup>th</sup> In-Service Day- as presented
- b. November 6<sup>th</sup> Budget Round Table Talks – as presented
- c. November 11<sup>th</sup> Veteran's Day – as presented
- d. November 18<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting – as presented
- e. Personnel Report – as presented

#### **12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa reported that the Finance Committee met earlier this evening and is still looking into the variance from the Audit Subcommittee. Mr. Drezek will provide the Finance Committee with additional information and will take further actions if necessary. Mr. Johnson asked how much more information is needed? Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated that a vendor report will be provided on Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> and this should provide the additional information that is needed.

Mr. Johnson stated the Policy Committee met earlier tonight and the Anti Bullying Policy should be finalized and placed on the next BOE agenda for a first reading.

Ms. Hall reported that the Head Start Policy Committee met last Thursday for an organizational meeting and they elected officers and approved a number of motions. One of the motions is a request for funding that is on the agenda tonight.

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

##### **a. For the Month of July FY08-09**

Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa 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 July for FY07-08, total expenditures amount to \$533,610.98 broken down between payroll totaling \$177,634.53 and other accounts totaling \$355,976.45. 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 (Mr. Grady was not present during the vote).

##### **b. For the Month of September FY08-09**

Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa 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 September for FY08-09, total expenditures amount to \$5,375,175.98 broken down between payroll totaling \$4,433,145.50 and other accounts totaling \$942,030.48. 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 9-0-0**, motion passes.

##### **c. For the Month of September FY07-08**

Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa 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 September for FY07-08, total expenditures amount to \$111,454.97 broken down between payroll totaling \$0.00 and other accounts totaling \$111,454.97. 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 9-0-0**, motion passes.

**d. For the Month of August FY07-08**

Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa 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 August for FY07-08, total expenditures amount to \$270,448.09 broken down between payroll totaling \$0.00 and other accounts totaling \$270,448.09. 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 9-0-0**, motion passes.

**14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**a. Policy Revision #5141.1 Health Assessments (School Physicals) – Final Reading**

Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Ms. Hall that the Enfield Board of Education endorses the changes to Policy #5141.1 Health Assessments (School Physicals) as a final reading.

A vote by **show of hands 9-0-0**, motion passes.

**15. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Memorial to Pasquale R. Uricchio**

Mr. Arnone asked if we heard anything from Town Council members regarding the memorial. Dr. Gallacher stated that Mr. Coppler will bring the Board's decision to Town Council members.

Mr. Arnone stated that "Mr. U" has been involved in athletics in Enfield for many years. The girl's softball team would like to dedicate the field in his memory and place a plaque on the varsity field. Mr. Arnone stated we will not be naming the field, just placing a plaque on the backstop in dedication to Mr. Uricchio. Mr. Johnson asked if the wording on the plaque can be changed. Mr. Arnone stated the wording can be modified.

Mr. Arnone moved, seconded by Mr. Droney to hang a sign on the varsity softball field backstop.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Johnson stated that he does not mean to disrespect Mr. Uricchio's death in anyway, but it was quite recent and there should be a delay in the dedication. This is a bit fast.

Ms. Hall stated that Mr. Uricchio was more than just a softball coach. He coached many sports. A plaque listing his accomplishments placed inside of the building at Fermi would be

just as appropriate and could be seen by more people. Mr. Johnson agrees with Ms. Hall's idea.

Mr. Droney stated there is no timeline for doing this. It could be done in the spring during softball season. The girl's softball team would like to place the sign on the field.

Chairman Greco stated this is permanent. Ms. Hall stated it is still meaningful. Mr. Johnson stated to place a plaque in the trophy case has meaning also. Mr. Stokes stated you will never go wrong with honoring someone that has honored us. Chairman Greco questioned hanging a plaque on the field or placing it in the school.

Mr. Johnson would like to amend the motion to hang the plaque in the trophy case. Mr. Arnone stated that this will be paid for with private funds, the school will not pay for the dedication plaque. No one seconded the amended motion.

Chairman Greco stated we have a motion on the table to hang a sign on the varsity softball field backstop. A vote by **show of hands 9-0-0**, motion passes.

**b. Approve Head Start Federal Department of Healthy & Human Services Grant**

Ms. Hall moved, seconded by Mr. Stokes to accept the proposed Head Start Federal Department of Healthy & Human Services Grant as presented.

**Discussion:**

Mrs. Lavelli-Hozempa stated that she will not vote in favor of this grant and further stated that she is not against Head Start just the grant because of questionable expenditures.

Ms. Hall stated that this is a Federal program and there are many details that are required as part of the grant.

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

**c. Approve Curricula Adoptions**

Mr. Stokes moved, seconded by Ms. Hall that the Enfield Board of Education approves the Curricula Adoptions for Business and Consumer Math 2 (503); Information Processing 2 (571); Latin 1 (302); Latin 2 (303, 307); UCONN English (082); Writing and Speaking (087); English 9 (011, 012, 013) and Grade 1 District Math.

A vote by **roll call, 9-0-0**, motion passes.

**d. Endorse CAS Resolution Opposed to Lowering the Legal Drinking Age**

Mr. Droney moved, seconded by Mr. Stokes that the Enfield Board of Education endorses the CAS Resolution to Lowering the Legal Drinking age.

**Discussion:**

Ms. Hall stated that it is not a resolution. It is a position statement.

Mr. Droney moved, seconded to change the motion that the Enfield Board of Education endorses the CAS Position Statement to Lowering the Legal Drinking age.

Mr. Johnson stated that 18 year olds can get married, vote, go to war or even sign contracts. Mr. Johnson disagrees with this decision.

Ms. Hall stated that when it comes to drinking 18 year olds do not always behave appropriately. We currently use a breathalyzer policy and half of the senior class would be able to drink and this would create problems.

A vote by **roll call, 7-2-0**, motion passes Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches and Mr. Johnson in dissent.

#### **16. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Droney moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson to enter into executive session to discuss Matter(s) Related to Personnel. A vote by **show of hands, 6-3-0** motion passes with Mrs. Apruzzese-Desroches, Mr. Grady, Ms. Hall and Mr. Grady in dissent.

Mr. Torre and Dr. Gallacher joined the Board in Executive Session at 11:30 PM.

At 11:53 PM, Mr. Stokes moved, seconded by Mr. Droney to end the Executive Session and return to Public Session. Motion passed unanimously by a show of hands. No other action was taken in Executive Session.

#### **17. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Droney moved, seconded by Mr. Grady to adjourn the Regular Meeting of October 28, 2008. All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 11:54 PM.

Joyce P. Hall  
Secretary  
Enfield Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary