

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT**

Agenda

Date: 02/12/13

Time-Place: Council Chambers
820 Enfield Street
Enfield, CT
7:00 PM Regular Meeting

- 1. Call to Order – 7:00 PM**
- 2. Invocation or Moment of Silence – Donna Szewczak**
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance – Donna Szewczak**
- 4. Fire Evacuation Announcement**
- 5. Roll Call**
- 6. Board Guest(s)**
 - a. Fall 2012 Student Athlete Recognition**
- 7. Superintendent's Report**
 - a. Staff In-Service Days, President's Day & Winter Vacation**
 - b. Final Superintendent's Book Club**
- 8. Audiences**
- 9. Unfinished Business**
 - a. Policy Revision #6146 Requirements for Graduation – Second Reading**
 - b. Discussion Related to the Consolidated High School, Mascot and School Colors**
 - c. 2013-14 Budget Discussion Continued – SEED & Freshman Athletics**
- 10. New Business**
 - a. Adoption, if any, on the FY2013-14 Budget**
- 11. Board Committee Reports**
- 12. Board Members' Comments**
- 13. Approval of Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes – January 15, 2013; Special Meeting Minutes – January 22, 2013 and Special Meeting Minutes – January 29, 2013**
- 14. Approval of Accounts and Payroll**
 - a. For the Month of December 2012**
 - b. For the Month of January 2013**
 - c. Line Item Transfers, if any**
- 15. Correspondence and Communications**
- 16. Executive Session**
 - a. Matter(s) Related to School Security**
- 17. Adjournment**



ENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

27 SHAKER ROAD • ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06082
TEL: 860.253.6500 • FAX: 860.253.6510 • WWW.ENFIELDSCHOOLS.ORG

Date: February 12, 2013
To: Enfield Board of Education
From: Dr. Jeffrey A. Schumann
Re: Board Guest(s)

- a. **Fall 2012 Student Athlete Recognition:** Tonight, we will continue recognizing our Fall 2012 student athletes. Mr. Barry Bernstein, our Athletic Director is present to make the introductions.



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Date: February 12, 2013
To: Enfield Board of Education
From: Dr. Jeffrey A. Schumann
Re: Superintendent's Report

- a. **Staff In-Service Days, President's Day & Winter Vacation:** – All students will be dismissed early on Tuesday, February 12th for staff to attend a half day professional development in-service. All schools will be closed on Monday, February 18th for President's Day. All staff will attend a full day professional development in-service on Tuesday, February 19th. Students will not be in session on Tuesday, February 19th.
- b. **Final Superintendent's Book Club** – The final Superintendent's Book Club will be held on Wednesday, February 13th at 4:00 PM in the JFK Library to discuss Daniel Pink's book "Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us".



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Date: February 12, 2013
To: Enfield Board of Education
From: Dr. Jeffrey A. Schumann
Re: Policy Revision #6146 Requirements for Graduation – Second Reading

Ms. McKernan previously met with the Curriculum Subcommittee regarding the proposed revisions to current Board Policy #6146 Requirements for Graduation. Board members discussed the proposed changes at the January 8th Board meeting. The proposed policy changes have been posted on our website for public comments. Curriculum Subcommittee members are endorsing the proposed changes to this policy.

Therefore, the Enfield Board of Education may take any action(s) deemed appropriate regarding a Final and Second Reading for Policy #6146 Requirements for Graduation.



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Date: February 12, 2013
To: Enfield Board of Education
From: Dr. Jeffrey A. Schumann
Re: Discussion Related to Consolidated High School, Mascot and School Colors

As part of the process for consolidating the two high schools, decisions will need to be made regarding school colors and a mascot. The final decision on these matters is the responsibility of the Board. The Board previously discussed this item at the January 8th Board meeting and directed the administration to conduct surveys with the students regarding the school colors and mascot.

Mr. Drezek, Deputy Superintendent will provide information to the Board regarding the student surveys to continue their discussion related to the consolidated high school.



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Date: February 12, 2013
To: Enfield Board of Education
From: Dr. Jeffrey A. Schumann
Re: 2013-14 Budget Discussion Continued – SEED & Freshman Athletics

At this time, the Board will continue their 2013-14 budget discussion regarding SEED and Freshman Athletics.



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Date: February 12, 2013
To: Enfield Board of Education
From: Dr. Jeffrey A. Schumann
Re: Adoption, if any, on the FY2013-14 Budget

At this time, the Board may take any actions regarding adopting the FY2013-14 Budget.



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Date: February 12, 2013
To: Enfield Board of Education
From: Dr. Jeffrey A. Schumann
Re: Executive Session

The Board of Education needs to discuss the following item:

- Matter(s) Related to School Security

Therefore, I recommend that the Enfield Board of Education enter into executive session, with the appropriate personnel invited, for the reasons described above. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting is required. Board members can relocate to either the Enfield Room or the Thompsonville Room (whichever is available) for the executive session.

Student/Athlete Fall 2012 Awards

Fall Teams – The Sports Department All Area Teams:

Enfield High: Liam King (Boys Soccer); Kaylee Polmatier (Girls Soccer); Sierra Trzepacz (Girls Soccer) and Michael Crowley (Football)

Fermi High: Conor Glettenberg (Boys Soccer)

Enfield – NCCC All Conference Athletes:

Liam King (Boys Soccer), Kaylee Polmatier (Girls Soccer), Sierra Trzepacz (Girls Soccer), Madison LaRusso (Field Hockey)

Enfield – All Pequot Conference Athletes:

Avery Boissy (Football) and Michael Crowley (Football)

Fermi – CCC All Conference Athletes:

Katie Saltzgiver (Cross Country), Marci Macsata (Field Hockey), Julie Pycz (Field Hockey), Danielle Lavender (Field Hockey), Frank Kusta (Football), Baily Raymond (Football), Dustin Sroka (Football) Tyler Timpone (Football), Conor Glettenberg (Boys Soccer), Adrian Case (Boys Soccer), Dale Quesnel (Boys Soccer) and Rebecca Kaliff (Girls Swimming)

ENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT**REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION**

6146

A graduate of the Enfield Public Schools must have earned a minimum of 22 credits, must have met the established credit distribution requirement, and must have earned a 4.0 (C-) average for all courses required for graduation. In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, students must also meet additional performance standards. Beginning with the graduating class of 2006, literacy and numeracy performance standards shall be required with an ultimate goal to improve learning for every student. *Starting with the class of 2016, a science performance standard shall be required.*

In the future, additional performance standards may be considered.

MINIMUM CREDITS, COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:**Credits and Required Courses:**

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| • English | 4 Credits |
| • Mathematics | 3 Credits |
| • Science | 2 Credits |
| • Social Science consisting of: | 3 Credits |

(1) Credit from one of the following courses:

World History
World Civilization

- (1) Credit – US History
(½) Credit – Civics
(½) Credit – Social Studies Elective Course

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| • Arts or Vocational Education* | 1 Credit |
| • Physical Education/Health Education | 2 Credits |
| • Electives | 7 Credits |

*This credit may be taken in any one or a combination of the following areas: Business, Art, Music, Technology Education, and Family and Consumer Sciences.

Performance Standards:

Beginning with the class of 2006, a student will be granted a high school diploma provided that he/she has met a literacy and a numeracy performance standard, as well as the minimum requirement of 22 credits listed above.

A. Literacy Performance Standard – To read and write with understanding and respond to a variety of texts across disciplines.

- In order to meet the literacy standard, a student must achieve one of the following:

- a) A score in level three (3), four (4), or five (5) on the CAPT Reading Across Disciplines or Writing Across Disciplines; or
- b) A Critical Reading SAT score or Writing SAT score of 430 or above; or
- c) A Reading ACT score of 18 or above; or
- d) Receive a score that meets or exceeds standards on a District Literacy Performance Task as defined in Administrative Regulation 5127.

B. Numeracy Performance Standard – To complete mathematical problems which require the demonstration of basic math skills.

1. In order to meet the numeracy performance standard, a student must achieve one of the following:
 - a) A score in level three (3), four (4), or five (5) on the CAPT Mathematics Test; or
 - b) A Math SAT score of 430 or above; or
 - c) A Math ACT score of 18 or above; or
 - d) Receive a score that meets or exceeds standards on a District Numeracy Performance Task as defined in Administrative Regulation 5127.

C. Science Performance Standard – *Students shall, prior to the completion of their senior year, demonstrate a proficiency in problem solving and scientific inquiry as well as a familiarity with major themes in science.*

1. *In order to meet the District Performance Standards in science students must succeed in one of the following area*
 - a. *Score at a level three (3), four (4) or five (5) on the CAPT Science Test; or*
 - b. *Score a 430 or higher on a SAT II Science related subject test; or*
 - c. *Score an 18 or higher on an ACT Science related test; or*
 - d. *Receive a score that meets or exceeds standards on a District Science Performance Task as defined by Administrative Regulations 5127.*

Conditions:

1. Graduating Seniors:

In addition to satisfying the required course credits and meeting the performance standards, graduating seniors must attain a minimum overall average of 4.0 (C-) for all courses required for graduation.

The 4.0 (C-) grade average required for graduation shall be computed annually at the end of the fourth marking period and shall include all the courses taken by the student.

Students who have earned more than the required credits for graduation but failed to obtain the required 4.0 (C-) average, may attempt to satisfy the 4.0 (C-) average by calculating the highest GPA using the minimum number of credits. Such calculation must include all of the required courses.

Only students who have met all of the district's graduation requirements may participate in their school's graduation ceremony.

2. Non-Graduating Seniors:

Seniors who have not satisfied all requirements for graduation will not be allowed to participate in the school's graduation ceremony and will be given the opportunity to attain a high school diploma by:

- a. attending summer school at their own expense in an attempt to meet the graduation requirements.
- b. returning to high school the following year to meet all graduation requirements.

All students must pass a minimum of four (4) full-credit courses in their senior year. This requirement may be waived for students who have been granted approval for senior mid-year graduation or have returned to complete their graduation requirements.

Students who have met all of the district's graduation requirements except for the literacy and/or numeracy standard shall receive a certificate of completion in lieu of a high school diploma.

D. Senior Mid-Year Graduation:

Students who complete all graduation requirements by the end of the second marking period of the senior year, may select to leave school at that time provided they have complied with the following procedures:

1. A formal request must be made to the school administration, before the end of the junior year. This request must be made on the official "Early Graduation Request Form" which can be obtained from the Guidance Office.
2. The request for Mid-Year Graduation must have the approval of the parent or guardian. The student's guidance counselor will certify that the student is eligible for early graduation.
3. A program must be planned accordingly prior to the end of the Junior year.
4. Final and official approval must be obtained from the school administration.

Principals should use discretion in granting permission for early graduation and weigh each request on its own merits. Consideration should be given to requests centered around such things as:

- a. Early acceptance into college or some other acceptable educational or vocational program.
- b. Extreme economic hardship within a family.

164
165 Since the Board feels that a student's high school experience is beneficial
166 both academically and socially, it will not be the intent of this policy to
167 encourage students to request early graduation simply for the purpose of
168 seeking an early termination to their formal education process.

169
170 Students who have been granted permission for mid-year graduation will
171 receive their diplomas in June and are expected to participate in
172 commencement activities. All graduation expenses and obligations should
173 be met before leaving school.
174

- 175 5. All other requests for early graduation other than those stipulated above will
176 require the approval of the Superintendent of Schools. In no case will students
177 be permitted to "graduate" earlier than the end of the "junior" year.
178

179 **E. Transfer of Credits:**
180

181 Students who transfer to the senior high school in their senior year will receive an
182 Enfield diploma provided such transfer is made on or before February 1st. In cases
183 where students transfer after February 1st, the administration shall make an effort to
184 have the student receive a diploma from the school last attended. In any case,
185 students in this category shall participate in Enfield graduation ceremonies.
186

187 High school students may take courses and earn credits from any accredited college,
188 vocational institution or accredited/approved Distance Learning Program at their own
189 expense. Such courses may be added to the student's official school transcript and
190 applied toward fulfilling graduation requirements. The number of course credits,
191 which will be accepted toward graduation requirements, is not to exceed two credits.
192

193 Students pursuing this option, must obtain approval from the guidance office and
194 school principal prior to enrolling in any such course.
195

196 The decision of the principal is final.
197

198 **F. Special Education Students:**
199

200 Special Education students will be subject to the general policy regarding graduation
201 unless extenuating circumstances are in evidence, which might exclude such students
202 from satisfactorily completing the district performance standards and/or the grading
203 policy as determined by the Planning and Placement Team (P.P.T.).
204

205 It is expected that the P.P.T. will recommend "exemptions" from this Board policy as
206 early in the program planning stage as may be feasible but after the student has
207 participated in the CAPT assessment.
208

209 **G. Modifications and Accommodations:**
210

211 Students who have been identified as ESL/ELL may be allowed modifications or
212 accommodations by a school review committee in order to meet any of the conditions
213 set forth in the performance standards section. The review committee may exempt
214 such students if, in the opinion of the committee, they deem the language barriers to
215 be a significant impediment to satisfying the conditions set forth in Section C.1.
216

217 **H. Options for Students Who Fail to Meet Performance Standards:**
218

Individuals who have met all other graduation requirements except the literacy and/or numeracy standards are entitled to retake the DPT during the times scheduled and published by the school district or provide evidence of acceptable SAT/ACT scores to meet graduation requirements until attaining the age of 21, consistent with the age limits for returning to school as stated in CT Statute 10-220. Upon reaching the age of 21, this option no longer will be offered and individuals must then seek an Adult Education Diploma.

If an individual elects to enroll in Adult Education, he or she must follow the guidelines established for the Adult Education Diploma.

Legal References: Connecticut General Statutes, Section 10-220, Section 10-221a, Section 10-223a

Approved:	June 16, 1986
Effective:	September 1, 1986
Section A Rev.:	September 9, 1997
Revised:	November 24, 1998
Revised:	August 28, 2001
Revised:	June 11, 2002
Revised:	May 11, 2004
Revised:	July 11, 2005
Revised:	June 27, 2006
Reviewed:	June 23, 2009
Revised:	

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 15, 2013**

A special meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held at Town Hall in Council Chambers, located at 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT on January 15, 2013.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM by Chairman Neville.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chairman Neville
3. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT:** Chairman Neville announced the fire evacuation announcement.
4. **ROLL CALL:**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Jonaitis, Tina LeBlanc, Vin Grady, Donna Szewczak, Joyce Hall, Tom Sirard, Jen Rancourt and Timothy Neville

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kevin Fealy

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Jeffrey Schumann, Superintendent; Mr. Christopher Drezek, Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Anne McKernan, Chief Academic Officer; Nathan Hale Principal, Mrs. LeAnn Beaulieu; Enfield Street Principal, Mrs. Deborah Berger; Hazardville Memorial Principal, Mrs. Bonnie Mazzoli and Henry Barnard Principal, Mrs. Nancy Hayes

5. **2013-14 Budget Discussion (6:35 PM – 7:30 PM)**

Chairman Neville stated Board members will hear a presentation regarding full day Kindergarten and Board Goal #3.

Dr. Schumann added Board members have been given copies of the Budget Meeting Calendar. Some of the locations for the special meetings will need to be decided upon since both Council Chambers and the Enfield Room are already being used. Board members have also been provided magnet school numbers. Tonight we will begin our discussion related to Board Goal #3 – Full Day Kindergarten.

Mr. Drezek stated full day Kindergarten is an extremely important topic for the Board's consideration. We felt the need to present the reasons why we should have full day Kindergarten. Tonight you will hear the first presentation regarding this and the second presentation related to full day Kindergarten will be held on Tuesday, January 22nd. The plan and proposal for full day Kindergarten will be discussed next week.

Ms. McKernan invited the K-2 Elementary Principals to join her. She thanked the Board for inviting them to tonight's meeting and are pleased to present this information regarding full day Kindergarten.

Ms. McKernan reviewed Board Goal #3 - To embark on a quest to identify the best strategy(s) for implementation of a full day Kindergarten program in the Enfield Public Schools. She reviewed the Theory of Action – If the Enfield Public Schools affords all students with a full day Kindergarten program, then student achievement will improve and our learners will become better prepared for their academic careers.

Ms. McKernan stated that each of the K-2 Principals will speak in-depth about the theory of action in a day-to-day basis.

Enfield Street Principal, Mrs. Deborah Berger reviewed research from the National Research Council. We have a window of opportunity to teach our students. Investment in early childhood will save you money in the long run. We have recently submitted a grant for a 3 to 3 Initiative (age 3 to grade 3). Students come to us in all various levels. Some students know their numbers and alphabet and some are not prepared. Full day Kindergarten instruction time would double. Students would be able to use the skills taught throughout the day. The additional time will allow for exploration, experimentation and application of skills resulting in a stronger foundation in English language arts, reading, writing, listening and speaking.

Henry Barnard K-2 Principal Mrs. Nancy Hayes reviewed the expectations for Kindergarteners. She reviewed CCSS Reading Standards, foundational skills, reading literature, information text and what a Kindergarten student will master. She reviewed the writing standards (writing samples), speaking, listening and language skills Kindergarten students will master.

Nathan Hale K-2 Principal Mrs. LeAnn Beaulieu reviewed the school readiness skills for Kindergarteners. She reviewed self regulation skills and stated they are the biological foundation for school readiness. A self regulated student will have the ability to stay on task; ignore distractions; remember on purpose; focus; hold and work with information in their mind; hold two strategies in the mind at the same time; develop self discipline; pay attention and be motivated to achieve.

Mrs. Beaulieu stated full day Kindergarten teachers will have time to use part of each day to explicitly teach self regulation skills; practice with self regulated learning will be imbedded into research based math and reading instruction; and children will have time to participate in intentional creative and dramatic play as an activity to help them develop important cognitive skills.

Hazardville Memorial PK-2 Principal Mrs. Bonnie Mazzoli reviewed the full day Kindergarten vision for excellence in education. All Kindergarten students must meet the same learning standards. Half day Kindergarten students will receive 450 hours of instruction. Full day Kindergarten students will receive 900 hours of instruction. In 2013, 168 of 416 Enfield Kindergarten students had no preschool experience. Full day Kindergarten benefits the students, families, teachers and the community.

Mrs. Mazzoli reviewed the benefits of students that attend full day Kindergarten. Students will meet a higher level of expectations; have additional time to learn; develop social, emotional and behavioral skills; are better prepared for first grade; are less likely to experience grade retention; produce long term gains; experience less stress; are more likely to succeed later in school; have a lower dropout rate in high school and are more prepared for demands of college and career.

Mrs. Mazzoli reviewed the benefits for families, the benefits for teachers and benefits for the community. In conclusion, our students must be prepared to compete with students across our country and in our global society.

Ms. McKernan discussed trends in Kindergarten education. She reviewed the education reform in Connecticut and Governor Malloy's education reform – enhance families access to high quality early childhood education opportunities.

Ms. McKernan stated 76% of Connecticut school districts provide full day Kindergarten. Several districts in this region added full day Kindergarten last year and several districts are planning to implement full day Kindergarten in 2013-14. This is the correct thing to do. The enrichment Kindergarteners will receive will help them succeed as the move from grade to grade. This would be an effective budgetary decision to make because of the gains you will make down the road. Less money will be put into intervention and retention. Our students will be better prepared.

Ms. McKernan stated full day Kindergarten classes are attractive to families. All the magnet schools have full day Kindergarten programs. The Board has made a great move towards excellence in education by supporting the consolidated high school and hopes that the Board will endorse full day Kindergarten.

Chairman Neville thanked them for the presentation.

Mrs. Rancourt asked about half day retention needs with our current program.

Mrs. Beaulieu stated it is hard to quantify that at this time. Fewer students will need retention in Kindergarten because they will have more time to master the skills with a full day Kindergarten program. There will always be some retentions, but she believes it would be less than current retention numbers.

Mrs. Mazzoli stated ELL (English Language Learners) is increasing. Full day Kindergarten would give more time for the students to learn our language.

Ms. Hall stated there has been a full day Kindergarten program at Henry Barnard for several years. She asked Mrs. Hayes if there been a notable difference with the full day Kindergarten students.

Mrs. Hayes stated the full day Kindergarten program has been at Henry Barnard for 8 or 9 years. There is one section of full day Kindergarten and 6 sections of half day Kindergarten classes. There is a difference between the two groups. The full day Kindergarten students are more independent and they use the strategies they have learned throughout the day. She also sees a difference with the parents.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated she supports full day Kindergarten. Some students are ready for full day Kindergarten. Snow days impact the instruction for AM half day Kindergarten students. They are losing valuable learning time. Full day Kindergarten helps the students to transition better. She thanked them for the presentation.

Mr. Grady also thanked them for the presentation and hopes that people seeing this at home will understand why we are asking for full day Kindergarten. There is a huge difference with the students that receive full day Kindergarten instruction. We are taking a pro-active approach with this. He knows eventually we will be mandated by the State to have full day Kindergarten in our schools. This is an initiative we need to start doing. Thank you for the information.

Mr. Jonaitis asked why we did away with full day Kindergarten years ago. Mrs. Mazzoli stated we had a grant through the School Readiness Program at Thomas G. Alcorn that allowed full day Kindergarten and there were also budgetary reasons.

Mr. Jonaitis stated we did have full day Kindergarten in the past that was done away with due to budgetary reasons. Ms. McKernan stated full day Kindergarten went away due to budgetary concerns but the trends now are to have full day Kindergarten.

Mr. Jonaitis stated that full day Kindergarten is not for everyone. Some students will benefit from full day Kindergarten. Other students will benefit no more or no less. Statistics show you cannot see the difference between the students that went to Head Start and students that didn't by the time they are in grade 3. Are we doing something for them at an early age that makes them feel better so they are more successful?

Mrs. Beaulieu stated some students will be successful whether they go to a full day Kindergarten program or not. There are a lot of children that will be less successful in a half day program. No one will be hurt by attending a full day program Kindergarten program.

Mr. Jonaitis stated with the individualization that happens in the lower grades (K, 1 & 2) some students will make leaps and bounds. The students that are prepared will they be held back or will they be pushed to reach further. Gaps will be made.

Mrs. Mazzoli stated that all of the classes have differentiated instruction so the students are grouped and challenged according to their abilities. There are so many diverse students in Kindergarten.

That is why we say our Kindergarten teachers walk on water because they are meeting the needs of so many learners with differentiated instruction.

Mr. Jonaitis stated everything is going to be increased and there will still be a gap. He agrees that Kindergarten teachers are the saints of the world and should be reimbursed more than any college professor.

Mrs. Mazzoli stated when she began teaching in Enfield there were 35 students in one Kindergarten half day session. The new CCSS are phenomenal and the expectations for the children are unbelievable. She encourages you to come and see the changes in the classrooms, it is unbelievable. Without more time, it will make teaching that much more difficult to meet the needs of all learners.

Mr. Jonaitis stated he is not against full day Kindergarten. He does not see how the dropout rates will be affected by having full day Kindergarten or that student's will have better academic success in the upper grades. He is also hearing that there will be fewer problems down the road if we have full day Kindergarten.

Ms. McKernan stated full day Kindergarten is an investment in early education. The statistics mentioned are from studies or reports of children reading by grade 3. Economically disadvantages students are entering school 12-14 months behind. Those gaps can only be made up with more time. This will give the students the best chance to be reading by grade 3. Reading at level in grade 3 is highly linked to success in high school. Students that can't read to learn by grade 3 are at a significant disadvantage. By the time students are in the middle school, they are reading lots of text information. If students cannot read this they will fall fast and will get further behind.

Mr. Jonaitis stated by grade 3 and 4 you can tell which students will have trouble down the road. Full day Kindergarten was done away with due to budgetary reasons. How many teachers will be needed to implement full day Kindergarten?

Ms. McKernan stated Mr. Drezek will discuss the details for this plan next week.

Mr. Jonaitis stated he is not against full day Kindergarten. We may not be able to afford to have full day Kindergarten at all the primary schools. Some parents may want their children to attend a half day program. We have some great Kindergarten teachers.

Mr. Sirard understands why full day Kindergarten was cut. They were cut for budgetary reasons. He is a product of full day Kindergarten. One of the things he is proud of as a Board of Education member is that we value education in Enfield. Our class sizes are smaller in the lower grades. That has always been our focus with early intervention. The budget is an issue. He personally believes if the budget was better, we would have full day Kindergarten in Enfield.

Ms. Hall stated full day Kindergarten has been on the top of our lists for many years and has been cut due to budgetary reasons.

Ms. Hall stated there has been much discussion on an ungraded school where the students progress from day one at their own rate. When they reach a certain proficiency, they move to another area. They are not called Kindergarten, first grade and second grade. They are achieving what is expected of them in the order which they can do it. This would be very hard to convince the world that this is the way to go.

Ms. Hall asked about the 3 to 3 grant proposal. Mrs. Berger stated they submitted a grant last week and are hoping to hear something by Friday. She has been working with Ms. Witbro, Mrs. Clement, staff at Asnuntuck and some of the daycare providers in town. They are working to find ways to further collaborate to support health and physical well-being, social, emotional and educational development of early children. We are developing a program and a plan to move forward to smooth out the transition from preschool to Kindergarten.

Ms. Hall stated this grant is above and beyond the Graustein grant. Mrs. Berger stated this will be funded by Graustein and goes above and beyond what they are already supporting. They will choose from between 6 to 8 communities and will help us develop a plan.

Ms. Hall asked if the First Readers program made a difference with the students to perform at a higher level than they might have been at.

Mrs. Berger stated the First Readers program has made a huge difference motivating the students. They wear their medals proudly. It is a wonderful program to have a community that celebrates children learning how to read. It is an important benchmark.

Ms. Hall asked about digital technology and the need for it in Kindergarten.

Mrs. Hayes stated we are using Lexia. Lexia has a strong home-school component. Students can practice their phonetic skills and can also do this at home. There is also www.starfall.com that students can use. They can apply the skills learned and this has also been very beneficial for students.

Mrs. Hayes stated we are looking at ways to connect fiction and non-fiction where the students can use their iPads. She will present something about this next month with the teachers from Barnard and the technology being used.

Mrs. Berger added that our kids are in a world full of rich technology. We need to support technology to help them learn.

Mrs. Mazzoli stated we have a cart with 20-30 iPads that are used at Memorial. There are so many applications for just about every kind of learning tool for them to use. The students can't wait to use them. They truly are learning tools. She encouraged Board members to come and see what the students are doing. It is truly phenomenal.

Mrs. Beaulieu stated students are getting a well balanced diet at school. There is a place for technology, books, movement and song.

Mrs. Mazzoli added you should see how quickly they adapt. Ms. Hall asked if they are adapting individually. Mrs. Mazzoli stated both individually and in a group setting. They are sharing and making connections.

Mr. Grady has heard a lot of pro's for full day Kindergarten. We need to remember that we will be mandated to have full day Kindergarten. He would like to see us take a proactive approach stance and start with full day Kindergarten. We do not have to do this all at once. We need to get this started. It is a great program.

Chairman Neville is concerned with the 36% of students not having any preschool experience. He supports full day Kindergarten. His children also attended full day Kindergarten. What can we do with that 36% of students being 10-12 months behind? He also agrees with the grade 3 reading level and can attest to what happens when a student is several years behind when they gets to middle school. Reading is critical. What will this do for the students coming in and what can we do for the students so they are not left out.

Ms. McKernan stated reading skills can be honed and defined. We have windows of opportunity. We need to look at the tiered instruction. How are we delivering education instruction? By doing this it will help us to close the achievement gaps. There will be some learning gaps. Some students will catch up in grade 3. We will continue to look at the most effective ways. The most effective tool we can give our teachers is time to work with the children. We will continue to look for additional ways to work with our children.

Chairman Neville welcomed Representative Kiner for attending tonight's Board meeting. He stated an

important question is about the Kindergarten entrance age. This has been a chronic road block. You can have up to a year difference with some students entering Kindergarten. This is something that will need to be discussed at the legislative level. These are some of the kind of questions you will be asked next week.

Chairman Neville thanked Ms. McKernan, Mrs. Berger, Mrs. Beaulieu, Mrs. Hayes and Mrs. Mazzoli for their presentation. We may have you come back to answer any additional questions.

Chairman Neville stated part II of the budget discussion will be addressed at the January 22, 2013 Board meeting.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION – THOMPSONVILLE ROOM

a. Matters Related to the Superintendent's Evaluation (7:35 PM – 8:30 PM)

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard that the Board enters into Executive Session for Matter(s) Related to the Superintendent's Evaluation at 7:50 PM

The Board reconvened to the Thompsonville Room for the Executive Session. Joining the Board in Executive Session were Dr. Schumann and Mr. Drezek.

The Executive Session ended at 8:55 PM. No Board action occurred while in Executive Session.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mrs. Szewczak to adjourn the Special Meeting of January 15, 2013.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Donna Szewczak
Secretary
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 22, 2013**

A special meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held at Town Hall in the Enfield Room, located at 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT on January 22, 2013.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Chairman Neville.
2. **INVOCATION OR MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Thomas J. Sirard
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Thomas J. Sirard
4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT:** Chairman Neville announced the fire evacuation announcement.
5. **ROLL CALL:**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Jonaitis, Tina LeBlanc, Kevin Fealy, Vin Grady, Donna Szewczak, Joyce Hall, Tom Sirard, Jen Rancourt and Timothy Neville

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Jeffrey Schumann, Superintendent and Mr. Christopher Drezek, Deputy Superintendent

6. **BOARD GUEST(S)** – None

7. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

- a. Transition to Kindergarten Program – as presented
- b. Special BOE Meeting Locations – as presented
- c. Grants Update – as presented
- d. Personnel Report – as presented

8. **AUDIENCES:**

Elizabeth Davis, North Maple Street – Mrs. Davis supports the budget the superintendent has presented to the Board of Education. Full day Kindergarten is important. Education is one of the most important things. Our children are the future of our country. She encourages the Board to support the budget and vote to implement full day Kindergarten. We need to stand behind our children's education. Thank you. Chairman Neville thanked Mrs. Davis for her comments.

Karen Weseliza, KITE Chair (Renee Lane) and Chris Gomeau, KITE Coordinator (Winterway) – Mrs. Weseliza stated we are here tonight to present to the Board the KITE Community Plan. Ten years ago we had started a plan with the William Casper Graustein Memorial Fund to become a discovery community. Over the past ten years, we have conducted research in the Enfield Community through parent meetings, focus groups, community conversations, etc. We are now at the point of implementing our plan. In order to implement this plan fully, full day Kindergarten is needed. KITE is offering our resources to the Board and Town Council. We are available to assist you to make an informed decision regarding full day Kindergarten. Please include us in your discussions and we are here to answer any questions.

Mrs. Gomeau stated the William Casper Graustein Memorial Fund supports early education and care in Enfield for many years. Some of you have already seen our early education comprehensive plan. When we put this plan together, we included many members of our community. Our three main focuses are health, early care, education and family engagement. Over seventeen hundred volunteer

hours were put into this plan by members of this community. Several focus groups were held. The primary topic at all meetings was for full day Kindergarten. This is one of the strategies in our community plan. Please let us know if there are any other questions we can answer. Chairman Neville thanked both Mrs. Weseliza and Mrs. Gomeau for everything they have done. He encourages everyone to attend their meetings.

Mrs. Weseliza added the key to success in high school is to start our children with a truly good foundation when they are young. We need to start this when children are young or it will not matter how beautiful our high school building is. They need our support now.

Jodie Claire, Colonial Drive – Mrs. Claire is a concerned parent whose child will start Kindergarten in the fall. Many families have moved out of our neighborhood because of our school system. They have chosen to stay in Enfield. Her child attends preschool. Skills are gained with the additional time students receive in full day Kindergarten. She has been a full day Kindergarten teacher in the Manchester Public Schools for 10 years. Students come to us with a wide range of experiences. Full day Kindergarten provides them with extra support. Students need to leave Kindergarten feeling successful. She encourages Board members to support full day Kindergarten. Chairman Neville thanked her.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

10. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Discussion with Senator John Kissel, Representative David Kiner and Representative David Alexander:

Dr. Schumann stated tonight Senator Kissel, Representative Kiner and Representative Alexander are present to answer questions from Board members.

Chairman Neville thanked former Board member Chuck Johnson for starting this process. He welcomed Senator Kissel, Representative Kiner and Representative Alexander to the Board meeting. Ms. Hall has compiled most of the questions from the Board that were sent to you. We would like to know the committees that you are currently serving on and any comments you would like to make. Then Board members may ask you some questions.

Senator Kissel thanked the Board and Dr. Schumann for this invitation. He appreciated the kind messages he received after the elections. This is his 11th term in the legislature. He is the ranking chair of the Judiciary Committee, Co-Chair of the Program Review and Investigations Committee, a regular member of the Law Committee and Legislative Management Committee. He was asked to serve on the Super Committee to address the horrific tragedy that occurred at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown. He will be a member of a subcommittee looking at gun violence, mental health issues and school safety. The agendas for this subcommittee are very aggressive. The ultimate goal is to reach a consensus on a number of issues. This will not be easy. We are trying to have a common ground established by the end of February. Our regular committee work will continue at the same time this Super Committee work is going on.

Senator Kissel stated we are facing a billion dollar deficit for the next two upcoming fiscal years. Governor Malloy will give his budget address in February. He will set the tone and will let us know what his goals are. We will then respond to what has been presented.

Senator Kissel stated full day Kindergarten is an important topic and will be driven by money. He understands early education is important. There is still a lot of work that needs to be done with education reform and teacher evaluation. We will represent Enfield well as a bipartisan effort.

Representative Alexander thanked the Board for inviting us here tonight. He thanked Mr. Johnson and stated it is important to keep the lines of communication open. This is his first term as a freshman representative from the 58th District. He is currently moving into his office and learning

about the issues and getting involved. He has been appointed to the Veteran's Committee, Transportation Committee and the Public Health Committee. He has submitted some bills already for the Veteran's Committee, is excited to be working on the Governor's light rail proposal that will connect lines between Springfield and New Haven.

Representative Alexander stated full day Kindergarten is important. We want to attract young families to Enfield. He went to full day Kindergarten where they picked up on a learning issue he had. There are many benefits to full day Kindergarten. We will be a good team working on issues for Enfield. We may disagree at times but will work as a team for Enfield.

Representative Kiner stated he represents the 59th District and this is his second term. We are just getting started and are here to listen to you. We can come back again. He is the Vice Chair of the Journal Law Committee, a member of the Appropriations Committee and a member of the Subcommittee Labor and Public Employees Committee, and a member on the Education Committee.

Representative Kiner stated one of our top priorities will be school safety. Once we have some proposals from this committee he would like to attend one of your executive session safety meetings or meet with Dr. Schumann to discuss school safety to get your input. One of the laws is to hold drills every three months which he believes schools are currently conducting.

Representative Kiner stated he supports full day Kindergarten. He knows there will be costs associated with this and he will try to bring back as much funding to the Board and the Town.

Ms. Hall stated one of the questions you received was changing the entrance age for kindergarteners. Senator Beth Bye objected this change during the last session. Ms. Hall would like to see this addressed again this session. She would prefer to see the age for students entering Kindergarten be 5 by September 1st. The legislation proposed the age to turn 5 by October 1st last year. There is great advantage to keeping the age range closer instead of having children range from 4 to 6 years old.

Representative Kiner asked if there was a consensus of the Board regarding this. Chairman Neville agrees with Ms. Hall.

Mrs. LeBlanc also agrees. She held a child back due to an October birthday. She likes the September 1st instead of October 1st date. She does not regret this decision. Many parents struggle with this kind of decision.

Ms. Hall added there are a lot of audience members that are also supporting this entrance age change.

Senator Kissel stated 35 states have a cutoff where children entering Kindergarten must turn the age of 5 between August 1st and October 16th. There are only 4 states like us. His son was also in the same situation and we struggled with this decision to keep him back. Keeping him back has not hurt him at all. He is not sure why Senator Bye did not support this change.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated they had their son join a book club during that year. This is something she would like to see more preschools implement.

Senator Kissel stated to make this change it would cost the state \$5 million dollars to implement.

Chairman Neville asked if there is a consensus from the Board regarding this. Board members agreed with the entrance age change for Kindergarteners. Chairman Neville stated his children all attended full day Kindergarten.

Representative Kiner believes fewer children would be held back and questioned the \$5 million dollar amount. Senator Kissel stated they would be in a special program longer costing more money. The proposal to change the date would actually cost the Towns less money.

Mr. Jonaitis asked about ECS funding we will or won't be receiving, unfunded mandates that towns are hit with and the cost to implement security changes.

Representative Kiner asked if we can supply them with a list of reasonable unfunded mandates.

Ms. Hall stated she has submitted three lists of unfunded mandates plus the questions. Some of the unfunded mandates are State Common Core, Teacher Evaluation System, and High School Reform. We needed to redo our entire curriculum over that was labor intensive with no additional funding for the State Common Core. She understands there is a bill before the Education Committee that may delay the implementation for the Teacher Evaluation System and this will also be labor intensive with no additional funding. High School Reform has been hanging over our heads for several years and this will also be another unfunded mandate.

Mr. Jonaitis stated we did come up with a list for you.

Chairman Neville stated we will direct the Superintendent to look into this.

Representative Alexander stated unfunded mandates started with No Child Left Behind. This is a significant problem. There are Federal requirements that were sent to the State level that were then sent to the municipal level with no funding. This needs to change. He will be very leery with anything that has to do education reform with unfunded mandates. The municipalities are all being squeezed. He attended a ConnCAN meeting today where they discussed the evaluation system and potential ideas.

Mr. Jonaitis asked them to not vote for anything regardless of your party affiliation that has an unfunded mandate attached to it.

Senator Kissel stated he voted against for the Race to the Top. Some people were very critical about this Federal Stimulus funding. This would have been a huge burden on many municipalities. We have stopped using the ECS funding formula since 2010-11 and appropriations were reduced by 14%. At that time, we were able to use Federal funds that were scheduled to be used towards stimulus and it saved us 14% of what we were spending. When the Federal Stimulus Funding dried up, legislators and Governor Malloy kicked in another \$50 million dollars to level fund. We have stopped using the ECS formula and now it is a straight-up grant. He does not see this straight-up grant changing in a positive direction.

Senator Kissel agrees with both Representative Kiner and Representative Alexander that we will be a great team for Enfield. We are your Enfield Delegation and we feel strongly about representing you. We will disagree on some items but that is ok. Since this recession he is not sure how things will be held on the education side or the town side. He has always said to the Mayor and Board Chairman it will impact each town the same way. We will need to hear what the Governor addresses and what our options will be. He does not want to see extreme cuts because they will be felt all the way down to the taxpayers. If we were to fully support the ECS grant, we would need to come up with around \$724 million dollars. He does not see this changing anytime soon. The three of us will fight for as many dollars as we can for the Town of Enfield and North Central Connecticut.

Ms. Hall asked if that amount is for the Excess Cost Grants or for the Education Cost Sharing. The information he has is for the Education Cost Sharing. He will send this information to Board members.

Mrs. Szewczak asked about Connecticut being a right to work state.

Representative Kiner stated he works on the Labor Committee and he does not believe the support is there for a public hearing to make Connecticut a right to work state. The votes are not there to raise taxes either. Education costs are around a quarter of our State's budget. We can debate this topic all night long. We are an expensive state to live in. At first glance, he will not support this.

Mrs. Szewczak stated we want businesses to stay in Connecticut and conduct business here. Representative Kiner stated we should start with the best education first.

Mrs. Szewczak asked about raising the cap for the state projects and prevailing wages. Representative Kiner stated this would also be addressed by the Labor Committee. We would need to have a public hearing on this during this session.

Mrs. Szewczak stated the State is building all of these new magnet schools and the private sector does not spend as much money on our buildings that are just as good. We go out to bid so labor is cheaper. Representative Kiner will let Mrs. Szewczak know when that bill is going to be addressed.

Ms. Hall added there are a number of bills that are dealing with this. Mrs. Szewczak stated when you are building a school everyone will ask you how much each square foot will cost. The costs are staggering.

Mr. Sirard stated he builds buildings for a living and it is an expensive proposition. Every program or plan that is put in place will cost us money just like the anti bullying legislation. A lot of man hours went into this without any funding. The Connecticut Association of Municipalities stated the State shortchanged Enfield \$20 million in ECS funding. We are talking about putting full day Kindergarten in our schools and you are looking at a shortfall from the State. It is hard to turn around and raise property taxes. There is a law suit in place suing the State about using the funding.

Mr. Sirard stated we are proposing to add vice principals to the elementary schools due to SEED and we will need to foot the bill for it.

Mr. Sirard agrees with Mr. Jonaitis and understands budgetary concerns. If it is going to cost us money, don't vote for it. If you cannot fully fund the mandate, please cut us some slack and allow us to implement and fund what we can. The people in Enfield know how to run a school system.

Ms. Hall asked about the proposed chart of accounts to be used by all schools and Towns. It would impact all of us. She asked Representative Alexander about the epidemic of violence or the culture of violence. It is actually a threat to the health of our citizens.

Representative Alexander stated you raise a relevant point that relates to the Newtown tragedy. We have an ongoing problem with public health that is a multifaceted problem. We have a national epidemic. It is a gun problem, law enforcement problem, parenting problem and violence in our culture and society problem that needs to be looked into. We need to address this now by looking into the manufacture of video games. He does not want to take the big brother approach but we need to look into this complex issue now.

Mr. Grady thanked the legislatures for coming tonight. He asked Senator Kissel about schools changing since December 14, 2012. School districts around the country have realized that security changes are needed. This will cost us money. Are we going to get any financial help with these new school changes?

Senator Kissel stated schools have changed since that day and it would be unfair for us to propose a mandate without funding it somehow. He believes that each school district will do what works best for them. There will not be a fix that will work for everyone. He spoke with Mayor Kaupin about an active shooter and the critical window. You need to stop the person as quickly as possible. He does not want to see us telling Towns what to do without any financial support. We need to put our money where it will do some good. This is an expensive item. Security in our buildings is going to cost us. More police in our buildings is costing Town's money. He will fight and do what he can. He does not want to fight for half measures. He knows that we need to show that we are responding and pass some kind of legislature on this in February. We need to see the police reports from the Newton tragedy but they will not be released until March. He feels we should see this information before we make our decisions.

Mr. Jonaitis asked about the chart of accounts. Ms. Hall stated there is an agreement that everyone would use the same account numbers. Mrs. Szewczak stated it would be for accounting. Everyone would use the same numbers so you could see how much was being spent town by town. She believes having a common chart of accounts is a good thing. You can see numbers town by town. Mr. Jonaitis stated the account numbers would be standardized.

Mr. Fealy thanked them for attending tonight's meeting and for your comments about our joint Town Security Committee. He asked them if they agree that prohibition for legal minded citizens are not the answer to solving the school violence problem.

Representative Kiner stated New York passed their law very quickly. The Super Committee will come up with proposals that will go to committees for public hearings where you can voice your concerns. No one is trying to punish any lawful gun owners. It won't hurt gun owners to jump through one or more hoops in order to get a gun. We need to make it as hard as possible for those that are not lawful citizens to purchase guns.

Mr. Fealy asked if you are one voice when it comes to speaking at the legislative level about not looking for restrictions and bans. That you are looking to address health needs; mental or universal checks. There are some tentacles to this. When it comes to these issues will you be one voice.

Representative Kiner stated we will not have one voice on anything.

Senator Kissel stated we are a team and will have different opinions on guns. There are more hunters in this area are more libertarian when it comes to guns. Further down south, they are liberal with gun restrictions. This is an area where we will vote our conscious. The leader of his caucus is a co-sponsor for banning high caliber magazines and weapons. He represents Newtown. He has not had a chance to discuss this with him yet. He is very sensitive to this issue and does not want to see us banning and over taxing certain items. He also does not want to publish the names of every lawful gun owner. As part of the New York reform, they made it legal to publish the names of lawful gun owners. He is hoping we can reach a consensus here regarding gun control. We are just at the beginning of this process.

Representative Alexander stated we will work as one team but we will have different views and opinions. We need to review the information without making any judgment calls. Accountability is important. He is proposing a bill to the General Assembly in response to what happened at the East Windsor gun store with the AR-15's being unsecured. He has an extensive military background from being in the Marine Corp as a Lieutenant and knowledge about guns, ammunition, securing weapons and weapon accountability. He cannot support information on the internet regarding gun sales and weapons. This would not produce gun safety. He does support reducing the number of rounds. When it comes to gun control, we will disagree and that is a good thing. We need to look at this case by case.

Mr. Fealy asked if there has been any discussion regarding lifting of gun free zones at schools so a gun can be securely placed in case the need arises.

Senator Kissel stated Governor Malloy feels more guns is not the solution and does not want teachers carrying weapons. Every Town should make a decision based upon its own individual needs. He doesn't want to see one size fit all. He agrees with what Representative Alexander stated based on his extensive military background and gun safety and security at stores where guns are being sold. Last year, we took away ballistic checks for any guns that are found or confiscated to see if they are connected to any crimes because the forensic labs were buried. He believes we will need to add that back into the bill.

Chairman Neville is going to ask Senator Kissel, Representative Kiner and Representative Alexander to come back again. You are at the beginning of your budget discussions. We will send you some data for you to respond to.

Senator Kissel urged Board members to listen to the Governor's address to the public in February and give us your feedback on his address. That will help us as we go through the committee process.

b. 2013-14 Budget Presentation – Part II:

Dr. Schumann stated we will continue our presentation for the 2013-14 proposed budget, full day Kindergarten and staffing needs.

Mr. Drezek stated the Board created a plan for full day Kindergarten implementation on January 7, 2012. He reviewed Board Goal #3 – Embark on a quest to identify the best strategy(s) for implementation of a full day Kindergarten program in the Enfield Public Schools. The Board's theory of action – if the Enfield Public Schools affords all students with a full day Kindergarten program, then student achievement will improve and our learners will become better prepared for their academic careers.

Mr. Drezek reviewed Connecticut Kindergarten data with Board members. We looked at this process. He reviewed current staffing/class sizes, current enrollment, projections, conversion to full day Kindergarten at Henry Barnard, Enfield Street, Nathan Hale and Hazardville Memorial. We would need 11 Kindergarten teachers to keep our class sizes at 16.33.

Mr. Drezek stated through the allocation of 8 teachers to implement full day Kindergarten in all four primary schools in 2013-14 we will need 3 additional teachers, the class sizes would increase to 19.88. The primary school principals have graciously found the rooms to implement full day Kindergarten. Every room in our schools is being used. We would need to reutilize the rooms to accommodate full day Kindergarten.

Mr. Drezek reviewed academic support, space and facility analysis. He reviewed supplies and equipment needed. We have a lot of the equipment we had prior to the reorganization. Items were put into storage. Some materials will be hand-me-downs but the will is there. He reviewed transportation needs.

Mr. Drezek stated the additional cost to implement full day Kindergarten is \$224,359.00 or a .34% increase to the overall budget.

Mr. Drezek reviewed the benefits to full day Kindergarten. Full day Kindergarten leads to lower retention rates in grades 1-3; children receive 40-50% more instruction time; they are better prepared for first grade and they develop social/emotional/behavioral skills.

Mr. Drezek stated the Town of Enfield has been supportive of education in Enfield. How do we get our kids to stay here in Enfield? Getting them early and keeping them at the end is one way. We are building a great high school and full day Kindergarten is a way to keep them vested in our school system all the way through.

Mr. Sirard thanked Mr. Drezek for the presentation. He stated we will not need as much intervention. He found the solutions to the staffing to be right on the mark. We will not need as high of an intervention level if we have full day Kindergarten by shifting teachers around. Our numbers will increase slightly but we will still be lower than State levels. This is a very feasible program based on your presentation and the research he has seen.

Mr. Jonaitis thanked Mr. Drezek for the presentation. He stated we are making assumptions with full day Kindergarten. No one really knows what will happen by the time they reach high school. It sounds good. He does not like larger K-2 sizes and would like to see the numbers around 15-16. He feels 20 kids in a full day Kindergarten class are too large. He would like to see us add 2 additional Kindergarten classes. Low class size numbers should continue through grade 3. When they leave grade 3 you will know who will need help down the road. Parenting comes into play with Kindergarten children. Some cannot identify numbers or letters. If we could somehow subsidize the

town run daycare programs, it might not be a bad idea. As long as they are in a classroom, they will be getting more out of it.

Mr. Grady asked Board members for a general consensus from the Kindergarten teachers and Primary Principals present if these class size numbers would work. They agreed that these numbers would work. Some of our classes are around 20 now.

Mrs. Szewczak thanked Mr. Drezek for the presentation. She is happy we have done this with our current framework from our reorganization. We are not looking to reorganize our schools to do this.

Mr. Sirard stated the projections for full day Kindergarten are on the high size. He personally feels the number is too high. We will be reducing some of the current class sizes. We are still within our research boundaries. He agrees with Mr. Jonaitis. It is a trade off and we will get better results.

Mrs. Rancourt thanked Mr. Drezek for the presentation. She stated one of her children was retained in Kindergarten. A full day program would have helped him. Full day Kindergarten would have benefited two of her children,

Chairman Neville also thanked Mr. Drezek for the presentation and keeping the numbers down. Living with a former Kindergarten teacher, he knows retentions are always a concern for teachers. Full day Kindergarten would have benefited many students that were retained. Additional time is needed in Kindergarten. As mentioned by Mr. Jonaitis, grade 3 is the key grade level and sets the mark for success in the upper grades.

Ms. Hall also thanked Mr. Drezek for the presentation for full day Kindergarten – kudos.

Both Mr. Jonaitis and Mrs. LeBlanc left the Board meeting at 9:00 PM

c. Ratify ESNA Contract Agreement:

Mr. Sirard stated the Enfield Board of Education negotiated a Tentative Agreement (TA) with the Enfield Schools Nurses' Association. The nurses ratified this TA unanimously on January 14, 2013. This is for a 3 year contract.

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Enfield Board of Education approves the ratified Nurses' Contract.

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

11. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

12. BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS:

Ms. Hall stated she has been invited to join the Department of Education Public Private Collaboration working on Early Childhood Education. The first meeting will be held on February 13, 2013. She will report back to the Board with updates from this committee.

Board members congratulated Ms. Hall. Chairman Neville added that Ms. Hall will represent us well on this Department of Education Committee.

13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Regular meeting minutes of January 8, 2013 be approved. A vote by **voice 7-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mr. Sirard moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Special meeting minutes of January 12, 2013 be approved.

Ms. Hall would like to change the section regarding policies to include – sending any policy related question/revision that does not fall under the jurisdiction of the Curriculum Committee, Student Issues Committee or the Finance, Budget Committee to the Executive Committee.

A vote by **voice 7-0-0** passed unanimously with changes mentioned by Ms. Hall.

14. **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS AND PAYROLL** – None

15. **CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS** – None

16. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - None

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard to adjourn the Special Meeting of January 22, 2013.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Donna Szewczak
Secretary
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 29, 2013**

A special meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held at John F. Kennedy Middle School Cafe, located at 155 Raffia Road, Enfield, CT on January 29, 2013.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM by Chairman Neville.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chairman Neville
3. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT:** Chairman Neville announced the fire evacuation announcement.
4. **ROLL CALL:**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Jonaitis, Tina LeBlanc, Vin Grady, Donna Szewczak, Joyce Hall, Tom Sirard and Timothy Neville

MEMBERS ABSENT: Peter Jonaitis, Kevin Fealy, Jen Rancourt (arrived at 6:33 PM)

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Jeffrey Schumann, Superintendent and Mr. Christopher Drezek, Deputy Superintendent

5. **STUDENT PRESENTATIONS:**

Dr. Schumann stated tonight you will hear two presentations that Board members have asked about. The Talented and Gifted Program at the middle school (TAG) and information about the iPad Consortium. We will start with Mr. Zawodniak.

a. Tag (Brian Zawodniak)

John F. Kennedy (JFK) teacher Brian Zawodniak stated he is here tonight with some of his JFK students and they will tell you what they have been doing with the TAG program. They can also be found on Facebook.

TAG students Zach Healy, Rose Garrow, Alania Santos, Sydney Nash, and Brian Ruel, Alex Krawiec and Julia Radziewicz spoke about the recycling program at JFK; problem solving; history day competition; iPads and using them as a research tool. They also have used the iPads for the energy convention and the invention convention.

Mrs. LeBlanc asked the students when they are recycling and problem solving, is this something the group decided to do? JFK Student Mr. Healey stated they had a set goal. Some students were working on anti bullying. Grade 6 students wanted to work on recycling and to beautify the school campus. Mrs. LeBlanc thanked the students for their choice.

Ms. Hall asked about the energy expo and what you will be doing there. Several JFK students stated they will visit solar panel companies and see if they would like to donate any materials to help them with alternative energy sources.

Mrs. Szewczak stated you can be found on Facebook. JFK students stated you can like us on Facebook by searching for "JFK Middle School Talented and Gifted Program, Enfield, Connecticut".

Chairman Neville asked the students about the grant they are applying for and the green house plan. JFK students stated they plan to place the greenhouse in the back of the school. We will search the internet for funds to purchase a greenhouse. If we get a greenhouse, we will donate most of our profits "food" to the Enfield Food Shelf.

Chairman Neville stated that sounds like a wonderful idea. He would like to have them come back and update the Board on their progress. Board members congratulated the students.

b. iPads (Matt Gaffney)

Dr. Schumann stated we will now hear about iPads in the classrooms and will see a demonstration on Apple TV. He welcomed Mr. Gaffney and students.

Mr. Gaffney stated we have 28 iPads and a cart along with Apple TV. He reviewed the apps/programs they are using.

JFK students, Morgan Pierce, Zach Hallquist, Charles Fields and Kyle DeWitt reviewed using Educations. They reviewed using a digital whiteboard, video lessons, and classroom use. They showed how to use the E-Clicker and the immediate feedback with the E-Clicker, class results that ensures student understanding about the materials taught. They reviewed the Math Studio, Full Graphing Calculator and the tool for explorations into functions. They reviewed Quick Graph, the ability to graph three dimensional functions with rotation. They reviewed TenMarks on-line homework, video lessons, on-line assessments including midterm, amplifiers and additional practice. They reviewed preliminary results and changes with scores.

Mr. Gaffney stated by using these programs students have doubled their understanding of materials. We will compare the results to other classrooms that do not have TenMarks.

Mrs. Rancourt thanked them for the presentation. She is a math geek and loved seeing the presentation. She asked what classes are you using TenMarks with. Mr. Gaffney stated Algebra I and II. Mrs. Rancourt stated the E-clicker is just being used in the classroom.

Mrs. Rancourt asked if students have the Quick Graph program they would not need graphing calculators. Mr. Gaffney stated this program can do more than the graphing calculators currently do. This could be equivalent to a TI-89 or a TI-Inspired than to a TI-83 or TI-84.

Mrs. Rancourt stated with TenMarks, do they need to bring their iPads home or can they connect to the website to work on homework. Mr. Gaffney stated the students will bring the iPads home at times.

Mrs. Szewczak stated this was part of the iPad pilot program. Are these part of the requirements for the program? Mr. Gaffney stated there are no requirements to the program. We need to collect student data on some of the applications to show student growth and report the gains made by the students.

Chairman Neville stated all students in the TAG program are using iPads. Can the students show their work using the whiteboard for the entire class to view? Mr. Gaffney stated they can but it is password protected.

Chairman Neville asked about the homework data that is collected and will it go right to their grades. Mr. Gaffney stated TenMarks will collect all the data for you and can give you information on grading, scores, student progression, reports on the strands the students are working on with subsets. We can see how the students are progressing with the common core. It can be loaded into our grading program. If students are out sick, they can log into TenMarks and see what is being done in the class and work from home.

Chairman Neville stated you could send them the assignments to work at home. Do you find a difference when teaching your Algebra classes using TenMarks and regular teaching in a classroom? Mr. Gaffney would rather use TenMarks. Students love to use iPads. Using Apple TV you can teach from anywhere in the room and help students at the same time.

Mrs. Szewczak asked if there is any problem with buffering? Mr. Gaffney stated no. Currently he is the only person using Apple TV. IT is in the process of upgrading the service. Apple TV is also password protected.

Chairman Neville asked how long have they been using Apple TV? Mr. Gaffney stated one month. It is available at Fermi and JFK. They are in the process of adding this across the town for the other schools to use.

Chairman Neville asked the students which math class do they prefer? The students agreed they like using the iPads better. You do not need to bring math books home. This is more interactive. Sometimes it can be confusing without the math books because you cannot ask questions when you are home. Once we are in class, Mr. Gaffney addresses our concerns.

Chairman Neville asked if grading is more or less work. Mr. Gaffney stated it is less work. The students will know the grades immediately. He would then transfer the grades.

Mrs. Rancourt asked if another teacher could use this program even if they were not familiar with Algebra? Mr. Gaffney stated anyone could use it. There is a teaching tool that is built into the amplifiers.

Mrs. Rancourt asked if the curriculum with TenMark goes along with the Common Core State Standards. Mr. Gaffney stated the curriculum used with TenMark starts with grade 1 through grade 12 in algebra through pre-calculus. If a student is having difficulties with a particular task, he can assign the student to work on material used in a prior grade to help with the problem area.

Chairman Neville asked Mr. Gaffney if he would like to use textbooks? Mr. Gaffney would prefer using the iPads.

Chairman Neville thanked Mr. Gaffney for his presentation and also asked him to come back again.

6. AUDIENCES: - None

7. 2013-14 BUDGET DISCUSSION CONTINUED:

a. Discussion Related to Goal #1 – Implementing a Rigorous Curriculum

Dr. Schumann stated Ms. McKernan will review new Board Goal #1 and implementing a rigorous curriculum and Board Goal #4 expanding data use capacity. Dr. Schumann explained how the budget books work. Additional materials will be added as we go through the budget process.

Ms. McKernan stated Goal #1 is to develop a rigorous core curriculum, implement highly effective research based instructional strategies and make instructional decisions based on the close analysis of student performance data. She reviewed our theory of action – if Enfield Public Schools adopt rigorous curriculum standards, provide effective professional development opportunities to educators to enhance their instructional practice and use student achievement data to inform decision making, then student outcomes will improve and students will be adequately prepared for college and career success.

Ms. McKernan reviewed components to Goal #1, rigorous curriculum; highly effective instruction and professional development and assessments that inform instruction. She reviewed curriculum writing and alignment for English/Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, Math Assessments and Performance Tasks in all disciplines. From the feedback she has received, an elementary writing program is needed. They have expanded the Great Books program in grades 2-8. They need to increase novels, informational texts, e-Readers and supplies to align with the Common Core State Standards.

Ms. McKernan reviewed highly effective instruction for external professional learning opportunities,

in-district professional learning opportunities, great books program, on-line learning laboratory, targeted instructional opportunities, student support academy and unit/credit recovery program, expand the iPad Consortium II program and e-Reader Solution Program. She reviewed assessments that inform instruction with computer adaptive testing environment, and expand e-Reader Solution program.

b. Discussion Related to Goal #4 – Expand Data Use Capacity

Ms. McKernan reviewed Board Goal #4 – to research, design and implement an integrated solution for collecting, warehousing and analyzing student performance data. She reviewed our theory of action – if all educators develop the skills to access and analyze student performance data, then instructional decisions will be informed by student performance data and educators will be able to target the specific needs of every student.

Ms. McKernan reviewed a Data Warehousing System. It will provide educators the ability to track all students across all assessments; aggregate student data across schools; disaggregate data into subgroups, schools, and by group; look at individual questions and strands to understand student strengths and weaknesses; track effectiveness of tiered intervention; and use student performance data to meet requirements of the state's new teacher evaluation system.

Ms. McKernan reviewed the budget impact for Great Books, training and materials for \$25,000; e-Readers for \$21,000; Computer Adaptive Testing for \$14,400; On-line Professional Development Lab for \$50,000; new Elementary School Writing Program for \$88,000; iPad Consortium II for \$100,000 (200 more iPads); Data Warehousing System for \$23,900 for a total of \$322,300K.

Ms. McKernan reviewed the benefits for Goal 1 & 4. Our curriculum will be aligned to the Common Core; performance tasks will be aligned with the Smarter Balanced Assessment expectations; create on-line professional development lab; build teacher capacity; expand our resources to meet CCSS expectations; establish a district-wide writing program; provide targeted support for students; increase use of iPad technology; provide students experience with Computer Adaptive Testing environments and support teachers to use data in making instructional decisions.

Mrs. Rancourt asked what will be purchased for the e-Readers? Ms. McKernan stated there are several products like My Own Reader, Benchmark Universe and Big Universe that are subscription programs that can be available in all classrooms. We can bring our classroom libraries up to the levels they need to be at. Students can access them on other devices besides iPads and tablets.

Mrs. Rancourt asked about the computer adaptive testing. Ms. McKernan stated she would like to pilot a program next year in certain grades. Students would take 3 benchmark tests during the year so we could benchmark the scores. This is similar to what the smarter balanced assessment testing environment would be like.

Mrs. Rancourt asked if the data warehousing will be software or a web based cloud program. Mr. Bourassa stated it would tie into our programs.

Mrs. LeBlanc asked about expanding the Student Support Academy and a Credit Recovery Program. Her child is in grade 3 and is one of the participants in the Support Academy. He loves the program. This program can give the students additional support beyond what she provides. She is happy to hear the support is there with student participation.

Ms. McKernan thanked Board members for allowing them to pilot this program. It will let us see if it will work and appreciates the support.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated the on-line learning support helps the students. Learning libraries are needed. Will this becoming out of our Technology accounts? Ms. McKernan stated this would fall under instructional items and programs. This is tied to Goal #1. We have a great deal of knowledge in our district.

Mr. Sirard asked about the student's academic records being stored in a cloud storage account. Will parents have access to this? Ms. McKernan is not sure if the program we will be using will have a parent portal. Our e-School program allows for parents to access it.

Mr. Bourassa added it also depends on how much the school district wants to share with the parents. The district can decide on what to show them.

Mr. Sirard would like to see everything that his child is doing. He wants to know what they are being taught, how they are being evaluated by the teacher and what the curriculum is. As a parent, he does not want to be restricted.

Ms. McKernan stated as we build our on-line learning library, we can expand as we move forward.

Mrs. Rancourt stated we have HAC and parents can view their children's grades. She does not need to know every benchmark her children make. She wants to see the grades. There are two different things.

Mr. Sirard stated he watches everything his children does and talks to their teachers on a regular basis. He does not want a wall between him and his child's teacher. He wants to be able to access everything the teacher can so he can communicate with the teacher before it becomes a problem.

Chairman Neville stated looking at on-line data and particular strands is helpful. HAC allows parents to see the grading for their children. As this process evolves and the data we collect may not be necessary for everyone to access.

Chairman Neville addressed some of the budget items like, Great Books, e-Reader Program and Computer Adapted Testing and asked if these are one-time expenditures or annual expenditures. Ms. McKernan stated the Great Books would be on-going for professional development. The e-Reader Program is a subscription that would be an annual cost. The Computer Adaptive Testing would be a bridge to the Smarter Balanced Assessments. The On-Line Professional Development Lab will be a higher cost to start and the fee would be lower for on-going costs. The iPad Consortium is something we will continue to expand upon. The Data Warehousing System costs will continue. It will start higher and will drop down for upkeep costs.

Chairman Neville asked about the iPad Consortium. He is pleased by what he is seeing. We are not using textbooks as the primary source. Are you looking at on-line subscriptions for textbooks? Ms. McKernan stated we are looking at e-Readers. There should be a library of books for students to access. E-Readers can bring in more books at a lower cost. We are looking at more on-line solutions and will continue this process.

Chairman Neville stated e-Readers are saving us time and money. There are some efficiencies gained by doing this. Even if we bring this in gradually, we can pilot this and see how it works. Ms. McKernan stated she introduced Mr. Gaffney to TenMarks. We are receiving data from the teachers from the iPad Consortium I and will compare the data to see the efficiencies and costs saved.

Chairman Neville stated he is glad to see the Graphing Calculator Program. He spent \$100's of dollars purchasing calculators for his 4 children. Ms. McKernan stated this is a perfect example of the cost savings by using this graphing program. The new Smarter Balanced Assessments will also have calculators for student access.

Mr. Sirard stated he is all about efficiencies. He asked about the long-term history with Apple. Some of their products had a short-term shelf life. He grew up with Apple Computers. He has seen this with similar applications. The machine is only as good as its support. His concern is with subscription fees. He is looking for academic accountability. He does not want to see applications becoming obsolete. TenMarks is working now and does not to see it become obsolete in a few years.

Mr. Bourassa stated the Smarter Balanced Assessment is projecting to be in place 7 years from now. Windows XP will be the next item to become obsolete. They are encouraging people to use Windows 7. If you can get 7 years from any product you are doing okay.

Ms. McKernan stated the teachers will be looking at the data per application. We are also looking at free applications.

Mrs. Rancourt asked about software packages. She looked at another school district and they offer a snow package. She would like to utilize programs like this when she is at home so she can work with her children. She asked if TenMarks is an application or a website program?

Ms. McKernan stated TenMarks is a program that we have a subscription to access. There is a free version of TenMarks you can use. She looks forward to showing these programs to the Board.

Mrs. Rancourt stated she downloads programs and has her child do additional work at home. If this is something we can do for parents she is all for it.

Chairman Neville thanked Ms. McKernan. It is nice to see the teachers using the piloted programs. Ms. McKernan thanked Board members for supporting the pilot programs.

8. FY2013-14 SCHOOL CALENDAR:

Dr. Schumann stated you have two calendars before you - our current Board calendar and the 2013-14 calendar. We are in the process of discussing the proposed calendar with the bargaining units. He reviewed current professional development days and the proposed 2013-14 professional development days with Board members. We are proposing to continue professional development throughout the school year monthly with seven (7) half day PD days. We will be able to work with staff on many different topics monthly. If full day Kindergarten is approved we will remove some things from the proposed 2013-14 calendar that are high-lighted in red and yellow. This will increase instruction hours for students.

Dr. Schumann asked Board members to look at the proposed calendar and we will place it on a February agenda for Board approval.

Mrs. Szewczak asked if Election Day would be a staff in-service day. Dr. Schumann stated that is correct. Since it will not be a presidential election we can use JFK for a staff in-service day.

Chairman Neville asked Board members to review the proposed calendar and we will place this on the February 26th agenda for adoption.

9. BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS:

Ms. Hall stated that both she and Dr. Schumann will attend the Legislative Breakfast on February 7th. If any Board member is interested in attending, please let us know.

Mr. Sirard stated he will attend the Enfield KITE Trivia Night on February 2nd to support the Enfield First Readers. The event will be held at Mount Carmel and starts at 7:00 PM. He hopes to see you all there.

Mrs. Szewczak stated the Building Committee will conduct interviews for the short-listed Architects on Saturday, February 2nd at Enfield High School in Room B105. The interviews will be televised.

Mrs. LeBlanc supports the Support Academy and is thrilled that her son is participating. She stated the benefits are worth the time. EHS and FHS will hold their program of studies night for grade 8 students. Enfield High will hold theirs on February 4th. Enrico Fermi will hold theirs on January 31st.

Chairman Neville read a letter he received from CREC regarding the preschool tuitions being waived for this year only. The costs for these tuitions is \$64K. There is a bill regarding this at the State Department of Education. He believes we will need to pay for these tuitions next year.

Ms. Hall stated that is not necessarily true. It will depend on what happens with the legislature.

Chairman Neville thanked all of the presenters tonight and the students. It was fun to watch the students. We look forward to seeing the progress continue.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION - MATTERS RELATED TO SECURITY:

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard that the Board enters into Executive Session for Matter(s) Related to Security at 8:07 PM

The Board reconvened to the Staff Lounge for the Executive Session. Joining the Board in Executive Session were Dr. Schumann and Mr. Drezek.

The Executive Session ended at 8:57 PM. No Board action occurred while in Executive Session.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard to adjourn the Special Meeting of January 29, 2013.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Donna Szewczak
Secretary
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary