

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 24, 2016**

A special meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held at Henry Barnard Elementary School in the Board Conference Room, located at 27 Shaker Road, Enfield, CT on February 24, 2016.

1. **Call To Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Vice Chairman Ludwick.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Vice Chairman Ludwick
3. **Fire Evacuation Announcement:** Vice Chairman Ludwick announced the fire evacuation announcement.
4. **Roll Call:**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Walter Kruzel, Ray Peabody (arrived at 6:04 PM), Lori Unghire, Mike Ludwick, Tina LeBlanc, Timothy Neville, Stacy Thurston and Tom Sirard (arrived at 6:03 PM)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vin Grady

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

5. **Action If any, regarding Revising the FY2016-17 School Calendar**

Dr. Schumann explained to Board members that we needed to add one additional Professional Learning day to the school calendar. We have reviewed this with the collective bargaining units and they agreed with the proposed additional September 2nd Professional Learning day. This will also give the Enfield High teachers time to get settled in.

Chairman Sirard arrived at 6:03 PM.

Mr. Neville moved, seconded by Mr. Kruzel that the Enfield Board of education approves the revised FY2016-17 School Calendar as presented.

Discussion:

Mr. Ludwick asked which day does school start on. Dr. Schumann stated September 6th. This change will not affect the student's instruction days.

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

Ray Peabody arrived at 6:04 PM.

6. **Action, if any regarding the FY2016-17 Budget**

Mr. Neville moved, seconded by Mr. Kruzel that the Enfield Board of Education adopts the budget for the 2016-17 school year in the amount of \$70,647,668 by removing the following from the Superintendent's Proposed budget:

- Intermediate Assistant Principals = \$287,880
- High School Hallway Supervision Monitors = \$265,000
- Kindergarten Classroom Aides = \$217,200
- ITPC = \$285,684
- Health Insurance = \$170,857

Discussion:

Mr. Peabody is not comfortable supporting this budget. Our town is in deeper financial restraints than we realize.

Mr. Neville supports the budget. We do not know all of the real numbers yet. We are waiting for our health insurance numbers. Once we know our numbers, we can intelligently make adjustments if needed.

Chairman Sirard stated the numbers presented in the budget reflect contractual obligations, magnet school costs, special education costs and projected insurance costs. There is not much left in the budget for discretionary funds.

Mr. Peabody feels that some of the line items could have negative impact on staffing. He does not support this.

Mrs. Thurston supports this budget. She does not want to make any cuts without knowing the real numbers. She knows we may need to make cuts. This is a good place to start the budget process.

Mr. Peabody added that this is a hard pill to swallow. We do things backwards when it comes to the budget.

Mr. Neville stated we have put out budgets in the past that have had cuts. We are always playing catchup. He understands the situation with the Town. This is a reasonable budget. We are still waiting for insurance costs. We have very little discretionary funds. He cannot make any significant cuts to the budget without real hard numbers. He does not want to cut the heart out of the budget and our programs.

Mr. Peabody stated we are building and rebuilding our school system. He doesn't disagree with you. We are not in a sustained budget mode. He would like more time to look at the budget with the Board before a decision is made.

Chairman Sirard understands Mr. Peabody's position. He has been dealing with the budget since 2009. We have presented flat budgets previously. There is very little discretionary funds in this budget. The next cuts that will be made will be staffing. We have no control over certain items that are included in the budget. We have reorganized our entire school system and added full day kindergarten. We have done this while being flat funded.

Mr. Ludwick stated you are referring to items like the Eagle Hour as discretionary items.

Mr. Neville agreed with Mr. Ludwick. We do not want to cut the heart out of the new high school. The only place to make cuts is staffing. We are always doing more with less. We are now doing less with less.

Mr. Peabody is good with this and can support the budget.

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

7. Audiences – None

8. Board Member Comments

Mr. Kruzel reminded Board members about the Buzz Robotics Pasta Supper being held at St. Bernard's on March 3rd. He added the robot has been shipped out.

Mr. Peabody shared news about a former Fermi student that passed away in Africa. Enfield did a great job educating this student. We changed the direction of this young man.

Mr. Ludwick stated that he will miss the Enfield High's girls' basketball game tonight to attend the Future Use of Fermi Community Conversation. He added that at one of the games, the national anthem song would not play. So the students sang the national anthem and did a phenomenal job! We are doing a lot of things right in Enfield without the financial funding.

Mr. Neville stated the students at Enfield High are using the lifts in the automotive classroom. He reminded Board members about the First Readers Trivia Night being held at Mount Carmel. If you can, get a team together. It is a lot of fun.

Mrs. Thurston stated she along with Mr. Peabody attended the Fermi Hockey Alumni game. Tim Jensen did a great job of organizing this event. It was a lot of fun to see all of the past players.

Mr. Peabody agreed with Mrs. Thurston. It was great talking with these past players. Many life time friendships were formed playing hockey as high school athletes. They are all truly great citizens of Enfield.

Mr. Neville thanked Dr. Schumann for sending out a press release about the Fall Varsity Coaches.

Dr. Schumann stated we sent out a press release naming the following Fall 2016 Varsity Coaches:

Cheerleading – Tammi Flynn-Paradis
Cross Country – Rob Barnes
Field Hockey – Cookie Bromage
Football – James Lyver
Boys Soccer – Tony Allegro
Girls Soccer – Kate Battista
Girls Swimming – Kristen Fitzsimons
Girls Volleyball – Albina Belisle

Dr. Schumann added that we will now post for the fall Junior Varsity Coaches. The Varsity Coaches are all excited to participate in the CCC. We will look at the band and drama positions, winter and spring coaching positions.

Mr. Neville stated the public has been asking about this. This is all part of the consolidation process. Thank you.

9. Adjournment

Mrs. Thurston moved, seconded by Mr. Kruzel to adjourn the Special Meeting of February 24, 2016.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 6:25 PM.

Tina LeBlanc
Secretary
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary