

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 12, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held at Town Hall in Council Chambers, located at 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT on April 12, 2016.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mike Ludwick.
2. **INVOCATION OR MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Tim Neville
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Tim Neville
4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT:** Tom Sirard announced the fire evacuation announcement.
5. **ROLL CALL:**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Walter Kruzel, Raymond Peabody, Lori Unghire, Mike Ludwick, Tina LeBlanc, Tim Neville, Stacy Thurston and Tom Sirard (arrived at 8:30 PM)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vin Grady

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Jeffery Schumann, Superintendent; FHS Student Representative Thomas Vose and EHS Student Representative Caitlyn Passmore

Vice Chairman Ludwick reported that Chairman Sirard will be late and Mr. Grady is out of town and unable to attend tonight's meeting.

6. **BOARD GUEST(S):** None
7. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**
 - a. Student Representatives – as presented
 - b. FY2016-17 Budget Community Conversation & Public Hearing – as presented
 - c. April Events – as presented
8. **AUDIENCES** - None
9. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Kruzel attended the Buzz Robotics Competition held at Hartford Public High School Academy of Engineering and Green Technology in Hartford, CT. The team worked really hard but unfortunately they did not win. They also held a fundraising event for Buzz Robotics that was well attended. He is not sure how much money they raised but believes it was quite a bit.

Mr. Peabody thanked Two Moms on a Mission for the Easter Egg Hunt and Vendor Fair they held. Both events were quite successful. The money they raise helps our PTO's.

Mr. Peabody wished the Enfield High Band luck in their upcoming competition in Canada. He urged community members to attend the upcoming community FY2016-17 budget

conversation being held on Wednesday, April 13th at 7:00 PM in the Henry Barnard All-Purpose Room. We need your input. We may not do what you are suggesting, but we still need to hear from you.

Mr. Peabody stated the school system needs to be the #2 priority in our Town. Our community safety is the number #1 priority. The Town and Board will hold a public hearing for the FY2016-17 budget on Wednesday, April 20th at 6:30 PM in the John F. Kennedy Middle School Auditorium. We need the public to attend this event. Please get involved.

Mr. Peabody added that the Board has a good working relationship with the Town Council. We will be holding a joint budget workshop.

Mrs. Unghire stated the Hazardville Memorial PTO met and they are doing a great job. They will hold a fun-run on Saturday, May 21st. You can walk or run. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Mrs. Unghire stated the Enrico Fermi students held a talent show. We have some truly talented students. They had a good variety of talent at this event. They also had an instrumental and slide show about Enrico Fermi that was very informative.

Mrs. Unghire attended the Woman's Club Art Show. She was very impressed by the students art work. We have some very talented students in Enfield. They had some live events at the art show that showed the students working on art items like painting and ceramics.

Mrs. Unghire reported the Opening Ceremony Committee met and are discussing several ideas. We will meet again on Wednesday, May 25th at 7:00 PM in the Board Conference Room.

Mrs. Unghire congratulated the EHS National Honor Society for raising money at ShopRite for their charity. Kudos all of the students involved in this project.

Mrs. LeBlanc also attended the Woman's Club Art Show. Her son made one of the many blue squirrels that were displayed throughout the café. Her son actually found the squirrel he made.

Mrs. LeBlanc encouraged parents to attend several different college fairs that are being offered. You will learn a lot. She was able to talk to an admissions counselor who addressed her many questions. You will learn a lot by attending these. It will help your child to narrow down the fields they would like to major in if they are undecided.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated she was elected to the Board to be transparent and honest. She hopes that what she says will not negatively affect the Board or the replacement of a new Town Council Member. She is a member of the Town/Board joint insurance sub-committee. She read a prepared statement.

Mrs. LeBlanc encouraged all residents to work together and fight for transparency with our Town Government.

Mr. Peabody added there was a face book post about the quality of the food in our schools. He wanted to let everyone know that we have quality insurance protocols in place and the product in question was pulled from the line before anything was served to the students.

Mr. Ludwick thanked our teachers that send out the positive message postcards to the students when they do something good. This really makes a difference to our kids that receive these. He also thanked the teachers for participating in April 1st pranks with the students. It

is great to see the teachers and students having fun while learning.

Mr. Ludwick stated the St. Bernard's Basketball team played in the championship but did not win. These students did not give up and gave it their heart and soul. He is very proud of these dedicated students. They represented our town proudly.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Transition Update

Dr. Schumann stated the repairs to the air compressor for the chemistry lab, technology lab and the lifts in the auto shop at Enfield High have been made.

Dr. Schumann stated the Enfield High School Gym will be open when the students come back from their spring vacation break. The gym is fantastic.

Dr. Schumann added that 4 labs (three graphic arts/engineering labs and one world language lab) will be going in the new STEAM Wing. We will need high powered machines to operate in these labs. We are looking to see if the Building Committee can purchase these items for the labs. We do not believe the new technology would be able to work properly with our current older machines. We would repurpose the older machines in other areas in the high school. We are hoping this can be done.

Mr. Ludwick asked if the gym and cardio rooms are open.

Dr. Schumann stated the gym will be open after the spring break. The cardio room is being used as a music room temporarily. He believes the weight room will be used soon. Hopefully that will also be open after vacation.

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. "Receipt of and Action upon Recommendation of Superintendent of Schools Concerning Teacher Contract Non-renewals in Accordance with Connecticut General Statutes 10-151"

Mrs. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mrs. Thurston that the Enfield Board of Education that the contract of employment for...

Lauren Andrews
Traci Artioli
Renee Baillargeon
Daniel Barrett
Adam Behling
Donna Bell-Paolucci
Brianna Cacela
Jacqueline Cahillane
Melissa Clark
Christopher Colburn
Courtney Collins
Cheryl Conley
Aimee Cotto
Frances DeLao
Alison Delphia
Amy Dennis

Tara Discepolo
Angela Earley-Alves
Lynsey Eslinger
Melanie Finn-Scofield
Kristen Fitzsimons
Desiree Fontaine
Nicole Fontaine
Steven Fix
Deborah Gaskell
John Paul Gill
Eliza Gonzalez
Michaela Gorham
Donald Gumeary
Erin Hayes
Shawnee Herrlein
Jeanne Horton

Lauren Hughes
Alyssa Ivanoff
Jane Karcz
Allison Law
Isabelle Matos
Kelsey McGuire
Kate Meissner
Adam Mitchell
Michael Misserri
Bridgette Moriarity
Kelly Morrison
Kim Muggleton
Heather Munafo
Joshua Ogradowski
Richard Onofrey
Amber Pascoe

Lee Piekos
Caroline Pierce
Nicole Ricci
Rebecca Rojano
Caryn Rosenberg
Kelly Rossetti
Stuart Sanborn
Alyssa Santos
Jacquelyn Sawn

Jennifer Scully
Leigh Scordato
Kelly Shea
Rebecca Shinner
Kristen Sixbey
Rebecca Skrabely
Bethany Sullivan
Heather Teraila
Justin Teraila

Alexander Tracey
John Unghire
Deborah Wagner
William Walpole
Mary Kate Walsh
Laura Williams
Jennifer Willis
Nicole Wright
Evelyn Wullner

...not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2015-16 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools be direct to advise such persons in writing of this action.

Discussion:

Mr. Neville stated this is something we have been doing for years. Board members dread this every year. We are talking about our newest and brightest teachers that have been handpicked by our administration. We are obligated to vote on this due to legal obligations. We do this because we need to. He would like to get to a point where we would not need to do this every year. He finds this personally offensive.

Mr. Peabody echoed Mr. Neville's comments. There is a fallacy out there that teachers can get a job anywhere. This is not true. Other towns are facing the same budget constraints that we are. We are on the brink of moving our school system from good to great. We will do what we can to keep these teachers here. Our goal is to educate our children and support our teachers. This is a tough fiscal time for everyone. We need the funds to give our kids the best world class education we can afford.

Mr. Kruzel added that the State needs to educate students in grades K-12. They do not need to include the colleges.

A vote by **roll-call 6-1-0** passed with Mrs. LeBlanc in dissent.

12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Building Committee

Mr. Neville stated we are on target. He believes the weight room is currently being used. We were paying for storage for the equipment. The gym will be turned over after the spring vacation. The Building Committee will meet on Thursday, April 14th.

Mr. Kruzel stated the foundation is in for the music wing. He thanked the staff and students of Enfield High for putting up with the construction. It will all be in the past very soon.

b. Curriculum Committee

Mr. Neville stated the Curriculum Committee will meet on Wednesday, April 13th

c. Finance Committee

Mr. Peabody stated the Finance Committee will meet on April 25th.

- a. Policy Committee

Mr. Ludwick stated the Policy Committee will meet on April 28th.

13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Kruzel moved, seconded by Mr. Neville that the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2016 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 6-0-1** passed with Mrs. Unghire abstaining.

14. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYROLL - None

15. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Thank you note from Elizabeth Bouley for Board Member participation in the Pink-a-Thon.

16. AUDIENCES

Bob Tkacz, No Certain Address – Mr. Tkacz stated the practice of non-renewals has been going on since the 1970's. This was done when he was a Board member. This needs to be done for all non-tenured teachers. The Board's budget exceeds the Town's budget. The police department's budget is a small portion of the Town's budget. The school has been the #1 priority. The superintendent present his budget requests to the Board who then present it to the Town. The Town will set the budget they can afford. The insurance is set by contracts and by the co-pays. There is no mismanagement of funds or impropriety. Insurance costs have gone through the roof. Medical costs have risen sharply. He wished everyone would stop getting so upset about this. You will hear the real facts at the community conversation and public hearing.

Gina Sullivan, Spier Avenue – Mrs. Sullivan would like the Board to address the questions raised by Ms. Grant at the last Board meeting about budget items. Mrs. Grant cannot be here tonight. Thank you.

Jen Bruyette, Laurel Park – Ms. Bruyette is glad to hear that you are considering joining CABA. Hopefully this will fit in still with the budget cuts. There is a lot of misconceptions and misunderstanding about the insurance. She would like someone to explain this to the community so we can all understand what is going on. She doesn't understand and she is an accountant. She thanked Mrs. LeBlanc for her comments.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Kruzel moved, seconded by Mrs. Unghire that the Enfield Board of Education enters into Executive Session for Matter(s) Related to Personnel and Matter(s) Related to Collective Bargaining.

A vote by **show of hands 6-1-0** passed with Mrs. Thurston in dissent.

The Board relocated to the staff lounge for the Executive Session at 7:30 PM. Dr. Schumann joined the Board in Executive Session.

No Board action occurred during the Executive Session.

Mr. Sirard arrived at 8:30 PM.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Thurston moved, seconded by Mr. Kruzel to adjourn the Regular Meeting of April 12, 2016.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Tina LeBlanc
Secretary
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary