

**\*\*\*This Meeting will have Limited Public Seating and Masks are Required\*\*\***

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT**

**Time-Place:**

**Council Chambers  
820 Enfield Street  
Enfield, CT  
7:00 PM Regular Meeting**

**Date: 01-11-21**

<https://youtu.be/PcCnRaDGTm4>

1. **Call to Order – 7:00 PM**
2. **Invocation or Moment of Silence – Janet Cushman**
3. **Pledge of Allegiance – Janet Cushman**
4. **Fire Evacuation Announcement**
5. **Roll Call**
6. **Board Guest(s)**
7. **Superintendent's Report**
  - a. **Special Recognition**
  - b. **EPS Update**
  - c. **MLK Day - NS**
8. **Audiences**
9. **Board Members' Comments**
10. **Unfinished Business**
11. **New Business**
  - a. **BOE Policy Revisions – First Reading**
  - b. **BOE Policy Adoptions – First Reading**
12. **Board Committee Reports**

- <b>Curriculum Committee</b>	- <b>JFK Building Committee</b>
- <b>Finance, Budget Committee</b>	- <b>Joint Security Committee</b>
- <b>Policy Committee</b>	- <b>Joint Insurance Committee</b>
- <b>Leadership Committee</b>	- <b>Youth Mental Health &amp; Wellness Advisory Committee</b>
- <b>Joint Facilities</b>	- <b>Any Additional Committees</b>
13. **Approval of Minutes:**
  - **Special BOE Meeting Minutes: November 23, 2021**
  - **Regular BOE Meeting Minutes: November 23, 2021**
  - **Special BOE Meeting Minutes: December 14, 2021**
  - **Regular BOE Meeting Minutes: December 14, 2021**
14. **Approval of Accounts and Payroll:**
  - **For the Month of November & December 2021**
  - **Line Item Transfers, if any**
15. **Correspondence and Communications**
16. **Executive Session**
17. **Adjournment**



**Date:** January 11, 2022  
**To:** Enfield Board of Education  
**From:** Mr. Christopher J. Drezek  
**Re:** Superintendent's Report

- a. **Special Recognition:** I will address this item.
- b. **EPS Update:** At this time, I will update the Board regarding our schools.
- c. **MLK Day – NS:** All Enfield Public Schools and Offices will be closed on Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup> for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. All schools and activities will resume on Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>.



**Date:** January 11, 2022  
**To:** Enfield Board of Education  
**From:** Mr. Christopher J. Drezek  
**Re:** BOE Policy Revisions – First Reading

Members from the previous and current Policy Committee have been working on several Board policy changes recommended by CABE. Committee members approved at their December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting to bring forward several policies for a first reading. The policies listed below have been placed on our website for public input.

- 0200 Goals for the Enfield Public Schools;
- 4000.1 Title IX;
- 4118.11 Nondiscrimination;
- 4131 Staff Development;
- 5141.3 Health Assessments and Immunizations
- 5113 Attendance/Excuses/Dismissal

Policy Committee Chair Scott Ryder and Policy Committee Liaison Assistant Superintendent Longey can address any Board member questions regarding these policy revisions.

Therefore, the Enfield Board of Education may take any action(s) deemed appropriately regarding the proposed policy revisions - First Reading as presented.



**Date:** January 11, 2022  
**To:** Enfield Board of Education  
**From:** Mr. Christopher J. Drezek  
**Re:** BOE Policy Adoptions – First Reading

Policy Committee members approved at their December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting several new policies recommend by CABE for a first reading. The policies listed below have been placed on our website for public input.

- 1110.1 Communications with the Public – Parent Involvement;
- 3542.43 Food Service – Charging Policy;
- 4218.114 Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace – Pregnant Women in the Workplace/Lactation Accommodation;
- 5113.2 Truancy;
- 5141 Student Health Services – School District Medical Advisor;
- 6112 School Day – Grades 1-12, Full Day Kindergarten;
- 6159 Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program.

Policy Committee Chair Scott Ryder and Policy Committee Liaison Assistant Superintendent Longey can address any Board member questions regarding these proposed new policies.

Therefore, the Enfield Board of Education may take any action(s) deemed appropriately regarding the proposed new policies - First Reading as presented.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 23, 2021**

A special meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held on November 23, 2021, at Enfield Town Hall in the Enfield Room located at 820 Enfield Street, Enfield.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 5:45 PM by Tina LeBlanc.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Tina LeBlanc

3. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT**

4. **ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jean Acree, Dr. Gerald Calnen, Janet Cushman, Joshua Hamre, Jonathan LeBlanc, Amanda Pickett, Scott Ryder, John Unghire, and Tina LeBlanc

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. Christopher Drezek, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Andrew Longey, Assistant Superintendent of Schools and Board Attorney Christine Chinni

5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**a. Matter(s) Related to Attorney-Client Privilege**

Mr. Hamre moved, seconded by Mr. Ryder that the Board enter into Executive Session  
A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

Both Mr. Drezek, Mr. Longey and Board Attorney Christine Chinni joined the Board in Executive Session at 5:47 PM.

No Board action occurred while in Executive Session.

**Open Session:**

The Board returned to open session at 6:56 PM.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Hamre moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett to adjourn the Special Meeting of November 23, 2021.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously. Meeting stood adjourned at 6:57 PM.

Jonathan LeBlanc  
Secretary  
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,  
Andrew B. Longey, Assistant Superintendent

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 23, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held in Council Chambers on November 23, 2021.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Madam Chair LeBlanc.

2. **INVOCATION OR MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Jean Acree

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Jean Acree

4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT:**

5. **ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jean Acree, Dr. Gerald Calnen, Janet Cushman, Joshua Hamre, Jonathan LeBlanc, Amanda Pickett, Scott Ryder, John Unghire and Tina LeBlanc

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. Christopher J. Drezek, Superintendent & Mr. Andrew B. Longey, Assistant Superintendent

6. **BOARD GUEST(S)**

**a. 2021-22 Kid Mayor**

Mr. Drezek welcomed our K-12 Humanities Director Dr. Meghann Burr. Dr. Burr thanked Mr. Drezek and the Board for inviting them to tonight's meeting. She introduced our districtwide 2021-22 Kid Mayor – Chloe Clark. She is a grade 5 student at Prudence Crandall Elementary Schools.

Ms. Clark stated her platform was about self-insecurities. She wants to be a leader and decided to run for Kid Governor. She thanked her school for their help, her family, her teacher Mrs. O'Connor and her classmates. She also thanked Mr. Senez and Dr. Burr. She shared her Kid Mayor message with the Board. She added that being different is good.

Mr. Hamre stated, Chloe you are amazing, and you are a leader already. Kudos for your efforts. Your presentation was incredible

Mrs. Pickett thanked her for all your hard work. Your message is great – different is good. This is something we can all use it. Thank you for your hard work. You are a leader.

Mrs. Acree thanked Chloe for your platform and message. This was refreshing. You are very creative. You never know, you might have a place in politics someday. She urged her to keep up the good work.

Mr. Ryder stated that at our March 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting he will address Kindness Day that falls on March 31<sup>st</sup>. He would love it if you could attend but if you can't he will remind everyone about Kindness Day.

Mr. Unghire stated that you are wonderful and beautiful young lady. Talk about being kind and sensitive is very important. He knows that young girls are sensitive about their appearance and worry about things. He thanked her for her vision and positive message about feeling good. Thank you for bringing this to our schools.

Madam Chair LeBlanc stated your message reminds her of a saying – be as kind to yourself as you are to others. We all need that reminder because we are so hard on ourselves. She loves when our students attend Board meetings. Your classmates see you. You have created a safe place where kids can relate to other kids. She loves your platform and congratulated her. We all need kindness.

Mayor Bob Cressotti congratulated Chloe. This is quite an honor. Your platform at grade 5 shows such confidence, self-awareness and self-esteem. What an opportune time to share your message at Thanksgiving. He congratulated her on behalf of the entire Town Council. He invited her to attend the December 6<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting as their special guest.

Mayor Cressotti presented her with a Town Pin and urged her to wear this with pride. He also invited her to attend the Torchlight Parade and Carol Sing on December 5<sup>th</sup> and to walk with the Town Council and Board of Education member to the Town Green.

Madam Chair LeBlanc presented Ms. Clark with a plaque from the Board of Education and Town Council. Ms. Clark received a standing ovation.

Mayor Cressotti wished everyone a happy, safe and healthy Thanksgiving with your families on behalf of the Town Council and himself. Thank you.

### **MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES**

Madam Chair LeBlanc stated we have the need to Suspend the Rules for two items – move Item 11a. Approval of 2022-23 Head Start Federal Grant, SF-424B Submission Statement and Governing Board Approval Statement before Item #8 Audience Participation and add Item #11c. Standing Committees of the Board to the agenda as Item #11c.

### **MOTION TO MOVE AN ITEM ON THE AGENDA**

Mr. Hamre moved, seconded by Mr. Unghire that the Enfield Board of Education move Item 11a. Approval of 2022-23 Head Start Federal Grant, SF-424B Submission Statement and Governing Board Approval Statement before Item #8 Audience Participation.

A vote by **show-of-hands – 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

### **MOTION TO ADD AN ITEM ON THE AGENDA**

Mr. Ryder moved, seconded by Mr. Hamre that the Enfield Board of Education adds Item #11c – Standing Committees of the Board to the agenda.

A vote by **show-of-hands – 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

## **7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **a. EPS Update**

Mr. Drezek stated we received a request from the construction company regarding December 23<sup>rd</sup> and January 3<sup>rd</sup> for the students at JFK. The building is under construction and is expected to be completed sooner than expected. Staff will need to set up their classrooms and get ready for students to return. We will address the JFK student calendar at our next

meeting. In the past, we would have used a remote day but that is no longer allowed. We will need to make an adjustment to the school calendar to accommodate the students at JFK. The Board can waive the 181<sup>st</sup> school day since we are only required to attend school 180 days. We can also be creative with making up any days. He wanted to let the parents and students know about this.

Mr. Drezek stated the CIAC has announced their plans for winter sports and masks. He has discussed this with his colleagues and at the State Department of Health. This plan will affect certain athletes and being able to participate without wearing masks if they are vaccinated. He is sure this will be addressed further.

Mr. Drezek stated we have received several phone calls regarding the state Screen and Stay initiative. This does not mean you can automatically come back to school if you are asymptomatic. There are certain parameters that are in place. Yes, we are participating with this but there are other factors that need to be considered. This will only apply if your direct exposure happened while you were at school. Parents are required to sign an attestation form. Our nurses are trying to relay this information to parents. We will put something out that is clearer about this for parents.

**b. Torchlight Parade & Carol Sing – as presented**

**11a. Approval of 2022-23 Head Start Federal Grant, SF-424B Submission Statement and Governing Board Approval Statement**

Madam Chair welcomed Jaclyn Valley our Early Childhood Initiatives Director to the meeting. Ms. Valley introduced our Education and Disabilities Coordinator Shannon Steere. They gave an update of what is happening at STOWE. They presented slides showing a summary from the SELC conferences that were held and students being creative, inquisitive, flexible, critical thinkers, purposeful and reflective and social learners. Mrs. Steere reviewed child outcome data from the Fall of 2021.

Ms. Valley stated they are here to request approval for Head Start Federal Grants that total \$961,231 and \$11,241 for training and technical assistance.

Mr. Unghire asked if they are applying for these grants. Ms. Valley stated this is a 5 year continuation grant that we are applying for. We need to resubmit our application for each year. This is for year 3 and the goals and objectives are for year 4. This is the process we need to follow for this continuation grant.

Mr. Unghire asked about the budget. What is the non-federal money that is listed? Ms. Valley stated that all Head Starts are required to have 25% of the non-federal funds come from other sources. This portion comes from the Board of Education. If we were not part of a school district, we would partner with the community to provide donations and funding.

Mr. Unghire stated this portion of funding comes from the Enfield Public School system. Thank you.

Mrs. Pickett asked how many students are attending Enfield Head Start. Ms. Valley stated we have 102 students that are fully enrolled. This is a huge testament to our program. Nationally, Head Start programs are struggling to be fully enrolled. We are one of two Head Starts in our region that are fully enrolled.

Mrs. Pickett stated the amount that Enfield provides Head Start is the match that most grants require. This is for 102 students that receive a high quality education program. Ms. Valley stated we have 1 part day program also. We currently have 5 full day programs. We were able to use the American Rescue Funds to fund an additional classroom this year.

Dr. Calnen asked about training and technical assistance. Ms. Valley stated we will provide staff with professional development and training as part of the grant. We use this to pay for CPR training and refining our data collection. We are working with the CT Science Center and an executive function coach. We will also use Ready Rosie for staff training.

Dr. Calnen asked if Ms. Valley could elaborate on Ready Rosie. Ms. Valley stated this is a parent training and development program. We also use this as a family engagement tool. They have many different kinds of videos that help parents when it comes to their children. They also provide us with many training videos.

Dr. Calnen asked who developed this program? Ms. Valley is not sure but can look into it.

Mr. Hamre asked if the \$961,231 is for each year? Ms. Valley stated that amount is for each year.

Mr. Hamre asked if we could expand our numbers past 102 students? Ms. Valley stated we would need to apply for. We would need to prove our need to expand the number of students we serve. We would need to provide data showing this need. We are a delegate of Manchester, and they are our grantee. Manchester has more seats than we do. We are in partnership with them.

Madam Chair thanked them for the presentation and for working every day with our tiny humans. We appreciate everything you are doing for our students.



Mr. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education approves the 2022-23 Head Start Federal Grant, SF-424B Submission Statement and Governing Board Approval Statement as presented.

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

## **8. AUDIENCES**

Madam Chair read a prepared statement about expectations for audience participation. For now, we will continue to utilize a 3-minute time limit for audience participation.

Matt Schmitt, Bigelow Commons – Mr. Schmitt is here again about critical thought. World known Colgate knows about this and has dedicated a whole page about this topic on their website. He spoke about the harms from wearing masks. He would like this Board to examine strategies regarding masking. He would like this Board to share information with parents about masks and the harm they pose and should be shared. You cannot plead ignorance about this and need to change your policy.

Vanessa Cleary, Taylor Road – Ms. Cleary is a graduate of EHS. She was raised in Enfield and loves her family. She started school in Enfield and required many surgeries. She is developmentally delayed and is currently attending school at ETLA. Enfield schools are like another family to her. She first attended St. Martha's and then Enfield High School. It was very scary attending such a large school but some of the upper classmen took me under their wing. She thanked Justin, Catherine and Regina for being so kind to her. She loves all of her teachers and friends she has made. She has received a fantastic education. She has a job and is going to college. Her future looks great. Thank you to all of my fantastic teachers. She wanted to make a donation to places that are dear to her heart. She presented the Board with a check and wished them a Happy Thanksgiving and urged them to stay safe.

Sherry Jackson, Cottage Road – Mrs. Jackson stated the question was raised a few weeks ago about why we are here. She is here as a resident of Enfield and as a parent. She has contacted her legislatures about the vaccines and the unconstitutional mandates. She feels our constitution has been breached. She received a letter from Mr. Courtney's office about how lucky we are to have vaccines. She called his office about her concerns and is still waiting to hear back from him. She has also called the Governor's office and others and is still waiting to hear from them. Council Chambers is the only place we can speak openly and freely. We are here to voice our concerns and hope the Board will hear us.

Giselle Moore, Ryefield Drive – Mrs. Moore stated she is here to advocate for critical thinking in our schools and community. Thinking critically is important as well as their thought process. Masking our children is not right. We know vaccinated individuals can still spread the virus. Thorough analysis is needed. The Board needs to engage the community to find solutions and work together. She knows you want to do what is best for our children. Thank you.

Ryan Moore, Ryefield Drive – Mr. Moore stated he previously discussed a homework assignment that was given to students. He has urged the Board about discriminating and racism. He spoke about FAIR and what is happening in Enfield. Professional development and equity training are violating laws by discriminating. How would the Board feel if they were held liable for discrimination and the financial implications of this lawsuit? This would have a direct impact on the community. He would like to see the Board form a committee and be transparent so we can find solutions and prevent further damage.

Patrick Flaherty, Jackson Road – Mr. Flaherty is here tonight about critical thinking in our community. The FDA promised full transparency with the vaccines. They have not released any information of the risks from the Pfizer Vaccine. They want 55 years to release this information. It only took the FDA 108 days to gain emergency approval for this vaccine. Now it is going to take years to release the information about this drug. They are mandating us to take this drug. We must think critically about everything and the ramifications. Parents should have the right to decide what is best for their children.

Madam Chair LeBlanc quickly spoke to Vanessa Cleary about Regina. Hearing about her experience with her daughter is touching. She is helping the girls' basketball team as a volunteer and would love to see you. Thank you for allowing her to address Vanessa.

Amanda Marquez, Hoover Lane – Mrs. Marquez spoke about medical testing on humans and experimentations. By creating mask mandates our rights are being violated. History repeats itself over and over. Society is regressing. She spoke about previous outbreaks and masks would not have helped then either. She previously spoke about critical thinking. The Board believes in critical thinking and problem solving. If you choose to wear a mask than do so and those that don't won't.

Sheila Monroe, Stacy Lane – Mrs. Munroe asked if the Board has looked into installing proper air filtration systems in each of our schools for the health of our children and teachers with the COVID relief monies. She would also like to see an itemized list of the monies we have received from the state for COVID relief. She would like to know if there are any projected items you will be using this money on. Thank you.

Liz Davis, North Maple Street – Ms. Davis congratulated Board members for being elected. She hopes we can work together and do what is right for all our kids. She looks forward to 2 years of positivity. She congratulated Board leadership. She is amazed that people that do not have children in our public schools are speaking. If you don't want your child to wear a mask than don't have them attend a public school. She urged audience members to come here for the right reasons. She does not feel her rights have been taken away by wearing a mask. She has received many vaccinations when she was in the military. Ask what you can do for your country. Why is this so hard to understand. She congratulated our Kid Mayor and for her

vision. Our children are our leaders and our future. Another student thanked all of her educators. This is what Enfield Public Schools is about. Thank you.

## **9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mrs. Acree stated it was really refreshing to hear from Chloe about running for the Kid Governor. It was touching to hear from Vanessa.

Mrs. Acree applauds both Ms. Valley and Mrs. Steere for all they are doing at Head Start. She hopes you receive your grant. This just shows some of the great things that are happening in the Enfield Public Schools.

Mr. Unghire knows that Vanessa has left Council Chambers, but it was very heartfelt hearing from her. It touched his heart listening to her. He appreciates her thankful spirit. She thanked just about everyone around her. She is thankful for what she has. This such a good example and he was deeply touched. She is an amazing young lady. It was truly a privilege to hear from her.

Mr. LeBlanc expressed his displeasure to Mrs. Jackson about her experience contacting our legislators. He has respect for our legislators and thinks they are doing a pretty good job, but this information is disappointing to hear.

Mr. LeBlanc thanked Mr. Drezek for discussing Screen and Stay. Parents have a lot of questions about this. Sending something out about this will be helpful. He knows the Governor wants to keep kids in schools just like we do.

Mr. LeBlanc congratulated the Enfield Ramblers C and A squads. They will be playing in their Superbowl games against Stafford on Sunday. The kids had a tremendous season and have worked really hard. He would love to see the whole town come out and support the kids. The games will be held at 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM and will be held at Enfield High. Go Ramblers!

Mr. Hamre stated this is his first time speaking from this side of the table and it is a privilege. He appreciates the opportunity to have this forum. As he said before, Chloe you are already a leader, and you are speaking up for those that can't. He appreciates what she is doing and encourages her to continue to develop her voice in her education and through her academic career. He echoes the comments Mr. Unghire made about Vanessa. He has heard of people doing this but has never

witnessed it until tonight. It is amazing to see this happen from someone who has had such a positive experience. She specifically wanted to thank all of her teachers. This is remarkable.

Mr. Hamre stated the Enfield Lamplighters held a production outside. This must have been extremely challenging. He wanted to acknowledge all of their hard work putting on this production while complying with safety protocols and mandates. Kudos to everyone involved with this production. Unfortunately, he did not attend but he heard it was a fantastic production. He was also working on a production of Cabaret. This is a story of pre-war Berlin, Germany. He had an opportunity to talk to a World War II Veteran about his experience in the war. It was a privilege and honor to speak to him about his experience in Germany.

Dr. Calnen wanted to recognize our wonderful Head Start program. Enfield has such a great program that promotes health and wellness. Health and wellness received in the primary years is extremely important. It is important to reflect on good nurturing experiences and how that can relate to productive, happy healthy citizens. Head Start plays a critical role in this area. He just wanted to give them some kudos.

Mrs. Pickett wished everyone a safe Thanksgiving. Enjoy this time with your families, loved ones and friends. She urged everyone to reflect on the perspectives of others during the holiday.

Mrs. Pickett stated it is national Native American History month. There are some great resources out there about justice.

Mrs. Pickett urged everyone to be aware of bus safety. If a bus has their flashing lights and sign out, do not pass them. She has seen some scary things in our parking lots and on the roads. Safety in school parking lots is important. We are all in a rush. Please be safe and follow the laws around buses.

Mrs. Pickett stated Kite is sending home with kid's brain building with play pamphlets. These are an amazing resource. She thanked Kite for this information. You can find this on their website at [enfieldkite.org](http://enfieldkite.org). There are some great things listed there for you to do with your family. They are still accepting applications to PLA until December 1<sup>st</sup>. they will hold their next meeting on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mrs. Pickett stated the Stowe Early Learning Center flu vaccinations are due by December 31<sup>st</sup>. They also have a flip grid engagement opportunity with the nestling time. They will hold an FEO meeting on December 21<sup>st</sup>.

Mrs. Pickett stated Enfield Street will hold picture retakes on December 6<sup>th</sup> and they will hold their PTO meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Pickett stated residents have received the Adult and Continuing Education brochure in the mail. There are some really great opportunities listed.

Mrs. Pickett thanked Mr. Drezek for discussing Screen and Stay. She was not aware of all the protocols and parameters. Families need to understand how this is being handled. Thank you.

Mr. Ryder also thanked Mr. Drezek for the update on Screen and Stay. He looks forward to seeing additional information.

Mr. Ryder stated that at both Eli Whitney and Hazardville Memorial they will have spirit wear week. Each day has a different theme for students. They can dress up as someone you are thankful for, favorite decade and dress like a turkey. He looks forward to seeing how creative they are.

Mr. Ryder reminded students about the early release day on Wednesday and no school during the Thanksgiving break. You can still purchase wreaths for the Wreaths Across American until November 30<sup>th</sup>. This information can be found on the [enfieldpto.com](http://enfieldpto.com) website.

Mr. Ryder stated Eli Whitney is still offering their 12 days of raffles for \$5. He thanked the Eli Whitney administration for the BMX event that was held. It was a lot of fun.

Mr. Ryder reminded everyone about PJ Day that will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup>. All EPS schools will participate including our bus drivers, Town Council and Board members. He encourages everyone to participate for this worthwhile event that helps so many children at CCMC. Information about this event can also be found at [enfieldpto.com](http://enfieldpto.com).

Mr. Ryder wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Madam Chair added Vanessa is amazing. She came to give her thanks to Enfield Public Schools. That was such a heartfelt thing she did and at the right time – Thanksgiving. Her

message has touched us all. Chloe is another student that is amazing. She mentioned during her our oath of office message that we learn so much from our kids and students like Vanessa and Chloe. This was an amazing way to start our meeting.

Madam Chair stated EHS will hold their Powder Puff game at EHS on Wednesday at 12:30 PM. It is great to see student events happening again. EHS Safe Grad will hold a Jingle Jam on December 4<sup>th</sup>. This is always a great event and is a lot of fun to attend.

Madam Chair congratulated the Opera House Players for the fantastic production of Mama Mia. What is interesting about them is their families are all involved in the production. She loves that about them. She also congratulated the Lamplighters for their production and the amazing voices of our students and their talents. They were outside, but to hear their voices were truly amazing. It gave me goosebumps. Kudos to the Lamplighters.

Madam Chair wished everyone a healthy, safe and Happy Thanksgiving. We have a lot to be thankful for this year.

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**11. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. Approval of 2022-23 Head Start Federal Grant, SF-424B Submission Statement and Governing Board Approval Statement**

This item was addressed before Item #8.

**b. Action if any, related to Collective Bargaining – Clerical, Cafeteria and Library Contract**

This item will be addressed after Item #16.

**c. Standing Committee of the Board**

Madam Chair read the names of the Enfield Board of Education members for each standing committee.

Curriculum Committee – Amanda Pickett (Chair); Dr. Gerald Calnen; Jean Acree; Joshua Hamre (Alternate); and Janet Cushman (Alternate).

Leadership Committee – Tina LeBlanc (Chair); Scott Ryder (Vice Chair); Jonathan LeBlanc (Secretary) and John Unghire (Minority Leader).

Finance Committee – Dr. Gerald Calnen (Chair); Joshua Hamre; Jonathan LeBlanc; John Unghire (Alternate); and Tina LeBlanc (Alternate).

Policy Committee – Scott Ryder (chair); Joshua Hamre; Janet Cushman; Dr. Gerald Calnen (Alternate); and Jean Acree (Alternate).

A complete list of committee/liaison appointments for the 2021-23 term can be found on the website.

Mr. Hamre moved, seconded by Mr. Ryder that the Enfield Board of Education approves the standing committees of the board and committee liaison appointments for the 2021-23 term as presented.

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

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

Curriculum – Mrs. Pickett reported the Curriculum committee will meet on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Finance – Dr. Calnen reported the Finance committee will meet on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

Policy – Mr. Ryder reported the next Policy Committee will meet on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Leadership – Madam Chair reported we are in the process of scheduling Board Leadership meetings.

Joint Facility – Mr. Ryder reported the Joint Facility Committee meets on Thursday and he is not sure when the next meeting will be held.

JFK Building – Mr. Ryder reported that committee members have just received the minutes from our past meeting. He is not sure when our next meeting will be held.

Joint Security – Mr. Ryder reported the Joint Security Committee will meet on December 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 AM.

Joint Insurance – Madam Chair reported the Joint Insurance Committee will meet in March 2022.

Youth Mental Health – Mr. LeBlanc reported they will also meet in March 2022.

## **13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Unghire moved, seconded by Mr. Ryder that the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2021, be approved.

A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mrs. Pickett moved, seconded by Mr. Ryder that the Special Meeting Minutes of November 16, 2021, be approved.

A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

## **14. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS AND PAYROLL - None**

## **15. CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATION - None**

## **16. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Hamre moved, seconded by Mr. Ryder that the Enfield Board of Education enters into Executive Session for:

- Matter(s) Related to Collective Bargaining
- Matter(s) Related to Personnel

A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

Board members remained in Council Chambers for the Executive Session. Both Mr. Drezek and Mr. Longey joined the Board in Executive Session at 8:30 PM.

No Board action occurred while in Executive Session. The Board returned to open session at 9:57 PM.

## **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:**

**11b. Action if any, related to Collective Bargaining – Clerical, Cafeteria and Library Contract**

Madam Chair Tina LeBlanc moved, seconded by Dr. Calnen that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the Council 4 AFSCME Tentative Agreement as presented.

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

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Hamre moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett to adjourn the Regular Meeting of November 23, 2021.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously. Meeting stood adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Jonathan LeBlanc  
Secretary  
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 14, 2021**

A special meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held on December 14, 2021, in the Assistant Superintendent's Office located at 1010 Enfield Street, Enfield.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Tina LeBlanc.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Tina LeBlanc

3. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT**

4. **ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jean Acree, Dr. Gerald Calnen, Janet Cushman, Joshua Hamre, Amanda Pickett, Scott Ryder, John Unghire, and Tina LeBlanc

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jonathan LeBlanc

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. Christopher Drezek, Superintendent of Schools; and Mr. Andrew Longey, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**b. Matter(s) Related to Attorney-Client Privilege**

Mr. Hamre moved, seconded by Mr. Ryder that the Board enter into Executive Session  
A vote by **show-of-hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

Both Mr. Drezek and Mr. Longey joined the Board in Executive Session at 6:31 PM.

No Board action occurred while in Executive Session.

**Open Session:**

The Board returned to open session at 6:52 PM.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Ryder moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett to adjourn the Special Meeting of December 14, 2021.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously. Meeting stood adjourned at 6:53 PM.

Jonathan LeBlanc  
Secretary  
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew B. Longey, Assistant Superintendent

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 14, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held in Council Chambers on December 14, 2021.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Madam Chair LeBlanc.
2. **INVOCATION OR MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Dr. Gerald Calnen
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Dr. Gerald Calnen
4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT:**
5. **ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jean Acree, Dr. Gerald Calnen, Janet Cushman, Joshua Hamre, Jonathan LeBlanc (arrived at 8:30 PM), Amanda Pickett, Scott Ryder, John Unghire and Tina LeBlanc

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. Christopher J. Drezek, Superintendent & Mr. Andrew B. Longey, Assistant Superintendent

6. **BOARD GUEST(S)**

**a. Jean Haughey, Director of Youth Services**

Mr. Drezek welcomed Jean Haughey to the Board meeting. She will retire at the end of the month. She has been a constant to our district and a great partner and friend. On behalf of the Board, administration and district, he thanked her for everything she has done for our students and staff. She will be greatly missed. He wished her well in her retirement.

Madam Chair presented Mrs. Haughey with a gift from the Board and Administration.

Mrs. Haughey stated she appreciates the partnerships and collaborations she has had with Mr. Drezek, Mr. Longey, the administration and the Board. We have accomplished so much and established so many great committees that help our youth. We have had such a great relationship. She truly loved working with Mr. Drezek and supporting the student's mental health needs. Thank you for everything.

Board members thanked her for everything she has done.

**b. Lori Gates – Wreaths Across America**

Madam Chair welcomed Lori Gates and Pam Townsend to the Board meeting.

Mrs. Gates stated the Wreaths Across America convoy will pass by all of the schools in Enfield on December 15<sup>th</sup> and will make one stop at the Enfield Town Green. The truck drivers asked if they could come to Enfield again. The last convoy was done in 2018. She started being involved with this when they first came to Enfield in 2010 with a presentation at Edgar H. Parkman school. She thanked Mr. Drezek for everything he has done and this year our plan is a little different than in the past. We are so lucky they are stopping in Enfield. This year they have 4 Walmart trucks and several safety vehicles. Three trucks will go to Arlington, VA and one smaller truck will go to Shanksville, PA. There will be a ceremony at St. Patrick's Cemetery on Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at noon to lay wreaths on Veteran's headstones. Across the country they will lay 2.4 million wreaths on veteran's cemeteries.



There are 3,136 locations that will hold this wreath laying ceremony on the same day and time. This year's motto is "Live up to their Legacy".

Mrs. Townsend stated it is an honor and privilege to be part of this. It takes a lot of people to make this happen. She also thanked Mr. Drezek, Chief Fox Sgt. Meyer and the Mayor. Each wreath represents each branch of the military and this year we are including the space force. Saturday's event will be held rain or shine. She thanked the PTO's for fundraising for the wreaths. This town is truly amazing and very supportive of our servicemen and women.

Mrs. Gates added Enfield celebrates their Veteran's. She loves to honor and remember our Veteran's. It is great when the kids understand why we are doing this. You are making connections with our youth by passing the torch to them. We are lucky to have such support going into this holiday season. Thank you for all of your help.

Mr. Hamre thanked them for what you are doing. It is amazing to see this and the tremendous support that is given to our Veteran's. He has visited several Veteran Cemeteries for the wreath laying ceremonies. This is one heck of an undertaking. Thank you both for what you are doing, and you are living up to the motto.

Mrs. Cushman thanked them for being here. She was deeply touched by reading what Wreaths Across America does by creating opportunities to connect the generations with hope. She thinks of our youth as the generation of hope by passing on inspirational stories from our Veterans to the leaders of the future. This is very powerful. She is curious about if our Veterans would be part of the ceremonies in non-Covid times to share their stories.

Mrs. Gates stated one year at Parkman, we hosted some Veterans in the library so the students could meet and talk with them. It was very well received. There is a lot involved to do this at a school. This is something she would like to revisit again because the students have a one-to-one experience. Meeting a Veteran is different than reading about it in a history book. It makes a lasting impression with the students.

Mr. Unghire admires what you are both doing. Where does the convoy start from? Mrs. Gates stated it starts in Harrington, Maine from the Worcester Wreath Company. This started 30 years ago when they had a truck load of extra wreaths. Mr. Worcester decided to bring them to Arlington, VA for the Veterans. This all started from an idea and has turned into this giant undertaking.

Mrs. Townsend added the truck drivers are all volunteers. These wreaths are being moved from Maine to Virginia, to California and all over. This is an amazing feat accomplished with the help from many volunteers.

Mrs. Gates stated several of the truck drivers still contact her. They loved coming to Enfield. This is a big deal. You need to see this to truly understand it. Mrs. Townsend is a retired Sergeant Major. The Shanksville truck means a lot to her. She was at the Pentagon on 9/11. The trees on the property in Harrington, Maine have the dog tags of the Veteran's. You can ask to have dog tags placed on a tree. Every three years, the trees are tipped, and they make the wreaths and move the dog tags up on the tree for three more years of growth. Her late husband's dog tags are on a tree in Maine. She knows that her husband's tree is making wreaths to be placed on a Veteran's grave somewhere is heartwarming. This program is very personal to her.

Mr. Ryder thanked both Mrs. Gates and Mrs. Townsend. You will always have our continued assistance behind this project, and he is looking forward to seeing the convoy. This is something we all look forward to. He has been to all of the Enfield convoys. He will remind the PTO's to refresh for next year. We all enjoy promoting this event. This is another good thing we do each year. Thank you.

Mrs. Acree asked if a wreath is placed on every grave site in Arlington, VA. Mrs. Townsend stated if they have enough wreaths, yes. Last year they laid them on all of the graves. If they don't, they will place them in sections.

Mrs. Gates stated we have 1,700 Veteran's at St. Patrick's Cemetery and a total of 5,000 in Enfield.

Mrs. Townsend stated we have about 2,000 wreaths. She thanked the small business and everyone that participated in fundraising. The Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Little League, Home Depot and the CT Valley Northmen will help us. They are thrilled to be part of this. It is going to be a great day.

Mrs. Gates added first responders will be at each of the schools.

Madam Chair stated she attended the events that were held at Parkman, and they were amazing. The ceremonies change you. The entire program is great. Watching the students reading their poems and singing songs is amazing. Honoring the gold star families is so poignant and hearing taps is very emotional. She has seen the truck drivers and how touched they are. They are just happy being there. This is a wonderful way to honor our Veterans and teach our children. This is another way for our town to come together. We definitely need more of this, especially after last year. She cannot thank you enough for everything you have done to assist with this event. Thank you, Mrs. Townsend for your service.

## **7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **a. EPS Update**

Mr. Drezek provided the Board with an update regarding the Screen and Stay initiative being more involved than we anticipated. We are doing whatever we can to get the kids back in school. A lot of our students do not qualify for this initiative. This initiative applies to only being a close contact in a school building. This is just one of the steps. We still will conduct contact tracing. You will also need to be properly masked at all times during the exposure. Certain requirements must be met in order for the Screen and Stay initiative. We have posted information about this on our website in our school newsletters. A lot of parents are questioning this.

Mr. Drezek reviewed our current numbers in Enfield, and they are high. He has consulted with our local health department, and we are looking at everything while trying to keep everyone safe and our kids in school. In person learning is best. We will reassess this at the start of the new year. Winter sports programs are also being reviewed. We have a plan, and he is not sure if things will change. We are doing what is best for our kids and know that keeping them in school is important. Communication from your child's principal will be coming out shortly. We will need to tighten our belts. Students can get tested weekly for those that are not eligible to receive a vaccine. We do not conduct the testing. There is also a testing shortage. We are doing everything we can. Everything is subject to change.

**b. iPad Update** – as presented

**c. Christmas Break** – as presented

## **8. AUDIENCES**

Madam Chair read a prepared statement about expectations for audience participation. For now, we will continue to utilize a 3-minute time limit for audience participation.

Matt Schmitt, Bigelow Commons – Mr. Schmitt stated he is here as an Enfield resident. He is concerned with the state mandate and data. He submitted an FOI request about data. This Board does not have a mask policy or a policy about mask breaks. We are looking for cooperation from the Board. Our enrollment numbers have declined. We need to work together. Solutions are needed and they should be transparent like other districts. You highlight the positives but are missing the mark regarding masks. Please unmask our kids.

Rob Anderson, Bass Drive – Mr. Anderson stated he is a taxpayer and has the right to speak at these meetings even if he doesn't have any children in our schools. He will not be bullied by anyone. He urged us to stop feeding our kids with fear and let them be kids. Hate draws a divide and does no good to anyone. This is not the military, and we will ask questions. When you are a soldier you will do what you are told. We all need to work together. We will not silence our kids. Activism and politics should be kept out of our schools. Checks and balances are needed to offer a balanced education for our children. We are not promoting fake news about masks.

Amanda Marquez, Hoover Lane – Mrs. Marquez asked about how many students and staff have tested positive. She asked about mask breaks. She asked about how the funds will be spent that school

system will receive. We have been here for the past 5 months expressing our concerns to you. She asked about the Board policies and if you are following them. We need to work together. Our concerns are being ignored. She will continue to advocate for our children. She previously spoke about critical thinking as well as others. The Board believes in critical thinking and problem solving. If you choose to wear a mask than do so and those that don't won't.

Kim Anderson, Bass Drive – Mrs. Bass stated the Ellington Board of Education has approved a letter to the Commissioner of Education about masks and has posted it on their website. Their Board is concerned about vaccinated students and an opportunity for violating student privacy rights. A welcoming culture is needed for all students. We seem to keep doing the same thing over and over in Connecticut. Enfield should stand along by Ellington and by your mission statement. She hopes this is something Enfield will do and be pro-active.

Ryan Schuetz, Church Street – Mr. Schutz stated Ellington has taken a stand and he hopes that Enfield will do the same. Masks and vaccines do not work. He has spoken to the Board about the data. These mandates are not working. We must wakeup to these controlling agendas. Please do the right thing and unmask our kids.

## **9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Hamre thanked everyone involved in the Wreaths Across America program. This is very personal to him. His brother is laid to rest in Arlington, VA. Their memories continue on. Before they lay the wreaths down, they say their name. All the Veteran's names are read out loud.

Mr. Hamre attended the JFK PTO meeting tonight. He appreciates everything Mr. Ryder does for our PTO's and the website information. JFK sponsored purchasing wreaths for the ceremony and they also have the That's My Brick fundraiser that is still going on. These events support the JFK PTO. Thank you.

Mrs. Acree wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday and enjoy your time with your families. She looks forward to seeing you all in 2022 and trying to resolve these issues. Thank you.

Mrs. Cushman stated she has reflected on being a board member and finding her voice. She never expected to be here in Council Chambers. Many residents have come to voice their concerns and opinions to us. This chamber is a safe place to express your opinions. Your voices are being heard. There are things that are happening behind the scenes in our committees.

Mr. Unghire dittoed comments made by Mrs. Acree, Mrs. Cushman and Mr. Hamre. He thanked everyone that has spoken tonight. These are important issues. He is also aware of what Ellington is doing. We also need to address this.

Mr. Unghire stated he reached out to Mr. Dague, Mrs. Marr and Ms. Jefferson about our robotics program. He has also reached out to Mrs. Carroll about our special education department to learn about the programs being offered.

Mr. Unghire wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to students, staff and residents. He looks forward to 2022 and getting things done. Thank you.

Mrs. Pickett stated she would like to reflect on the December 14<sup>th</sup> and the 26 lives that were lost nine years ago. Nationally and locally there are concerns regarding safety and mental health issues.

Mrs. Pickett wished everyone a Happy Holiday. This season holds many special cultural celebrations. There are many special holidays that are happening throughout the year like Hanukkah, Kwanza, Three Kings Day and New Year's. This is a special time of the year.

Mrs. Pickett would like to hear from our high school students at some point about the voice for change effort. Students are given a chance to submit proposal about how to spend the \$20K in their schools to enhance academics, support mental health, connect with communities and technology use. She would love to hear what our kids have come up with. Our kids have an amazing opportunity to come up with some creative solutions that we could all learn from.

Mrs. Pickett thanked Enfield's Congregation Church for the blessing they offered last Sunday. It was the same night as the Torchlight Parade. The Torchlight Parade is such a great event. She also attended the Lego Robotics event on Saturday. This was awesome to see what the student's projects were.

Mrs. Pickett stated Parkman held a PTO Vendor Fair and their next PTO meeting will be held on December 15<sup>th</sup> in library at 6:30 PM. They will hold a fund raiser event at Moe's on January 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 8 PM. Enfield Street will hold their next PTO meeting on January 12<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Pickett thanked Mr. Drezek for discussing the Covid protocols regarding Screen and Stay. She knows the guidelines are shifting constantly. She would like us to give these instructions to the parents when their child has been deemed as a close contact. It is challenging as a parent when your child needs to quarantine. Seeing the information would help. She is also looking for a creative solution regarding testing. She knows there is a shortage. We are participating in the voluntary testing program. She is not sure if there is a way to expand on this for students. This is a state run program, and she is sure you do not have answers for this. She would also like to see us list testing and vaccine locations. Sharing as much information we can is extremely helpful.

Mrs. Pickett stated the State Department of Education and CCMC are holding a webinar on the most up to date medical information to help keep our kids safe, healthy and in school. This information can be found at [SERC.info\housecall1216](https://serc.info/housecall1216). This webinar will be held on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Pickett stated this is a concerning time. We have had our own behavioral and safety concerns like what is happening across the state. She is hopeful with the funding we receive and support from the Board, we can address the proactive work to support our students and staff by creating a safe and nurturing environment including social and emotional learning work to help our kids.

Mrs. Pickett stated Mrs. Haughey and her paths crossed before she ever lived in Enfield professionally. She heard about the great work she was doing here in Enfield regarding substance misuse and prevention. She is an asset in our community, and she just wanted to thank her for everything she has done professional and personally.

Mrs. Pickett stated Kite has their community resource guide and has posted it on their website. There is a lot of great information listed. They will hold their next meeting on January 5<sup>th</sup>. They are also holding a dive into diversity event. Please check out their website at [enfieldkite.org](https://enfieldkite.org). Thank you.

Mr. Ryder stated all our schools are very excited about the Wreaths Across America convoy. He is hoping that the Enfield community will also come out for this event. Eli Whitney is still holding their 12 days of raffles. The CT Invention Convention is starting up again. A lot of our K-5 schools will be holding spirit wear days. JFK is also doing something. This information can all be found on our [enfieldpto.com](https://enfieldpto.com) website. We will have an early release day on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Eli Whitney will hold an assembly and a Bingo event. They will also hold another PJ Day.

Mr. Ryder wished everyone a Merry Happy Holidays to everyone and a Happy New Year.

Mr. Ryder stated we have 2 Enfield students that attended Suffield Vo-Ag and they were awarded the American Degree. This is the highest degree students can earn through the FFA. They will be presented this award on December 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:30 AM at Suffield Vo-Ag.

Mr. Ryder stated a couple of us are wearing white tonight in support of the Enfield Girls Basketball White Out Day. They will hold their first basketball game tonight. He wished them good luck.

Mr. Ryder stated our PJ Day that was held on December 10<sup>th</sup> was quite successful. This event is dear to so many of us. Our goal was \$7,777.77 and we raised over \$9K. He is very proud of everyone that participated. We are the #2 fundraising group in our State. Coventry was #1. This is the town that started this event. This event continues to grow each year just like the Wreaths Across American program. He thanked all of the groups that participated.

Madam Chair attended the First Lego League Robotics, and it was such a great event. The imaginations of our students are amazing.

Madam Chair also wished the EHS Girls Basketball team good luck tonight. She agrees that PJ Day was another great event. She Thanked Mr. Ryder for everything he has done for this event. We all know families and children that benefit from this. This event means a lot to everyone.

Madam Chair attended the Torchlight Parade and Carol Sing. It was another amazing event. This event definitely put you in the Christmas spirit. EHS Safe Grad Auction did great again

this year. She thanked the Board for donating a basket. This event is run on donations and the small businesses are amazing and gave so generously. Enfield High is also having a spirit wear day.

Madam Chair stated this is the anniversary for the Sandy Hook tragedy and this is always heavy on our hearts. She bumped into one of our teachers and her students are going to do one kind act of kindness. This is a nice way to commemorate and remember the victims of Sandy Hook. This is a hard day for all of us.

Madam Chair wished Board members, students, staff and families a safe and healthy Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday and however you celebrate with your family and friends. She wishes everyone a better 2022. We will let the new year come in quietly. Thank you.

Mr. LeBlanc arrived at 8:30 PM.

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**11. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. Action if any, regarding John F. Kennedy Calendar Modification**

Mr. Drezek reviewed the information with the Board about modifying the JFK calendar. He has confirmed this information with the JFK administration and Gilbane. The Board has the authority to waive the 181<sup>st</sup> student day. He is recommending that December 22<sup>nd</sup> be an early release day for JFK at 11:00 AM without lunch; December 23<sup>rd</sup> is a regularly planned early release day for all K-12 students and on January 3<sup>rd</sup> only JFK students will not attend school. JFK will attend 180 school days and the Board will need to waive the 181<sup>st</sup> student day. June 16<sup>th</sup> will be the last school day for the entire district except for JFK. JFK students will need to make up this day. JFK students will resume attending school on January 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. LeBlanc apologized for being late. He has heard some of the parent concerns about this. The students have already missed enough school already. This will take away another in person day of learning for the students. The other concern has to do with the communication about this. He knows this was placed in the JFK newsletter and Mr. Drezek spoke about this at our last Board meeting. The parents were upset about not getting enough information about this.

Mr. Drezek stated he has not received any complaints about this. The communication from Dr. Berrios was this was being considered. He does not have the authority to make this change. The only person that can alter the calendar is the Board. He can change a day to a half day but that will not work for Gilbane to get everyone transitioned into the new wing. The original proposal concerned him because of the amount of days Gilbane was requesting. We tried to find a compromise that best suited the needs of everyone. This request is not uncommon when dealing with school construction projects. We dealt with this at EHS.

Mr. Hamre asked if there are any projected changes that might affect the school schedule? Mr. Drezek stated not that he is aware of or any other concerns at this time. The reality is we don't know what might happen. During the summer we ran into problems with rain that impacted the roof. At this time, there is nothing that we are anticipating.

Mr. Hamre moved, seconded by Mrs. Picket that the Enfield Board of Education approves making Wednesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> an early release day for JFK students only at 11:00 AM without lunch; Thursday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> is a planned K-12 early release day with lunch; Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> only JFK students will not attend school; and that we waive the 181<sup>st</sup> day for JFK students only.

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

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

Curriculum – Mrs. Pickett reported the Curriculum committee met on December 9<sup>th</sup>. She was quite impressed with what was being presented regarding the program of study changes. We approved the proposed changes and will be adding state mandated Black Latino studies elective. Many revisions were made to the high school mathematics, course names and prerequisite courses. We will be adding a health sciences and foundation of health sciences electives. We encourage families and students to discuss the program of studies with their school counselors. We are excited with the work moving forward. Our next meeting will be held on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

Madam Chair also added she thought the Curriculum meeting was great. The two new health science classes they will be offering are for the students that do not want to spend a lot of time in college because of the number of certificate programs our community colleges are offering. Adding these 2 half credit courses for exploratory health science is good news for our EHS students.

Finance – Dr. Calnen reported the Finance committee met on December 6<sup>th</sup>. We will review financial reports later this evening. We discussed the TAG program and the funds received from the estate of Abraham Simcovitz that supports projects for students with extraordinary abilities. We will be revisiting this with the investment company (Wolf Financial Group) to discuss our options at our next meeting. This will just be the start. We will need to meet with the members of the Curriculum and Policy committees to determine how the program can be improved or expanded in light of available funding. We will look at if the project should be limited to just JFK, determining student eligibility, and should expenditures be limited to one project per year. Our next meeting will be held on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

Policy – Mr. Ryder reported the Policy Committee met on December 7<sup>th</sup>. We finalized some of the policies we received from CAFE and will place them on our next Board meeting agenda for a first reading. We also received several additional policies from CAFE to review. Our next meeting will be held on January 18<sup>th</sup>.

Leadership – Madam Chair reported we are in the process of scheduling Board Leadership meetings. We cancelled tonight's Leadership meeting so the Board could hold a special meeting.

Joint Facility – Madam Chair reported the Joint Facility Committee meetings will resume after the first of the year.

JFK Building – Mr. Ryder reported that JFK Building committee members meet on Thursday. At our last meeting, we were able to see the progress that has been made. We will have an updated power point presentation. You can check the website and their Facebook page to view the progress. The Thursday meeting might be postponed until the first of the year unless there is pressing business that needs to be addressed.

Joint Security – Mr. Ryder reported the Joint Security Committee was supposed to meet on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The meeting was cancelled. Our next meeting will be held March 2<sup>nd</sup>. He believes we will meet before March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Joint Insurance – Madam Chair reported the Joint Insurance Committee will meet in March 2022.

Youth Mental Health – Madam Chair reported this committee is also slated to meet in March also.

## **13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Madam Chair stated, we will postpone approving the Special and Regular meeting minutes for November 23, 2021, until the next meeting.

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

**For the Month of October 2021**

Mrs. Pickett moved, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of October 2021 total expenditures amount to \$6,044,169.85 broken down between payroll totaling \$4,468,442.10 and other accounts totaling \$1,575,727.75; and
- All payments have been made in accordance with the approved budget and are properly accounted for within the books of accounts. Copies of approval for check invoices are properly document.

A vote by **show of hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mrs. Pickett moved, seconded by Mr. Hamre that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of October the total Grant and Head Start expenditures amount to \$721,237.24, broken down between payroll totaling \$466,968.19 and other accounts totaling \$254,269.05 and;
- All payment have been made in accordance with the approved budget and are properly accounted for within the books of accounts. Copies of approval for check invoices are properly document.

A vote by **show of hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

**Line Item Transfers, if any** - None

**15. CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATION** - None

**16. EXECUTIVE SESSION** - None

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Hamre moved, seconded by Mr. Ryder to adjourn the Regular Meeting of December 14, 2021.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously. Meeting stood adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Jonathan LeBlanc  
Secretary  
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary