

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 7, 2017**

A special meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held in the Alcorn Professional Development Conference Room located at 1010 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT on February 7, 2017.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by Chairman Sirard
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chairman Sirard
3. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT:** Chairman Sirard announced the fire evacuation announcement.
4. **ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rich Regnier, Ray Peabody, Lori Unghire, Walter Kruzel, Tina LeBlanc, Tim Neville, Stacy Thurston and Tom Sirard

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Vincent Grady

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Jeffrey A. Schumann, Superintendent; and Chris Drezek, Deputy Superintendent

Chairman Sirard stated that Mr. Grady is unable to attend tonight's meeting due to work commitments.

5. **SUPEINTENDENT'S FY2017-18 BUDGET PRESENTATION**

Dr. Schumann presented his proposed FY2017-18 Budget to the Board. He reviewed accomplishments made across the district, who we are, per pupil expenditure comparisons, funding streams, needs requested and known budget increase drivers, initiatives moving forward, spending projections, unknowns, five-year historical budget perspectives and value adds.

Dr. Schumann is requesting a 4.98% budget increase for a total budget of \$71,377,477. We are prepared to address any questions from Board members. Mr. Bourassa distributed budget books.

Dr. Schumann added the budget book is in the format requested by the Town Council previously. The budget presentation is available on-line and we can make copies of this presentation.

Mr. Neville thanked Dr. Schumann for his presentation. He is encouraged to see that you addressed the need for an additional counselor and nurse. He asked about the PBIS and where will the money come from.

Dr. Schumann stated the training program for PBIS is \$32K and the funding will come from the curriculum line item. The software for the program is \$7K and this funding will come from the software line item.

Mr. Neville asked if we are doing this in collaboration with the State. Dr. Schumann stated SERC is doing the training for us. The software used is called SWISS. We can track the time and where the behavior issues are at each building. Crandall is piloting this program and we

will go districtwide with this program next year.

Mr. Neville asked about the money that will come out of our ECS funding and if you have any inside information on this? Traditionally, we won't hear about this until May or June when our budget is already set. Dr. Schumann stated he does not have any ideas of what the Governor will present. We will need to wait until Thursday. We looked at numbers for free and reduced lunches and HUSKY numbers along with current enrollment numbers. He believes we are in a good place.

Mr. Neville asked about insurance costs. Dr. Schumann stated we have listed health care projections and percentages in the budget booklet are based on what we have received from the Town to date. These numbers are subject to either go up or down and adjustments will need to be made.

Mr. Peabody thanked Dr. Schumann for the presentation. He would like to know if you have prioritized the items you would like to add in case we need to scale back.

Dr. Schumann stated the priority would be for the elementary level first. We have cut out the Kindergarten aides. He knows this is a large amount to ask for. Superintendents across the state are looking at the same concerns. Mr. Peabody supports this.

Mr. Peabody would like to do something different this year. He would like us to send our budget presentation to our 3 legislators. We are going to need their help to put some pressure on the governor to not balance the state budget on the backs of the school system. This is unethical.

Mr. Neville would also like to set a date for them to attend a Board meeting. They can hear from us our concerns. We need to use our legislators and have them work for us.

Mr. Peabody is in agreement with Mr. Neville. He would like to start the ball rolling earlier. We need to get this information to them as soon as possible. This way they will be prepared for when they meet with us.

Chairman Sirard stated he is planning to speak before the Appropriations Committee on behalf of the Board. Representative Stokes has facilitated this for him.

Mr. Neville is assuming our transportation grant will be cut again this year. This is another area that we need to plan for. He would like Chairman Sirard to address this with the Appropriations Committee and it might help us.

Chairman Sirard stated he plans to discuss the backwardness of the budget process and how it is unfair to towns. He also plans to bring Dr. Schumann's information with him. He is working on his speech now. He is confident that he can articulate and represent everyone's wishes when he addresses them.

Mr. Neville asked about the LEGO Building Tomorrow project 3 year program. Dr. Schumann it is a 3 year project and we are in year 2. It will end at the end of the 2017-18 school year. We have been meeting with the LEGO Board regularly to see if we will continue with this program. We are now doing this all in-house with Enfield employees. They give us \$60K to support the program.

Mr. Neville stated we can see the success coming from this program. The question for us is when will we need to take over that \$60K to support this program? Dr. Schumann stated we are looking at the end of the 2017-18 school year for this program to end. We will negotiate this with them next year.

Mr. Peabody stated we looked at what the unfunded mandates are costing Enfield 3 years ago - \$4.8 million dollars. Do we have a cost of current unfunded mandates to give to our legislators? The cost of CREC tuitions is another concern and the cost of being a member of CABA. Sending out letters to the heads of these groups will help us greatly. They keep knocking public education down.

Dr. Schumann stated we negotiated with CABA and are members through FY2018. They will also be a seat for us at the table.

Mr. Neville stated we used to have a representative from the Board on CABA. Dr. Schumann stated that still exists but we do not have a Board representative. Mr. Neville added that he would like to be our representative. They would look at these items mentioned tonight. Dr. Schumann stated we can notify CABA with our representative.

Mr. Neville stated KITE will hold a workshop on February 17<sup>th</sup> at FERMI in the Café at 8:00 AM. Contact Ashley Levesque if you are interested to attend.

## **6. APPROVAL OF BOE BUDGET WORKSHOPS AND ADOPTION SCHEDULE**

Board members agreed to meet on the following days to continue discussing the FY2017-18 budget: Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> in Council Chambers at 7:00 PM, Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday February 21<sup>st</sup> in the Alcorn Professional Development Conference Room at 6:30 PM.

## **7. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mrs. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mr. Kruzel to enter into Executive Session for Matter(s) Related to Personnel.

A vote by **show-of-hands 7-1-0** passed with Mrs. Thurston in dissent.

The Board remained in the Alcorn Professional Development Conference Room for the Executive session. Dr. Schumann and Mr. Drezek joined the Board in Executive Session.

No Board action occurred while the Board was in Executive Session.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Thurston moved, seconded by Mr. Peabody to adjourn the Special Meeting of February 7, 2017.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Tina LeBlanc  
Secretary  
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary