

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 8, 2018**

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 May 8, 2018.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** : The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Walter Kruzel.
2. **INVOCATION OR MOMENT OF SILENCE** : Scott Ryder
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** : Scott Ryder
4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT** : Walter Kruzel announced the fire evacuation announcement.
5. **ROLL CALL** :

**MEMBERS PRESENT :** Rich Regnier, Charlotte Riley, Tina LeBlanc, Sarah Hernandez, Tim Neville, Scott Ryder and Walter Kruzel

**MEMBERS ABSENT :** Chris Rutledge & Ashley Depeau

**ALSO PRESENT :** Mr. Christopher J. Drezek, Superintendent; Mr. Andrew B. Longey, Assistant Superintendent; EHS Student Representative, Meghan Connery

6. **BOARD GUEST(S)**

a. **Teacher Appreciation**

Chairman Kruzel welcomed EHS teacher Tod Couture. On behalf of the Board of Education and Teacher Appreciation week, he presented a plaque to Mr. Couture.

Mrs. Riley read the engraving - The Board of Education would like to thank the teachers of Enfield for making a difference for every child. The plaque was made by Mr. Dague's students at Enfield High.

Chairman Kruzel added that all our staff has does a phenomenal job at all of our schools and this is the least that we can do to recognize our teachers. Please share this with the teachers.

b. **BUZZ Robotics**

Mr. Drezek welcomed BUZZ Robotics students and advisors. EHS students Lori, Lauren and Sarah gave the Board an overview of this year's build season and competitions. They have completed their 23<sup>rd</sup> year. There are 15 students and 18 mentors. We finished as Alliance Captains and were eligible to compete in the district championship in the Carver Division in Austin, Texas. They were defeated but gained valuable experience. They thanked the Board and the Administration for their continued support to BUZZ Robotics.

Board members congratulated them for this year's competitions.

Mrs. Riley congratulated BUZZ Robotics. She does not know a lot about your competitions but is extremely in awe of what you are doing. Her son wants to be part of this. He is only in first grade and is chomping on the bit now. How old do you need to be to get involved with robotics? The students responded that we have a Lego League that starts at the middle school that he can join. We also have a FIRST Tech Challenge team at the middle and high school and BUZZ Robotics at the high school for interested students to join.

Mrs. Riley congratulated them for a great job. She is so proud of all of you.

Mrs. LeBlanc thanked the BUZZ Robotics team. She is not mechanically inclined and is in awe of what you are doing. Your dedication and hard work amazes her. People do not realize what the volunteers do starting in January. You should all be commended, and you make us all very proud. She thanked them.

Mrs. LeBlanc asked if any of them are interested in engineering. The students responded that they are juniors and seniors and they are interested in pursuing engineering in college.

Mrs. LeBlanc added that she went on a college tour and their guide was an engineering major. She had such a passion for this. Thank you and you make us proud.

Mr. Neville agreed with Mrs. LeBlanc's comments. We love to hear about your journey and getting to the winner's circle. He thanked the mentors for continuing to be involved with our BUZZ Robotics program year after year. Thank you.

Mrs. Hernandez also congratulated the BUZZ Robotics team for a job well done. She asked the students what have you taken from this experience. The students responded that they have learned how to work with a team, how to get our voices out there and the difficulties of being a woman in STEM and how to present ourselves in a professional environment. They have gained self-confidence, working as a collaborative and how to communicate effectively. We have learned a different kind of education from being part of BUZZ Robotics. They have also learned about teamwork and leadership.

Chairman Kruzal attended your kickoff party. You have all done a lot of work getting ready for your competitions. He saw your competition in Hartford. He urged our longtime mentors to keep doing what you are doing - mentoring our students. What you are doing amazes him. You have put Enfield on the map. This is the success we want to hear about. Thank you all for what you are doing.

Mr. Drezek stated watching their competitions was amazing and he looks forward to next year. This is as competitive as any sporting event he has ever seen. Keep up the good work. Thank you.

Mr. Drezek added that Mr. Couture is the president of the Enfield Teacher's Association.

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

- a. Student Representatives - as presented
- b. LEGO Event - as presented
- c. JFK Jr. National Honor Society Induction Ceremony - as presented
- d. May Events - as presented

Mr. Drezek added 6 of the 8 JFK students from the Statewide Invention Convention have been selected to participate at the National Invention Convention in Dearborn, MI. He will confirm this with Mr. Dague to see if all 6 will be attending.

## **8. AUDIENCES** - None

## **9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Ryder thanked our teachers for everything they do. A lot of the PTO's are organizing many different events throughout the week to thank our teachers. Gifts are not required, but notes or drawings are appreciated. We should be thanking our teachers all the time.

Mr. Ryder attended the EHS play the Music Man and JFK play Aladdin Jr. They were both fantastic. He thanked the students, advisors, teachers and parents for both productions. So much time goes into these productions. If you were not able to attend this year, please try to attend one next year. Both plays were amazing.

Mr. Ryder read the first chapter of the One Book, Three Schools at Eli Whitney. He had a great time

reading with the students. He encourages everyone to read this book.

Mr. Ryder congratulated the BUZZ Robotics team. What you are doing is fantastic.

Mr. Ryder added the Eli Whitney girls are participating in the Girls on the Run program where 15 girls will compete in the 5K run that is sponsored by CIGNA on May 19<sup>th</sup>. The students will be recognized at an upcoming assembly and the entire school will walk laps to see what the students have been working on.

Mr. Regnier also echoed all comments about our teachers and thanked them for what they are doing for our students before school, during school and after school - thank you.

Mr. Regnier thanked the BUZZ Robotics team for coming tonight. What they are doing is great.

Mr. Regnier stated any senior that participated in Enfield Youth Soccer is eligible to apply for a scholarship. They will be awarding 2 scholarships this year to any student that participated. You can go to their website for detail.

Mr. Regnier stated Hazardville Memorial will hold a Math and Reading night on Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

Mr. Regnier asked about recess at the K-5 schools. The students in the K-2 schools have recess for 15 minutes a day. He would like this to continue at the 3-5 schools. There are many benefits to having recess. He would like to continue this discussion with the Curriculum or Policy Committee members - Recess for 15.

Mrs. Riley stated she is wearing her Henry Barnard Big Cat shirt. She thanked the teachers and support staff for all their hard work at Henry Barnard. She also thanked all the teachers across the district for everything you are doing. Thank you.

Mrs. Riley stated the Henry Barnard PTO will hold a special person's dance on May 19<sup>th</sup>. We finished our book at Henry Barnard. She likes Mr. Regnier's #Recessfor15 idea.

Mrs. LeBlanc thanked all the teachers that have made a difference in her kid's lives and all the student's lives. This is one of the best Board of Education she has been part of. We all fully support our teachers and what they are doing for all the students in Enfield. She gave an extra special thanks to the teachers at EHS. You make such an impact with our students lives.

Mrs. Hernandez also echoed the comments made tonight and expresses her extreme gratitude. She attended the Music Man and Aladdin Jr plays. They were both amazing and filled her and her family with such joy. Well done!

Mrs. Hernandez thanked Mrs. Clark for giving her this information to share. We have a very rich diverse community in Enfield. There are programs available for students that have gender identity questions. Enfield is doing a great job helping students. We have diversity training and mental health supports. CHC provides counseling services for our students at JFK and at the High School free of charge. We support everyone in Enfield and are glad you are part of Enfield's diverse fabric.

Mr. Neville stated this Board has done a great job highlighting our teachers. We appreciate them and support them. They are our greatest assets and our students are our greatest product. We need to show them we support them by not cutting any staff. He thanked them for everything they do. He knows Mr. Couture will bring the plaque to show the teachers how much we appreciate them.

Mr. Neville thanked the BUZZ Robotics team. He attended your competitions years ago when his son participated. It is great to see the mentors that have been doing this for many years. You all work together collaboratively and have accomplished so much. Thank you.

Mr. Neville stated that a former JFK assistant principal passed away two weeks ago. He expressed his condolences to the family of Frank Perrotti. He was a wonderful man and had a wonderful life teaching

students. We salute you. He would like a card sent to his family.

Mr. Neville thanked Mr. Ryder for your opening comments.

Chairman Kruzel stated his twins turned 21, and his daughter just graduated from college a year early. The graduation ceremony was phenomenal. That is why he missed the plays because he was out of town.

10. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None

11. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. **Policy Revisions - Approve the 2000 Series - First Reading**

Mr. Neville moved, seconded by Mrs. Hernandez that the Enfield Board of Education approves the 2000 Series as a first reading.

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

12. **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. Curriculum Committee

Mr. Neville reported the Curriculum Committee met on May 1<sup>st</sup>. He reviewed the notes from the meeting about learning strategies, structured literacy, textbooks for AP US Government and AP Comparative Government, Modern World History and Latin. We also discussed science pathways.

b. Finance, Budget Committee

Mrs. Riley reported the Finance, Budget Committee will meet on May 14<sup>th</sup>. We will discuss the TAG program. This is open to the public and Board members are welcome to attend. We can look at our options to expand the TAG program.

c. Policy Committee

Mr. Regnier reported the Policy Committee will meet on May 15, 2018 and we will start reviewing the 3000 series.

d. Leadership Committee

Chairman Kruzel reported the Leadership committee met tonight.

e. Joint Facilities Committee

Chairman Kruzel reported they meet every Thursday and are finalizing plans for June.

Mr. Neville added we have had some great discussions about the concept. Chairman Kruzel thanked Mr. Drezek for getting our questions answered so quickly..

f. EHS Building Committee

Chairman Kruzel reported the EHS Building Committee will meet on May 24<sup>th</sup>. We are finishing up with the last stages of the project.

g. Any Other Committees - None

13. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Riley moved, seconded by Mr. Neville that the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2018 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 7-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mr. Neville moved, seconded by Mrs. Riley that the Special Meeting Minutes of May 2, 2018 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 7-0-0** passed unanimously.

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

**15. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS** - None

**16. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Neville moved, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc that the Enfield Board of Education enter into Executive Session for Matter(s) Related to Personnel.

A vote by **show-of-hands 7-0-0** passed unanimously.

The Board remained in Council Chambers for the Executive Session. Both Mr. Drezek and Mr. Longey joined the Board in Executive Session.

No Board action occurred while in Executive Session.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Riley moved, seconded by Mr. Neville to adjourn the Regular Meeting of May 8, 2018.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Tina LeBlanc  
Secretary  
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary