

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT**

Agenda

Date: 09/10/13

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

- 1. Call to Order – 7:00 PM**
- 2. Invocation or Moment of Silence – Joyce Hall**
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance – Joyce Hall**
- 4. Fire Evacuation Announcement**
- 5. Roll Call**
- 6. Board Guest(s)**
 - a. ERfC**
- 7. Superintendent's Report**
 - a. Student Representatives, Welcome & Reports**
 - b. Rachel's Challenge**
 - c. Special Request**
 - d. Open House Nights**
 - e. Listen & Learn Events**
- 8. Audiences**
- 9. Unfinished Business**
- 10. New Business**
 - a. Discussion and Action if any, Regarding Cancelling the September 24th BOE Meeting**
 - b. Discussion and Action if any, Regarding BOE Two-Year Goal Setting Process**
- 11. Board Committee Reports**
- 12. Board Members' Comments**
- 13. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes – August 27, 2013**
- 14. Approval of Accounts and Payroll**
- 15. Correspondence and Communications**
- 16. Executive Session**
 - a. Matter(s) Related to Personnel**
 - b. Matter(s) Related to Collective Bargaining**
- 17. Adjournment**



ENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

27 SHAKER ROAD · ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06082
TEL: 860.253.6500 · FAX 860.253.6510 · WWW.ENFIELDSCHOOLS.ORG

Date: September 10, 2013
To: Enfield Board of Education
From: Dr. Jeffrey A. Schumann
Re: Board Guest(s)

ERfC – Tonight, Educational Resources for Children, Inc. (ERfC) Executive Director Claire Hall is with us and will introduce any of her staff members that are present. Several ERfC students that attend John F. Kennedy Middle School (JFK) have been recognized by the State of Connecticut. Mrs. Hall will give an overview of some of the awards that our JFK students have received during the 2012-13 school year as well as introduce any students that are present.



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Date: September 10, 2013
To: Enfield Board of Education
From: Dr. Jeffrey A. Schumann
Re: Superintendent's Report

- a. **Student Representatives, Welcome & Reports:** We welcome Katie Saltzgiver from Enrico Fermi and Christine Luksic from Enfield High School to the Board. Both students will represent their respective high schools as our student representatives. The alternates are Daniel Salisbury from Enrico Fermi and Shelby Brennan from Enfield High School. All the students attended an orientation on September 6th with Mr. Grady and myself.
- b. **Rachel's Challenge:** Our secondary schools will continue with Rachel Scott's vision. All day "Chair Reaction Programs" will be held at Enrico Fermi High School on September 16th, Enfield High School on September 17th and John F. Kennedy Middle School on September 18th. A Rachel's Challenge Presentation for parents and the community will be held on September 24th in the John F. Kennedy Middle School Auditorium at 6:30 PM.
- c. **Special Request** - We have received a request from Karen Baldwin, Superintendent of School in Suffield, CT for the email addresses of any Board member who would like to be contacted to participate in her doctoral research survey. She is interested in studying the perceptions of Board members on policy development issues. Please let Dr. Schumann know if you would like to have your email address forwarded to Ms. Baldwin.
- d. **Open House Nights:** Parents and guardians are reminded that all schools will hold open houses during September. Please refer to our website at www.enfieldschools.org and click on "Calendars" to see which night your child's school will hold an open house on.
- e. **Listen & Learn Events:** Listen & Learn events will be held again this year for staff, parents and community members. Staff events will be held on October 2nd, 9th and 16th. Events for parents, guardians and community member will be held on October 15th and 17th at John F. Kennedy Middle School in the Auditorium at 6:30 PM. Transportation will be available for Enfield residents through Enfield Dial-a-Ride by calling 860-272-3545.



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Date: September 10, 2013
To: Enfield Board of Education
From: Dr. Jeffrey A. Schumann
Re: Discussion and Action if any, Regarding Cancelling the September 24th
BOE Meeting

This item is being placed on the agenda at the request of the administration.

Therefore, the Enfield Board of Education may take any action(s) deemed appropriate regarding cancelling the September 24th Regular Board Meeting.



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Date: September 10, 2013
To: Enfield Board of Education
From: Dr. Jeffrey A. Schumann
Re: Discussion and Action if any, Regarding BOE Two-Year Goal Setting Process

Chairman Neville asked for this item to be placed on the agenda for a Board discussion regarding holding a special meeting on Saturday, September 28th to discuss setting Two-Year Board Goals.

Therefore, the Enfield Board of Education may take any action(s) deemed appropriate regarding holding a Special BOE Meeting on September 28th.



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Date: September 10, 2013
To: Enfield Board of Education
From: Dr. Jeffrey A. Schumann
Re: Executive Session

The Board of Education needs to discuss the following item:

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

Therefore, I recommend that the Enfield Board of Education enter into executive session, with the appropriate personnel invited, for the reasons described above. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting is required. Board members can relocate to either the Enfield Room or the Thompsonville Room for the executive session.



Educational Resources for Children, Inc.

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JFK After School students recognized in state competition

ENFIELD—Several students enrolled in JFK After School were recognized in a special Open House celebration on June 12th by Dr. Jeffrey Schumann, Superintendent of Enfield Public Schools. Also attending were parents and guests from the community.

Six students won top prizes in a 21st Century Community Learning Center State Department of Education (SDE) afterschool competition in support of out-of-school time programs called "Afterschool Matters". Six students were also celebrated for their appetizers, entrees and desserts in a cooking competition as part of the JFK After School's *Oven Masters* Club.

JFK 6th grade student Victoria Chorvat, and Cat Fonseca and Sam Betancour, in 7th grade, received awards for their Public Service Announcement (PSA) titled "Disappear". Betancour, along with 7th grade students Cody Dang and TJ Fountaine also received awards for their PSA titled "Catch". Dr. Schumann presented each student a certificate, digital camera, and gift card from iTunes, provided by SDE.

Guest speaker, Ken Anthony from the CT After School Network, said after school funding was reinstated in the state budget after months of rallying support to keep funding in place for kids to participate in after school programs. "It takes strong partnerships on the state and local level and help from parents, the community, school district, and policy-makers to make these quality programs available. Viewing the videos here today, created by JFK After School students, only emphasizes the educational benefits of after school and the expanded learning opportunities after school programs have for youth," said Anthony.

"In JFK After School, we are allowed the freedom to be ourselves in a safe and loving environment", said Fonseca. "This is the reason we felt so strongly about making the PSA videos—JFK After School does matter to us", she added. The video competition was judged by afterschool professionals from SDE.

Tim Neville, Chair of the Enfield Board of Education, said that JFK After School gives middle school students a wonderful opportunity to try new experiences. "For over seven years, JFK After School has provided kids with homework help and unique activities," he said.

During this past school year, students in JFK After School who participated in the Digital Media Explorers Club learned photography, video production, green screen technology, website design, script writing, editing, and acting for the camera under the direction of Creative Director, Michael O'Keefe, from Dream Frames in Farmington.

Parent Lisa Bukowski said, "T.J enjoyed learning all the different parts of operating a camera and was excited to receive his award.

Parents expressed appreciation to JFK After School staff for the learning and career opportunities they give to middle school students. Bukowski said, "I'm a single mom and the program gives my children a safe and fun place to go afterschool. Staff is always finding fun ways to keep kids learning," she added.

Mission Statement

Educational Resources for Children, Inc., teams with kids, communities, schools, and families to grow resilient kids. Through innovative community collaborations, we help kids learn, reach their goals, and contribute to their communities.



Superintendent of Enfield Public Schools Jeffrey Schumann presents awards to Sam Betancourt, Victoria Chorvat, and Cat Fonseca at the John F. Kennedy open house.

State honors Enfield students for after-school programs

ENFIELD - Several students enrolled in John F. Kennedy after-school program were recognized with top prizes in the 21st Center Community Learning Center after-school competition offered by the state Department of Education.

The students were honored a celebration with Superintendent of Schools Jeffrey Schumann June 12.

Six students were also celebrated for their appetizers, entrees and desserts in a cooking competition as part of the Oven Masters Club.

Sixth-grader Victoria Chorvat and seventh-graders Cat Fonseca and Sam Betancourt received awards for their public service announcement, "Disappear." Betancourt, along with seventh-graders Cody Dang and T.J. Fountaine also received awards for their public service announcement, "Catch."

Each student received a certificate, digital camera and gift card from iTunes.

“For over seven years, JFK After School has provided kids with homework help and unique activities.”

Tim Neville, chair,

Board of Education

Tim Neville, chair of the Board of Education, said the JFK after-school program gives middle school students an opportunity to try new experiences. “For over seven years, JFK After School has provided kids with homework help and unique activities,” he said.

Sara Moriarty, head teacher, said Oven Masters is a cooking club that teaches students how to prepare, cook and eat nutritious food. Sixteen students were paired to test their end-of-the year cooking skills by creating an

appetizer, entrée or dessert. Each dish was judged by after-school staff on taste, presentation and level of difficulty.

Seventh-graders Noah Nash and Fonseca won best appetizer; seventh-graders Alex Anderson and Megan Castoldi won the entrée award; and Betancourt and Lindsey Stover, in sixth-grade, won best dessert award. Schumann presented the six students cooking utensils and a copy of the 2013 Oven Masters Cookbook, created by the JFK students.

Moriarty said students in Oven Masters learned the value of culinary skills, how to work with a variety of ingredients, including new flavors through spices and herbs, and how to make nutritious substitutions in homemade meals. In addition, students learned about kitchen safety, how to use equipment properly, and food safety, she added.

The program is operated by Educational Resources for Children.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 27, 2013**

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 August 27, 2013.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Chairman Neville.
2. **INVOCATION OR MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Kevin Fealy
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Kevin Fealy
4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT:** Chairman Neville announced the fire evacuation announcement.
5. **ROLL CALL:**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Fealy, Vin Grady, Donna Szewczak, Tom Sirard (arrived at 7:08 PM), Joyce Hall, Jen Rancourt, Peter Jonaitis, Tina LeBlanc and Timothy Neville

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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

6. **BOARD GUEST(S)** - None

7. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

a. School Climate Presentation – as presented

Mr. Bechtel reviewed survey results regarding responses, limitations, findings for the primary schools and intermediate school. He discussed overall themes regarding positive views for schools, safety, bullying and bus transportation. He also discussed potential next steps to improve survey response rates and understanding and addressing key issues.

Mrs. Szewczak asked about the level of responses from the Pre-K-5. Mr. Bechtel stated that can be found in the detail response report. The responses were fewer.

Mrs. Szewczak stated you received 520 surveys. How many were from the middle school. Mr. Bechtel stated around 134. Last year the survey was driven around the reorganization. This year it was about school climate, early childhood and how welcoming schools are.

Mrs. Szewczak added this survey is not taken at the high school level.

Mrs. Rancourt asked about any written in comments by parents. Mr. Bechtel stated last year there were quite a few written in responses and comments. This year there weren't any.

Mr. Jonaitis thanked Mr. Bechtel for his presentation. Only 1 out of 7 parents responded to the survey. We need to continue to have this survey completed each year and we need to increase the number of surveys we receive. He would like to see us reach 50%. He does not want to draw any conclusions with only the small amount of surveys we received. School climate is extremely important. He would like to see this continue.

Mr. Fealy also thanked Mr. Bechtel for his presentation. Based on survey results 8% did not feel safe in school. Bullying is always a concern. He would like to see this section defined to see what they did not feel safe with. We need to include a drill down or a comment section for parents to elaborate regarding safety concerns. Mr. Bechtel stated this is a starting point. We can add to the survey. Mr. Fealy is looking for the next step to be action regarding safety concerns.

Mr. Sirard stated the survey is about how students and parents feel about the school system. Mr. Bechtel stated the survey is based on the parent's perceptions. Mr. Sirard added this is basically a customer satisfaction survey on school climate where 14% of the parents responded.

Mrs. Rancourt stated we need to explore on-line surveys for parents. If we had the survey on-line, if they answered yes a drill down for comments could be used. Mr. Bechtel added this is something we discussed.

Mrs. Rancourt added some parents are concerned with confidentiality when the students bring the surveys to the office. Some parents are paranoid.

Mr. Jonaitis stated parents need to give their opinions. We also need to get the responses from the students and teachers. Teachers are the ones that can help to create a good climate. They can also share with us what is working and what isn't working. He would like to include teachers with the next survey. Mr. Bechtel stated other school systems have included teacher responses with surveys. We have surveyed students, teachers and parents.

Mr. Sirard asked about the attendance for parent/teacher conferences. Dr. Schumann stated attendance at the elementary conferences is extremely high. Attendance decreases as you move up to the high school level. The same thing happens with open houses.

Mr. Sirard added you can give the surveys to parents to complete when they attend parent/teacher conferences. He feels most mailings end up in the recycled trash. If they are handed out during conferences, we might get a higher response rate. Mr. Bechtel stated that is what other districts have done to increase survey results.

Chairman Neville thanked Mr. Bechtel. Seeing how parents feel is very important. He added this is a great resource that we need to continue. We need to increase the number of surveys that are returned. He would also like to include teacher responses as mentioned by other Board members. There are many different interpretations when it comes to bullying. Using common terms and drill downs is a good idea and should be included in the next survey. Teachers can be very creative when it comes to having the students bring in complete the surveys. The numbers we received will not give us a true read. We can also use Survey Monkey to help us. We need to offer multiple options for the surveys to be completed.

Chairman Neville thanked Mr. Bechtel and looks forward to the next survey results.

b. Goals Review – as presented

Dr. Schumann reviewed the progress made on the Board's Goals and the next steps. He reviewed Goal #1 – Develop a Rigorous Core Curriculum; Goal #2 High School Consolidation; Goal #3 – Full Day Kindergarten; Goal #4 – Data Warehousing and Analyzing Solution; Goal #5 – New Educator Evaluation System; Goal #6 – Develop Government & Community Partners and other accomplishments.

Dr. Schumann reviewed 2013-14 Goals. Goal #1 – To develop a rigorous core curriculum,

implement highly effective research based instructional strategies and make instructional decisions based on the close analysis of student performance data; Goal #2 – To ensure the learning environment of the Enfield Public Schools in partnership with the community, is safe/secure and promotes a culture that meets the social, emotional and academic needs of all students; Goal #3 – To integrate state of the art educational technology and programs that will enhance student learning experiences and foster independent acquisition of skills and knowledge; Goal #4 – To institute a system of attracting, retaining, developing and managing educator performance to ensure all Enfield’s educators demonstrate continuous improvement; Goal #5 – To create and develop a World Class high school that supports the needs of the Enfield students and community; Goal #6 – To engage town government, community and business partners to support Enfield’s children.

Dr. Schumann added as we progress in the school year, he can address the progress made on the 2013-14 Goals.

Mr. Sirard asked about data-warehousing and analyzing solutions. Will the data stay in Enfield? Dr. Schumann believes the data is being warehoused by the company that we purchased the server from. The data is being saved web based.

Mr. Sirard asked if the data is being accessed via FERPA. Dr. Schumann stated the data is password protected and we adhere to FERPA guidelines.

Mrs. LeBlanc asked about Goal #1 and the student support academy. Will this program continue again this year and will it be offered to additional grades? Chairman Neville stated the Board will continue to work with these goals in the upcoming months. Mrs. LeBlanc stated her son made grade progress attending the student support academy and she would like to see this continue.

Mr. Jonaitis would like to include teachers input with the goals. Dr. Schumann stated teacher input is brought to us by the administrators from the buildings. Mr. Jonaitis would like us to contact the ETA to see if the teachers would like to add input. Something always gets lost in translation.

Mrs. Rancourt agreed with Mr. Jonaitis. After listening to Mr. Wanzer at today’s convocation, she would also like to add teachers to the goal teams. They need to be involved. Chairman Neville added that is something for the Board to consider.

Mr. Sirard believes that adding teachers to a goal team would conflict with their bargaining agreement. Chairman Neville added teachers can volunteer on many kinds of committees. This would not prohibit them from volunteering.

Ms. Hall stated that we have a new logo. Dr. Schumann stated we have modernized our logo. Ms. Hall added this is the first that she has seen the new logo. Dr. Schumann stated we shared the new logo at the convocation today and have been testing it out.

Chairman Neville stated this is part of an on-going discussion – our goals. The Board will meet at a later date to review the Board’s goals. Thank you for this. We have made significant progress.

- c. Staff Convocation & Professional Development – as presented
- d. Michael Dorn Presentation – as presented

Mrs. Rancourt asked who is putting this presentation together. Dr. Schumann stated the joint Town Security Committee put this together after attending a CREC presentation at the Hartford Convention Center. They were impressed and asked if he could speak to our teachers

and our community members. Mr. Grady, Mr. Fealy, Mr. Drezek and Chairman Neville are members on the joint Security Committee along with 3 Town Council Members and several other town employees.

Mrs. Rancourt asked if the Town Council was paying for this. Chairman Neville stated the Town Council is paying for this. He believes the cost is around \$9,500.

Mrs. Rancourt asked if audience members will be allowed to ask questions. Chairman Neville stated yes. Dr. Schumann added it will be run as a community conversation.

- e. Back to School – as presented
- f. Grants Report – as presented
- g. Personnel Report – as presented

8. **AUDIENCES** - None

9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None

10. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. **Action if any, Regarding Technology Grant Application**

Dr. Schumann stated Mr. Bourassa and Ms. McKernan have prepared this grant for \$103K that is being offered by the State of Connecticut. The state will reimburse us 68% of the grant for a total cost to the district of \$32K. This grant will be used for mobile technology labs at JFK, Parkman, Crandall and Eli Whitney in the classrooms. They will also be used later on for on-line assessments. This grant was primarily for Title I districts. We were able to submit the grant early to the State in August. We contacted the Board Chair for his tentative approval. The grant will require the entire Board's approval and we have submitted the grant with that explanation on the signature page.

Chairman Neville added there was a specific deadline for the grant that needed to be met. He believes we sent this grant application into the State before anyone else. Windsor has also submitted an application for this technology grant. He is sure other priority districts have also submitted grant applications.

Mr. Fealy asked for a clarification regarding being a priority district. Dr. Schumann stated these are the districts based on the standardized districts that are the lowest 30 performing districts in the state.

Mrs. Rancourt asked what kind of technology are you looking at – laptops or iPads. Dr. Schumann stated this would be used for laptops.

Mr. Fealy stated we have done a lot with the iPad Consortium and now you are going back to laptops. What kind of operating system are we looking to adopt or are we going to use multiple platforms. Dr. Schumann stated our goal is to use multiple platforms and gain the benefits from both. Our IT department is bringing on new servers which will allow for the Apple Macintosh Platform as well as the DOS PC Platform to access our network equally. This should be up and running within the next few weeks.

Mr. Fealy asked about licensing concerns. Dr. Schumann stated we are set with licensing now.

Chairman Neville stated these laptops will not require any charging stations and will be set for use during the entire day. The laptops will charge overnight on the cart and will be ready for use for the next day. There are many benefits for these laptops besides being able to use them

for testing.

Mr. Sirard asked who is making sure that we are not overlapping our licenses. From a business point, when you blend technology and are paying for two different technology items that basically do the same thing, the redundancy can get extremely expensive rather quickly. Microsoft and Apple are two very different languages. This will add a layer of expense when it comes to the licenses. At some point in time, a decision regarding which operating systems works better for us will need to be made.

Chairman Neville stated IT watches the licenses and they strive to not have any redundancy. When it comes to licenses, we combine our agreements with the Town to get the biggest bang for our bucks. This is based on the number of users. We did have this problem a few years ago. The IT department has done a good job of looking at our licenses to ensure that there is no redundancy.

Mr. Jonaitis stated we have applied for a grant with the State where 2/3 of the cost will be picked up by the state and we will pay for the other 1/3. Chairman Neville stated that is correct.

Mr. Jonaitis further added this was authorized by you. Chairman Neville stated he gave his tentative approval with the contingency of the full Board's approval tonight.

Dr. Schumann added Chairman Neville authorized me to submit the grant. The grant does not become official until I contact the State with the will of the entire Board. This is listed on the grant application. The State Department of Education allowed us to submit the grant on August 15th. Otherwise, we would have needed to hold a special meeting in August to address this.

Mr. Jonaitis stated the grant is not what is bothering him. Chairman Neville can authorize something to be done without the Board's knowledge. This is something outside of your privilege. Mr. Sirard had some real concerns regarding overlapping licenses. He would like to know more about this.

Chairman Neville stated this is something the Board does not have to accept. We had a deadline that we needed to meet. Mr. Jonaitis stated this is something that the Board had no prior knowledge about. This is being sprung on us.

Chairman Neville stated things happen at different times. Time was not on our side. Mr. Jonaitis added things are being sprung on us all the time at the last minute.

Mr. Sirard asked if the Executive Committee was informed of this grant. Dr. Schumann stated the Executive Committee was not contacted. He contacted Chairman Neville and asked for permission to submit the grant on behalf of the school system with the understanding that the full Board would need to authorize this grant application.

Mr. Jonaitis asked if that was the purpose of the Executive Committee to do things when the Board could not meet. Chairman Neville stated that was something that was prohibited from happening. This might be something that we should readdress.

Mr. Fealy stated as a Board, we need to discuss computers and are under time constraints. He asked Ms. McKernan how she sees the implementation of this technology providing the grant is approved. Will this draw on the bandwidth we currently are using. Will we need to do anything else to ensure the reception for all machines will be supported by our current infrastructure? What will be the end user benefit for this that we cannot do without?

Ms. McKernan stated this particular grant is from the State of Connecticut and is to implement Common Core State Standards and administer Common Core Aligned Assessments specifically Smarter Balanced Assessments. The window for administering tests is 60 days. It would take us at least 60 days to administer SBAC testing. This grant is to assist districts for administering these tests. We can double the testing administered with the additional laptops shrinking the 60 day testing window. We have looked at our technology needs and our readiness tools and all upgrades have been made to support the additional bandwidth and future additions. We are a district that can benefit from these additional computers and the additional units will allow us to be able to administer SBAC testing at JFK.

Mr. Fealy asked what the current computer capacity is at Crandall. Ms. McKernan stated currently they have one computer lab with 25 stations. We are looking to add 100 computers giving Parkman, Crandall, Eli Whitney and JFK each an additional 25 computers per school along with 4 charging carts for \$106K.

Mr. Fealy stated if the Board approves this grant, the portion we would be responsible for funding is around \$40K. Have these funds been accounted for in our budget or will you be looking for additional funding? Dr. Schumann stated we have the funds available to use in the ITPC line item for equipment purchases.

Mr. Fealy asked if you feel confident using the funds from our budget that you will not hinder your ability with our budget to meet our obligations. During the budget process you felt that we would not be able to meet our education obligations if we did not get additional funding. Dr. Schumann stated we have one lease that will end and it will leave us with \$160K. We are working with ITPC staff to reallocate these funds for other leases and additional technology.

Mr. Jonaitis stated the K-2 students are using iPad tablets. We are going to test the students in grades 3-8 using laptops. Ms. McKernan stated we tested a group of students at Fermi using iPads with a wireless keyboard for SBAC testing and it worked very well. We chose the laptops due to their battery life and reliability.

Mr. Jonaitis asked if the laptops are better to use than the iPads? Ms. McKernan stated the testing can be administered on either an iPad or laptops. Mr. Jonaitis would like us to stay with one kind of device. Ms. McKernan stated we are using iPads but she feels SBAC testing will be administered using laptops. Our students are being taught how to use multiple devices and we will continue to use iPads for learning in the classrooms and we will use laptops for the overall testing at all schools. iPads are used as an additional tool for learning. She believes this is a wise grant for us to pursue to get new devices. This is a perfect match for our needs.

Mr. Sirard stated we are upgrading our technology infrastructure with the town. Ms. McKernan added we are adding devices. Chairman Neville stated we are not expanding our infrastructure. We are adding devices. Mr. Sirard stated hardware and equipment costs are infrastructure costs in his mind and they are all overhead costs. To maintain upgrade costs, this \$100K could expand past what we can afford. His concern is the exponential growth in technology. He is not disputing the necessity of adding additional devices just the future projected costs to the BOE budget.

Ms. McKernan stated that these purchases will be needed one way or another because of the testing windows. We will need to increase our devices at these grade levels eventually.

Mr. Sirard added that this is all due to another State mandate. Ms. McKernan stated that is correct. SBAC testing will need to be taken on-line.

Mr. Sirard asked what will happen when the equipment does not work properly, just like what happened tonight. We lost around 10 minutes trying to get the equipment to work. What will

happen during student testing? Ms. McKernan stated that is why we started the SBAC testing last year. We wanted to see what kinds of issues we would encounter during student testing. We received a lot of feedback. The more experience we have the better prepared we are using technology.

Chairman Neville added we have been taking on-line testing for several years and have gained valuable information. The infrastructure is running on a separate wavelength channel. IT has a 5 year plan and will expand the pipeline in anticipation of this. They have been planning for this for several years. The operating systems will become a moot point due to the software. The savings of doing testing on-line will give us results much quicker.

Mr. Sirard stated he is concerned with IT budget costs and increasing IT future costs. Four years ago our IT budget was under a million dollars and now we are close to 4 million dollars combined with the Town. These costs continue to increase and really add up. His concern with this grant is the state is telling us we must do this. This is costing us more money than the Town can afford in his mind.

Chairman Neville added that Mr. Sirard's point is well taken.

Ms. Hall asked how many days are required for one student to take the on-line tests? Ms. McKernan stated around 10 hours. It will be broken down in several days. Ms. Hall asked if it would be possible to bring every computer to one school and have the students take the tests in the shortest amount of time and still be within the testing window. Ms. McKernan would need to discuss this with Mr. Bourassa. There may a question having 400 users on at one time at a particular school. She can see having 50 users on at one time. Parkman, Crandall and Eli Whitney each have around 400 students and she is not sure if this could be done. Some of the computers are desk top computers and it might not be wise to move those devices.

Ms. Hall asked about students that have difficulties using keyboards. She believes we are now starting students in grade 2 to use keyboards. Ms. McKernan stated that is correct. We are trying to get the students familiar with using keyboards so when they go to grade 3 they have some experience and skills.

Ms. Hall asked if the students in grades 3-5 that have not had keyboard experience be at a disadvantage or will they be given a refresher course before the testing starts. Ms. McKernan stated this is something that will be discussed with Mrs. Furey, our K-12 Technology Director about and to explore. We might need to look at students in grades 6-8 also. Refresher courses may be needed. She added that around 12-15% of the students have been taking on-line testing. So we do have experience with on-line testing.

Mrs. Szewczak agrees with Mr. Sirard that this is another unfunded mandate. This grant will allow us to purchase computers needed for on-line testing. We need to prepare our students for the future and they need technology. We have swapped teachers for technology. This is the way the world is growing. The technology costs are growing exponentially. She will support this grant proposal.

Mr. Fealy asked about the shelf life for the laptops and expected length of use. His experience has been that laptops last longer than Apple products. Chairman Neville added it is the other way around. Mr. Fealy asked about the expected length of use. When the time comes to replace these 100 devices, where will the funds come from? Will we need to download any necessary programs on these devices? He would like us to look for a cheaper solution if there are any.

Ms. McKernan stated this grant is a way for the State to help districts out with this unfunded mandate. Mr. Bourassa has priced this and there will be no additional costs. Applications will

be loaded on the devices. These devices will have a life and we will eventually need to replace them.

Mr. Fealy understands technology needs and his family has multiple devices. He has reservations with the education his children are receiving and the more remote the delivery is, the less involved he is. Testing will be delivered by mobile computing does not allow him to look at the paper or look at the grading. He is also out of the loop regarding the content of the materials. He is very distrusting of the education system and the implementation of these modules that our children are learning from. Is there anything you can do with this grant to keep the parents involved in it? He wants to review the tests. He wants to see what they are doing and where their shortcomings are and possibly shorten the gap as a result of this.

Ms. McKernan stated this grant is for the SBAC testing alone which is taking the place of CMT's. Parents do not see the CMT tests that students have taken. Parents will still be able to see their children's tests taken in school and work that is graded in the classroom. This is still in place. This is an assessment test. There will be sample questions for the parents to see.

Mr. Fealy added this is still a concern for him. He is concerned about what is coming down the road. Ms. McKernan stated that students learn best in the classroom and parents will still be able see the progress they are making.

Mr. Jonaitis stated it will take the students around 10 hours to complete the SBAC testing and they will have 60 days to complete this. What would we do if this grant did not exist?

Ms. McKernan stated we would have a difficult time meeting the time constraints for the testing window. When we entered in the number of hours needed to complete the testing on the grant, we needed to know the number of available devices. This is a fear she would have struggled with to accomplish the required SBAC testing. This grant is a proactive approach for us to add devices for our students to use.

Mr. Jonaitis added this testing might not have been accomplished without this grant. Ms. McKernan stated we would have been testing every single day during the testing window and she believes we would struggle to accomplish testing all students without the additional devices.

Mr. Jonaitis would rather wait another year before we increase our number of devices.

Ms. Hall moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard that the Enfield Board of Education approves the Technology Grant Application as presented.

A vote by **show-of-hands 8-0-1** passed with Mr. Jonaitis abstaining.

b. Action if any, Regarding Teen Leadership II Program

Mr. A.J. O'Brien, K-12 Physical Education/Health Department Chairperson gave the Board an overview of the Teen Leadership I Program and the Teen Leadership II Program along with Mr. Newton, FHS Principal and Mrs. Krieger, EHS Principal. There is no additional cost to the district to implement the Teen Leadership II Program. If we offer the Teen Leadership II Program, the students will take it. This program will help with the additional graduation requirements. Our teachers at both high schools have received the training to teach this class.

Mr. Newton stated the curriculum was approved in 2003. We have only been teaching half of the curriculum to the students for ten years. Students love this course and want to take it again. This course teaches students everything you want them to learn in high school but didn't know where they were going to learn it.

Chairman Neville stated the curriculum has been approved and there is no additional cost to implement this in the second half of the 2013-14 school year. Students are thrilled to take this course.

Mr. Fealy moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Enfield Board of Education approves the Teen Leadership II Program as presented.

Discussion:

Ms. Hall asked if the students will learn personal finances? Mr. Newton stated the students will learn how to manage a check book and also learn about personal finances.

Ms. Hall asked if this course can be added for scheduling. Mr. Newton stated we would add this class in lieu of study halls and less sections of Teen Leadership I during the second half of the year.

Ms. Hall asked if you can take Teen Leadership II before Teen Leadership I. Mr. Newton stated you must take Teen Leadership I first.

Ms. Hall stated we have discussed students that are not excited about being in high school and they might be described as being someone apathetic. Is there a way to get these students actively involved in this Teen Leadership Program? Not all students take this course. Mr. Newton stated Teen Leadership I is a prerequisite to taking Teen Leadership II. We can encourage students that fit that profile to take this course and it may help them to be more enthusiastic about school.

Ms. Hall stated this course should almost be a requirement for all students. This way all students would have an opportunity to see that they have more to life than they think they do. Mr. Newton added that they have discussed this and to possibly include this program in grade 9.

Mr. O'Brien added if this comes to life down the road when the new graduation requirements are required, this would fit nicely into their career and life skills electives. Ms. Hall stated the original electives offered were few with the proposed new graduation requirements.

Mr. Jonaitis stated students love this course. It will not cost us any additional money and we will not need any additional staff. He is for this class and supports it.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated that she attended Enfield High's Freshman Orientation last night and her daughter is one of the lucky ones that is scheduled to take this course. When we consolidate the high schools we should offer this course to more students.

Mr. Fealy stated his son took Teen Leadership I and this is a course that his son would like to take. The financial aspect of this course is an important component for all students.

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

c. Action if any, Regarding Matter(s) Related to Personnel

Chairman Neville stated this item will be addressed at the conclusion of Item 16.

11. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. Rancourt is excited that students will be back in school. Eli Whitney held a teacher welcome back luncheon today. Friday, September 6th they will hold a welcome back picnic at 5:30 PM. It is a lot of fun and she is looking forward to it. Family day will be held on the Town Green on September 15th. EFEE will hold a Cleat and Beat where you can buy instruments and cleats. Eli Whitney will hold an open house on September 18th.

Mrs. Rancourt further stated she joined the Board to be an advocate for her son. Parents need to fight for their kids. She did a lot of research for her son and parents need to keep going back to the school and stand up for their children. She would like the TC and Board to explore the armed guards that are in our schools again. There are petitions that have been signed. She does not want the guards in our schools. She does not know what will go on with the guards the first week of school.

Ms. Hall has been out of town for the summer and was shocked when she opened up the Atlanta Journal Constitution on August 1st and saw that schools had started. Some of the schools in that area started on August 2nd and by Wednesday the following week, all the schools in Georgia had opened. She likes that we start school in September.

Mrs. Szewczak attended ERfC's \$.25 auction. Mr. Sirard, Mr. Stokes and Representative Alexander also attended. It was a lot of fun. She agrees with Mrs. Rancourt that parents need to fight for their children. School is a tool for students. She wished a great first day to all the students.

Mr. Grady wished Mrs. Rancourt a happy birthday. He also wished the students good luck and the recently graduated seniors good luck with your endeavors.

Mr. Fealy disagrees about the feasibility of the armed guards in our schools. He has been a member of the Security Committee. The Board adopted a MOU. We will be left with a more secure building with armed guards. The experts made a recommendation. We allowed for a policy change and the Town Council is implementing this. He knows there is a petition that is floating around. He agrees that the people should have had an opportunity to vote about this. He is not sure if we had a chance things would have been done differently.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated that both Fermi and Enfield High school held summer workouts as well as band camps. She attended the EHS orientation and it was extremely well run. Fermi students had their orientation and were able to ride the bus to school for a full day of events and the parents were also happy with this. HAC is back up and is running again for parents. She also wished Mrs. Rancourt a happy birthday. She commended Roger LeBlanc for the summer lunch bunch program. The volunteers did a great job this summer along with ShopRite supporting this effort.

Mrs. LeBlanc asked about the athletic participation fees and is there a way for the schools to collect the fees in a locked box that would be sent to C/O. The coaches and secretaries cannot accept the fees and parents need to go to C/O. She would like to see locked drop boxes for parents to use. It makes it hard for parents to get to C/O.

Chairman Neville was questioning this also. Mr. Drezek stated this was a recommendation that came from the auditors. Mrs. Szewczak agreed that this was a condition required by the auditors.

Chairman Neville stated parents can mail this in. He would like the administration to look into this and by using pay-pal accounts for this.

Mrs. Rancourt stated when you use SchoolBucks there is a participation fee for any

transactions.

Mrs. Rancourt also agrees with Mrs. Rancourt regarding the armed guard and with the petition that is circulating. She wished all the students a safe school year.

Mr. Jonaitis said mail the participation fees to C/O. He stated the Board and the Town can revisit the armed security guard issue if needed. He welcomed the parents and students back. JFK is not that scary. He asked the parents not to panic. There will be some problems the first week of school and the issues will all be resolved. He wished the teachers good luck with the upcoming school year.

Chairman Neville stated during the summer Mrs. LeBlanc mentioned looking at items that worked and didn't work for the Board and the Board's goals. She referred to it as post-mortem. He would like to hold a Board retreat in September where we can look at last year's successes and what needs to be improved on at the beginning of the retreat. We accomplished a lot of things.

Chairman Neville stated the CABA/CAPSS convention is coming up. He encourages all Board members to attend.

Chairman Neville also wished everyone well for the new school year. The convocation left you feeling proud. A lot of good things happen in Enfield. Our students were superb. We don't talk about the good things enough. He commended Dr. Schumann for starting the school year on such a positive note. Thank you for showing such a level of class with the convocation.

13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard that the Regular Meeting minutes of July 9, 2013 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 8-0-1** passed unanimously with the correction made by Ms. Hall (page 5 – Board Committee Reports - Project Lead the Way) and with Mr. Fealy abstaining.

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard that the Special Meeting minutes of July 23, 2013 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 8-0-1** passed with Mr. Fealy abstaining.

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Ms. Hall that the Special Meeting minutes of August 13, 2013 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 8-0-1** passed with Mr. Fealy abstaining.

14. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYROLL - None

15. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS - None

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Szewczak moved, seconded by Mr. Fealy that the Board enters into Executive Session for:

- a. Matter(s) Related to Personnel
- b. Matter(s) Related to Collective Bargaining

A vote by **show-of-hands 8-1-0** passed with Mr. Sirard in dissent at 9:15 PM.

The Board reconvened to the Enfield Room for the Executive Session. Joining the Board in Executive Session were Dr. Schumann, Mr. Drezek and Ms. McKernan.

The Executive Session ended at 10:09 PM. No Board action occurred while in Executive Session.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fealy moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard to adjourn the Regular Meeting of August 27, 2013.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 10:10 PM.

Donna Szewczak
Secretary
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary