

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 22, 2019**

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 October 22, 2019.

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

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sarah Hernandez & Chris Rutledge

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Christopher J. Drezek, Superintendent; Mr. Andrew B. Longey and Student Representative Madison Daigneau

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

7. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- a. Student Representatives – as presented
- b. TOY Reception – as presented
- c. EHS National Honor Society Induction Ceremony – as presented
- d. First Readers Ceremony – as presented
- e. Early Release Day(s), Election Day & Veteran's Day – as presented
- f. Special BOE Meeting – as presented
- g. Grants Report – as presented
- h. Personnel Report – as presented

Mr. Drezek thanked the staff and families from Prudence Crandall. Friday, October 18th a water main broke in the Crandall parking lot which prompted us to dismiss them from school early. By the time he was able to get to the school, Principal Sills had his staff in action. There was really no need for Chairman Kruzel and myself to be there. Mr. Sills had everything under control. He thanked everyone at Prudence Crandall for making sure our kid's best interests were taken care of.

Mr. Drezek stated this morning we had the pleasure to announce our candidate for the Kid Governor Race. Congratulation to Eli Whitney grade 5 student – Kylie Feliciano. Dan Golden, our EHS Student Representative is assisting Ms. Feliciano with her video presentation. We will have Ms. Feliciano attend November 26th Board meeting. He wished her good luck in the state Kid Governor competition. Kylie Feliciano is our 2019-20 Enfield Kid Mayor. We will also invite our current sitting Kid Mayor Olivia Nuccio to this meeting as her last act as the 2018-19 Kid Mayor.

Chairman Kruzel added the Crandall staff did a phenomenal job. They were like a well-oiled machine. He received a call about this at 10:50 AM and arrived at the school at 11:10 AM and

they had already re-routed traffic for the buses since the parking lot was closed. Building and grounds were there cutting the asphalt.

Mr. Drezek extended a heartfelt thank you to Smyth Bus, B&G and the EPD for their assistance. This was a communitywide effort. Thank you for everything you all did.

Chairman Kruzal added Smyth Bus sent the buses that normally would go to Prudence Crandall. They were at the school within 30 minutes. Everybody stepped up and did a phenomenal job.

8. AUDIENCES

Jonathan LeBlanc, Hemlock Drive – Mr. LeBlanc stated the Enfield Patch will post all the high school varsity games on Sunday night for the upcoming week. You can go to their website at www.enfieldpatch.com to view the varsity sports weekly schedule. Go Eagles!

9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Regnier stated Hazardville Memorial will hold their picture day on Friday, October 25th. The Bookfair will be held on October 28th, 29th and 30th. The Halloween party will be held on October 30th.

Mr. Regnier congratulated Pam Estes as our Teacher of the Year. We have awesome teachers in Enfield. It must be a hard job picking just one teacher for this recognition.

Mr. Regnier stated this is his last regular public meeting to share comments. He thanked his fellow Board members, Mr. Drezek, Mr. Longey, Mrs. Zalucki and Ms. Daigneau. It has been a great ride. We have had our ups and downs. He hopes he did at least one thing correct during his term that made a difference. This board has been phenomenal to work with and we did what was best for our kids. He hopes the next 9 Board members will continue to work with our administration and teachers to continue the passion for our kids. He thanked his wife for her support, he also thanked his son and daughter. He has spent a lot of time away from his family. This is a good time for reflection. He wished good luck to those Board members that are continuing. He has made some great friendships and he thanks them for this.

Mr. Neville thanked Mr. Regnier for your time serving on the Board. We are all volunteers. You have a family and a fulltime job. He thanked your family for your commitment to us for the past 2 years. He appreciates your sense of humor and your attention to detail on the Policy Committee was flawless. It is important what we do as Board members.

Mr. Neville stated EFEE will end on November 15th. He read a memo from Shannon Grant about EFEE. This organization has awarded over \$34K to our teachers for grants and \$2K in scholarships to our students. He is sorry to see this organization end. They should be applauded for their work and dedication for our teachers and students.

Mr. Neville stated KITE sends out a weekly information. Leann Beaulieu and Chris Gomeau have been sending us this information for the last 2 months. A lot of us did not know what KITE was about. KITE is another great organization that works with our children and families.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated the Enfield Flag Football Team held their Trick or Trunk event on Monday, October 21st. They raised \$257 for the Enfield Food Shelf.

Mrs. LeBlanc thanked Mr. Regnier for his service. It does take a village. She appreciated your invocation. We are here for the kids. Sometimes politics did get in the way. She also appreciates your passion and humor. She added that you are correct when you said you need your families support.

Mrs. LeBlanc thanked Mrs. Riley for her service. She respects and admires her. You were a great vice chairman. You are fair and honest. She is sorry you are not running for the Board. The Town Council is lucky to have you. You will keep the bridge between the Board and the Town Council open. You will be missed. You have always brought a different perspective to the Board.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated the debate issue continues to grow. Our students knew changes were needed but did not want to cancel this event. She received an e-mail from a student about the debate. The debate is about the students and their educational experience. This event was taken away from them and was cancelled because of the adults. She is sorry the debate was taken away. She is sorry that we could not make this happen this year.

Mr. Ryder stated we are very excited that the Kid Governor is from Eli Whitney. He is proud to wear the Whitney Wolves Sweatshirt. He is very proud of Kylie being our Kid Governor. He wishes her good luck in the Kid Governor's race. He looks forward to you attending the Board meeting.

Mr. Ryder stated all of the JFK and EHS home games are listed on www.enfieldpto.com as well as the links for televised games.

Mr. Ryder wished Ashley, Sarah, Rich and Charlotte good luck and thanked them for their service.

Mr. Ryder stated Mrs. Riley will be switching the dates she will be at this diose from Tuesday's to Monday's. He wished her all the best.

Mr. Ryder thanked Mr. Regnier for your stewardship on the Policy Committee. We were able to go through quite a few of the policies. He would love to see the second audience participation back on our agendas to address important hot topics if needed and to mirror what the Town Council does. This is something he will continue with.

Mr. Ryder stated Eli Whitney held their book fair this week. The Whitney Halloween Party will be held on Friday, October 25th. Parents are welcome to attend. The PTO exists for the benefit of the students and for the parents to get involved and socialize with other parents. Whitney picture day is also on Friday, October 25th.

Mr. Ryder discussed the Wreaths Across America program. He thanked Mrs. Gates for everything she is doing. All the PTO's have been given this information. So far 2 schools have signed up for the wreath fundraisers. We have also given out the code for St. Patrick's Cemetery to receive the wreaths on Saturday, December 14th at noon. He is looking forward to repeating what was done last year with the parade route.

Chairman Kruzel asked the control booth to put up the web addresses for public viewing – www.wreathsacrossamerica.org and www.enfieldpto.com.

Mr. Neville thanked Mrs. Riley for everything you have done on the Board. He does not want you to go. You have been extremely helpful and an incredible Board member. He looks forward to continuing our relationship whether it is on Monday's or Tuesday's.

Mrs. Riley stated the First Readers will hold their first ceremony on November 4th at 6:00 PM in the EHS auditorium. We are always looking for volunteers. The Enfield Fire Chiefs will be helping us award the First Readers. We will invite Mr. Drezek and Mr. Longey again. We are looking to fill the vice president position. If you are interested, please let us know. We have many events to plan.

Mrs. Riley stated Prudence Crandall will hold their picture day on Wednesday, October 23rd.

They will also hold their Halloween Party on Friday, October 25th. She agrees with how awesome the staff was at Crandall with the water main break. There were no issues with the early dismissal. Our students are all in very capable hands at Prudence Crandall.

Mrs. Riley stated Henry Barnard will hold their Trick-or-Treat Street on Saturday, October 26th. Halloween is a big thing for the kids – this is their prom as mentioned by Mr. Ryder.

Mrs. Riley thanked her husband and kids for their support. They are what keeps her going every day. She thanked her parents for watching every Board meeting and for being here tonight. She thanked them for their love and support. She hopes she can be as much of an awesome parent to her children as they have been to her.

Mrs. Riley stated it has been an honor and pleasure to serve as the vice chairman of the Board of Education. She works with amazing people on this Board. This is a great team.

Mrs. Riley stated she is going to miss Mr. Regnier. You always come with the truth and she will miss the back and forth conversations you have with Mr. Drezek and Mr. Neville.

Mrs. Riley thanked Chairman Kruzal for always helping no matter what it is. You are always there lending a hand.

Mrs. Riley thanked Mrs. LeBlanc for always speaking the truth. We have had our disagreements, but she has always respected you. You are an awesome Board member. You have dedicated so much time to the Board. Thank you for doing what you do.

Mrs. Riley thanked Mr. Neville for everything he has done for the Board. There is not another person on this planet that is more fit for the Board than you. You were a teacher and a principal and now you are serving on the Board. Your dedication is amazing. She has such respect for you.

Mrs. Riley thanked Mr. Ryder for his dedication to the PTO's. Thank you for working through all of this. The PTO would not be a PTO without you. You have made things so much easier for parents with your online website. She looks forward to serving on the JFK PTO with you.

Mrs. Riley thanked Mr. Drezek, Mr. Longey, Mrs. Zalucki and Mrs. Sullivan for answering all her questions and phone calls. The district is in great hands and keep up with the great job you are doing. She will be around with girl scouts, boy scouts, PTO and First Readers and will see you most likely on Monday nights. She will continue to support the Board, staff and students the best she can. Thank you for an awesome two years and she wished everyone the best of luck.

Chairman Kruzal stated we have some very special people watching the Board meeting tonight in Florida – his family. He recalled some of the events that occurred over the past two years. We have accomplished a lot as a Board during our term together.

Chairman Kruzal thanked Mrs. Depeau for the time she served as a Board member. She was a great addition to the Curriculum Committee and to the Enfield Street PTO.

Chairman Kruzal thanked Mr. Regnier for his dedication to the Policy Committee. The Policy Committee will not be the same without you. You did a great job reviewing and updating our policies. We may not have always agreed, but we came together when it counted for the kids.

Chairman Kruzal thanked Mrs. Hernandez for being on the Board. You were a great addition to the Curriculum Committee and Head Start Liaison. You helped to approve a lot of new AP courses. Thank you for your dedication.

Chairman Kruzel stated his vice chairman will be missed. You never know, you might be sitting at this seat after the elections. He knows you will have our backs and you will do a great job on the Town council. It has been an honor to serve with you.

Chairman Kruzel added that the collaboration he has had with this administration and anytime he has needed something, they were there. It has been a great ride.

Chairman Kruzel stated that the staff at Prudence Crandall did a great job last Friday. The staff jumped into action with the assistance of B&G, EPD and Smyth Bus within 30 minutes. We have such faith with our people.

Chairman Kruzel thanked our B&G staff for everything they did at Henry Barnard, the Eagle Academy and at the Stowe Early Learning Center. Our staff is phenomenal.

Chairman Kruzel stated his wife had this gavel made for him with the following saying – the future is bright, and it is only going to get brighter. We will continue to work for the kids.

Chairman Kruzel thanked his fellow Board members for all the work they have done. We are out many nights during the week. A lot of our work is done in our many subcommittees. You will all be missed. He thanked his fellow board members and community members for giving him this opportunity to serve as Board Chairman.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. Action if any, Regarding Approving the Para Contract

Chairman Kruzel stated this item will be addressed after Item #16.

12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Curriculum Committee

Mr. Neville reported the Curriculum Committee met on Wednesday, October 9th. We discussed the standards-based report cards for special areas; a new music half credit course was approved – History of American Popular Music; we approved a Level I AP Macroeconomics course; we also approved independent study half and full credit options; and we made some changes clarifying the program of studies.

Mr. Neville thanked Chairman Kruzel for attending the curriculum meetings and for helping us out.

Chairman Kruzel thanked Michelle Middleton and her staff for a great job.

b. Finance, Budget Committee

Mrs. Riley reported the Finance Committee met on October 21st. We also received our 2019-20 adopted budget books.

c. Policy Committee

Mr. Regnier stated that due to unforeseen circumstances, we needed to cancel some of the policy meetings. One item that was sitting on the table was the second audience participation mentioned by Mr. Ryder. He thanked the members of the Policy Committee, Mr. Ryder, Mr. Rutledge and Mr. Longey for everything they accomplished over the past two years.

Chairman Kruzel added that he also sat in on some of these meetings as well as Curriculum and Finance meetings.

Mr. Regnier stated the next Policy Committee meeting will be held on December 4th.

Chairman Kruzel stated the first Board meeting will be held on November 26th not November 30th.

d. Leadership Committee

Chairman Kruzel stated we did not hold any Leadership meetings. The past meetings held were informative.

e. Joint Facilities Committee

Chairman Kruzel reported we met on Thursday, November 14th.

f. JFK Building Committee

Chairman Kruzel reported the JFK Building Committee met on Thursday, October 17th.

Mrs. LeBlanc asked about the presentation being posted on the website and can we get a copy of this.

Chairman Kruzel stated he will look into this.

g. Joint Security Committee

Mr. Ryder reported the Joint Security Committee will meet on Wednesday, November 20th.

h. Any Other Committees

Mrs. LeBlanc reported the Joint Insurance Committee will meet in March 2020.

13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Neville moved, seconded by Mr. Regnier that the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 8, 2019 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 6-0-0** passed unanimously.

14. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYROLL

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

- The month of August 2019, total expenditures amount to \$3,696,559.48, broken down between payroll totaling \$2,504,915.35 and other accounts totaling \$1,191,644.13. 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 documented.

A vote by **show-of-hands 6-0-0** passed unanimously.

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

- The month of September 2019, total expenditures amount to \$5,819,470.89, broken

down between payroll totaling \$4,253,533.11 and other accounts totaling \$1,565,937.78. 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 documented.

A vote by **show-of-hands 6-0-0** passed unanimously.

Line Item Transfers – None

Chairman Kruzal thanked Pat West for doing a great job with our accounts.

15. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION

Mrs. LeBlanc reported Enfield High School will hold a benefit concert on October 24, 2019 at 6:30 PM in the Auditorium.

Mrs. LeBlanc reported Enfield High School will hold their 2020 Fall Auction for Safe Grad on November 16, 2019 at 6:00 PM at the Elks. The auction starts promptly at 7:00 PM.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

A vote by **show-of-hands 6-0-0** 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.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

11c. Action if any, Regarding Approving the Para Contract

Mr. Regnier moved, seconded by Mr. Neville that the Enfield Board of Education approves the Para Contract as presented.

A vote by **roll call 6-0-0** passed unanimously.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mrs. Riley to adjourn the Regular Meeting of October 22, 2019.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Tina LeBlanc
Secretary
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary