

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 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 September 10, 2019.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Rutledge, Charlotte Riley, Tina LeBlanc, Tim Neville, Scott Ryder and Walter Kruzel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sarah Hernandez & Rich Regnier

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

Chairman Kruzel stated that Ashley Depeau has resigned from the Board of Education effective today. We wish her good luck with her future endeavors. He also added that both Mr. Regnier and Mrs. Hernandez were unable to attend tonight's meeting due to prior commitments.

6. BOARD GUEST(S)

a. 2019 TOY

Mr. Drezek welcomed our 2019 Teacher of the Year Pamela Estes to tonight's meeting.

Mrs. Estes thanked the Board for inviting her. She presented her Teacher of the Year video.

Mrs. Riley asked which world language are you teaching? Mrs. Estes teaches Spanish to JFK students in grade 7 & 8.

Mrs. Riley enjoyed her presentation. Mrs. Estes added that she enjoyed making the presentation. Mrs. Riley congratulated her for being our TOY.

Mr. Neville stated he was not surprised to hear that you were selected as our Enfield Teacher of the Year. He has always seen you as a positive role model and you never give up. You love what you are doing, and it shows. You especially love your students and want to see them grow. He along with your colleagues, recognize all your teaching efforts. He wishes you well. You deserve this honor and he knows you will represent Enfield well.

Mrs. Estes thanked Mr. Neville for his kind words.

Chairman Kruzel presented Mrs. Estes with a plaque on behalf of the Enfield Board of Education for being Enfield's 2019-20 Teacher of the Year.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- a. Welcome Student Representatives – as presented
- b. EPS Open House Nights – as presented
- c. 2019 Family Day – as presented
- d. September Events – as presented

Mr. Drezek gave the Board an update on the Eagle Academy and the enhanced Stowe Early Learning Center. He added that we meet each Monday with the Stowe staff and staff from the town. We address any outstanding issues or concerns. He is pleased to announce that the Enfield Child Development Center Director, Karen Edelson reported there is ample parking spaces now. She can now schedule events on a single night with the additional parking now available. He thanked our B&G staff for everything they did.

Mr. Drezek added that some families were a bit hesitant with moving multiple programs to one location. These parents are now very happy with the new location. They are enjoying using the gym space and could never go back to the way it was.

Mr. Drezek is also pleased to announce that one of the Eagle Academy students will be participating on an Enfield High Varsity sport this year. This was one of the many reasons we wanted to establish this program.

Mr. Drezek reported the construction on Route 5 outside of the entrance to Enfield High School should be completed by Wednesday, September 11th. We have sent out messages regarding this. We ask you for your patience.

Mr. Drezek reported the Athletic Department will be sending out a message to families regarding middle-age students attending athletic contests. Students in grade 8 and under will now be required to attend these events with an adult. This change was needed due to safety concerns. This is a new procedure and it not a Board policy.

Chairman Kruzel added we had faith in our staff and knew they would get all the programs at the STOWE Early Learning Center and the Eagle Academy done and they did. He thanked the building and grounds staff, and everyone involved with this project for everything you did making this a reality. We will continue to grow from here.

8. AUDIENCES

Emily Hulevich, Cutter Lane – Ms. Hulevich is the ETA President and is here on behalf of Michele Wilcox. She read a prepared letter thanking the Board and Administration for the beautiful memory lamp Michele received. The entire ETA membership is extremely happy with this gesture bestowed upon the Wilcox family.

Chairman Kruzel thanked Ms. Hulevich for speaking tonight and for Mrs. Wilcox's loss.

9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. LeBlanc urged audience members to follow Enfield Adult Education on either Twitter or Facebook. Mrs. Cressotti asked her to spread this message.

Mrs. LeBlanc extended well wishes to the family of Justin Brady. Today is the anniversary of his passing. She thought about their family today and extends a heartfelt message to them. They will be holding a vigil tonight.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated she totally understands Mrs. Depeau's decision to resign and will miss working with her.

Mrs. LeBlanc asked if our new student representative is Jacqueline Daigneau's sister. Ms. Daigneau stated she is her sister. Mrs. LeBlanc welcomed her to the Board. We enjoyed working with your sister.

Chairman Kruzal added she also sat in the same seat you are sitting in.

Mrs. LeBlanc added that she loved her speech at graduation. Please tell her we were thinking of her.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated the Wilcox family is a kind loving family. She thanked Ms. Hulevich for sharing with the Board. Your message was very heartfelt during this difficult time.

Mr. Neville also wishes Mrs. Depeau well. She was a great member on the Curriculum committee.

Mr. Neville congratulated everyone involved with our smooth opening of school. It takes many hands to make this happen. All our staff including town staff take pride in our buildings. We accomplished something huge in 6 weeks. He does not feel any other town could have accomplished this task as well as our staff did. Kudos to everyone involved.

Mr. Neville agrees that there is plenty of parking at the Stowe Early Learning Center building. He knows there were some concerns, but our staff has taken care of them.

Mr. Neville attended the Adult Education 100-year celebration earlier tonight. Some Adult Education programs fail and are not as successful like our program is. He is impressed with the amount of different kinds of programs we offer. He added that we are producing a lot of good things in Enfield. We offer many kinds of opportunities. Congratulations for Adult Education's continued success.

Mr. Neville stated the 9/11 memorial ceremony at the Weymouth Road Fire station near Edgar H. Parkman Elementary Schools is very moving. We need to remember and prevent this from happening again. No one ever thought this would happen in our country. He invites everyone to attend this moving ceremony.

Mr. Ryder thanked the staff for the successful opening of our schools.

Mr. Ryder also thanked Ms. Hulevich for her comments regarding Mrs. Wilcox. He also worked with her at Hazardville Memorial.

Mr. Ryder stated Eli Whitney will hold a Welcome Back Picnic on Friday, September 13th at 5:30 PM.

Mr. Ryder added Family Day will be held on the Town Green on Sunday, September 15th. This event is filled with community events and tables from each of the schools selling items. A lot of the events are free. The event will run from 11:30 AM until 4:00 PM.

Mr. Ryder stated JFK will hold 3 open house curriculum nights. They will be held on September 12th for the White Wing, September 16th for the Red Wing and on September 18th for Blue Wing.

Mr. Ryder added that you can find all the dates and more on the EnfieldPTO.com website.

Mr. Ryder thanked everyone for a start of a great school year.

Mrs. Riley thanked Mrs. Depeau for her time spent on the Board. She will be missed. She asked if there will any openings on the Curriculum Committee since this is the fun committee.

Mrs. Riley stated Henry Barnard held a PTO meeting last night and 28 parents attended and want to volunteer. This was awesome and we are going to have the best PTO year. Barnard will hold their open house on Wednesday, September 11th. They will hold their back to school picnic on Wednesday, September 18th from 6:30 – 8:00 PM. Mr. Higgins will be cooking the hot dogs again this year.

Mrs. Riley stated Prudence Crandall will hold their PTO meeting on Thursday, September 12th at 6:30 PM. They are looking for a lot of volunteers. She thanked Prudence Crandall Principal Russell Sills for his electronic school newsletter. He is doing an awesome job. Grade 3 orientation was great. She is a new mom at Crandall and did not know the lay of the land. All the parent and student volunteers made you feel at home. When she left, she felt like she was deep into the Crandall community.

Mrs. Riley added that she has spoken to many people about the SRO's being back in the buildings. This is such a great addition in our schools. Parents are noticing this and are pleased.

Mrs. Riley thanked the Central Office staff for allowing the boy and girl scouts into our schools and for distributing their flyers. Scouting is a great place for kids to learn about being involved in your community.

Mrs. Riley stated the First Readers will hold a meeting on Monday, September 23rd at 5:30 PM at the Barnard Library. We are looking for volunteers from any age group.

Mrs. Riley stated that Mr. Ryder has started his homework working with sister schools again.

Mr. Ryder stated he is trying to setup sister-school PTO's so they can work together. He did this with the Hazardville Memorial and Eli Whitney PTO's and it worked very well. The PTO Presidents will be meeting with the Superintendent on September 30th at 6:00 PM in the Alcorn PD Conference Room. We will be discussing this. If you are unable to attend, please send another member in your place.

Mrs. Riley welcomed everyone back to school.

Chairman Kruzel stated the 4th annual Miller Farms charity pasta dinner will be held on Friday, September 27th at Mount Carmel from 4:30 to 8:30 PM. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids. All proceeds will benefit our local food shelf. This event is open to the public. There will be live music and raffle prizes.

Chairman Kruzel also attended the Adult Education 100 anniversary celebration. Adult Education started at the end of World War I. People were coming back from the war and missed school to go into the service. Look at where we have gone in 100 years. We are offering a great program and many opportunities for you to continue your education. Our staff are doing a great job.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

a. Approve Joint Facilities Committee Elector

Chairman Kruzel stated this item will remain on the table and will not be addressed tonight.

11. NEW BUSINESS - None

12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Curriculum Committee

Mr. Neville reported the Curriculum Committee will meet on September 12, 2019 at 5:30 PM. We will review smarter balance assessments and will present this to the Board later. This meeting is open to the public.

Mr. Drezek added the student results will be mailed home.

b. Finance, Budget Committee

Mrs. Riley reported the Finance, Budget Committee cancelled their September 9th meeting. We will meet on October 21st at 6:00 PM.

c. Policy Committee

Mr. Rutledge reported the Policy Committee cancelled their September 4th meeting and will meet again on October 2nd.

d. Leadership Committee - None

e. Joint Facilities Committee

Chairman Kruzel reported that we have received Phase I monies for the Barnard roof from the State. This will go towards the next phasing. Phase II is complete, and we will work on Phase III next summer. This is how we need to do this without going to a referendum for needed repairs.

Mrs. Riley added that Barnard staff are very happy with the roof repairs.

Chairman Kruzel reported there was a leak from the heavy rains over the weekend and our B&G staff fixed it. This was something the contractors did, and we were very lucky our staff were there to resolve the problem. He also thanked our B&G staff for waxing the floors and getting all our school ready.

Mr. Neville agreed this leak was not our fault. An attachment to the drain was missing. We did not have to spend any of our money fixing this. The contractor will be reimbursing B&G for the work they did.

f. JFK Building Committee

Chairman Kruzel reported the JFK Building Committee will meet on Thursday, September 12th at 6:30 PM.

g. Joint Security Committee

Mr. Ryder added we will meet on October 7th.

h. Any Other Committees

Chairman Kruzel reported the Joint Insurance Committee will also meet in October. There is also supposed to be a presentation or joint meeting.

13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Rutledge moved, seconded by Mr. Neville that the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 27, 2019 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 6-0-0** passed unanimously.

14. **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYROLL** – None
15. **CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS** - None
16. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – None
17. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Neville moved, seconded by Mrs. Riley to adjourn the Regular Meeting of August 27, 2019.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Tina LeBlanc
Secretary
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary