

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 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 December 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:** Tina LeBlanc
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Tina LeBlanc
4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT:** Walter Kruzel announced the fire evacuation announcement.
5. **ROLL CALL:**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan LeBlanc, Bill Salazar, Wendy Costa, Tina LeBlanc, Joyce Hall, Scott Ryder and Walter Kruzel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chris Rutledge

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

6. **BOARD GUEST(S)**

a. **EHS Athletic Recognition**

Mr. Drezek welcomed our Athletic Director Cory O'Connell to tonight's meeting. Mr. O'Connell will introduce our Fall 2019 athletes.

Mr. O'Connell thanked the Board for inviting them to tonight's meeting. EHS was awarded the Flanagan Grant through CAS-CIAC for \$5000 to assist in the development of our eSports Program. Dan Wabno, Music Education Teacher at EHS, has been working in developing the program with hopes of a February 2020 competition.

Mr. O'Connell added that 96.5% (301 out of 312) student-athletes maintained their academic eligibility; 54% (168 out of 312) student-athletes earned Honors or High Honors - 115 High Honors/53 Honors. This is a testament of their dedication to academics. The student athletes will update the Board on team and individual accomplishments.

Cross Country – Rob Barnes, Coach
Team Representative: Ethan O'Farrell
All-Conference: Sean Suleski

Field Hockey – Amy Bartholomew, Coach
Team Representatives: Shannon Cato, Jayonna Montigny, and Rachael Tweedlie
All-Conference: Shannon Cato, Jayonna Montigny, and Rachel Tweedlie
All-State: Jayonna Montigny

Football – James Lyver, Coach
Team Representative: Owen Lawler and Alex Martinez
All-Conference: Ethan Amburn, Jaylen Brown, Owen Lawler, Alex Martinez, Nick Miller, Wyatt Raymond, Cody Stager, and Tallon Stager

All-State: Wyatt Raymond
2019 Route 5 Trophy Winner

Soccer – Boys – Tony Allegro, Coach
Team Representative: Matt Santy and Keegan Reim
All-Conference: Keegan Reim and Matt Santy

Soccer – Girls – Kate Battista, Coach
Team Representatives: Madison Daly and Morgan Ludwick
All-Conference: Madison Daly and Jessica Marcotte

Swimming – Girls – Debbie Goodman, Coach
Team Representative: Caitlin Gannon
All-Conference: Grace Ferris and Jasmine Uricchio
All-State: Grace Ferris and Jasmine Uricchio

Volleyball – Girls – Judy Joslin, Coach
Team Representatives: Megan Hanna and Vivian Vacharakupt
All-Conference: Haley Picard

Mr. O'Connell thanked the Board for their continued support of EHS Athletics.

Board members gave the student athletes a round of applause. The student athletes came to the front of the diocese for a group photo.

Chairman Kruzel thanked the students for speaking so eloquently.

Mrs. LeBlanc congratulated the first graduating Eagle class. She sees such eagle pride. She knows how hard you all played and your records do not always reflect your effort. She congratulated each team. She congratulated the football team for bringing home a Division Flag. She attended the Route 5 Rivalry game. It was a great game. She knows how hard it is for student athletes and it is not always easy. She wished them all the best of luck.

Mr. Ryder thanked Coach Battista and the Girls Soccer Team for helping-out at Hazardville Memorial. They volunteer their time by decorating the school and holding soccer clinics for the students. The students look up to you and you are their heroes. Thank you.

Mr. LeBlanc loves EHS Athletics and his old soccer coach is great. He attended the Route 5 Rivalry Football Game. You have set the tone for our upcoming athletes. All the athletes have done a great job. Now we have winter sports coming up. He urged the town to come out and support our athletes.

Chairman Kruzel congratulated our student athletes for making high and regular honors. He also congratulated them for volunteering and being good role models for our youth. He attended the Route 5 Rivalry Game with Mayor Ludwick and Mr. LeBlanc. Thank you.

Mr. Drezek thanked Mr. O'Connell and Mrs. LeFleur for everything they are doing behind the scene. Our students are presenting the team accomplishments differently than from the past. This is due to Mr. O'Connell. Our kids make us all proud.

Chairman Kruzel thanked them for coming and wished them all a merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

b. DAR Award Recipient

Mr. Drezek welcomed our DAR recipient and History Teacher of the Year – John Unghire. Mr. Unghire was recognized last week for this outstanding accomplishment.

Mr. Unghire is a history teacher at JFK. He was recognized by the Daughters of the American Revolution Penelope Terry Abbe Chapter for American History. He thanked the Daughters of the American Revolution for this acknowledgment and for Councilwoman Cindy Mangini for sponsoring him. He is a product of the Enfield Public Schools and is thankful for the education he received. He thanked our Social Studies Coordinator Joel Senez for his support, the JFK staff, and the Board for your continued support.

Mr. LeBlanc congratulated Mr. Unghire. You are a well-deserving teacher and it is teachers like you that make the difference.

Mrs. LeBlanc added that students are happy to have you as their teacher. You do a lot for the students at JFK. Thank you.

Mrs. Hall asked Mr. Unghire what period in American History do you like best. Mr. Unghire stated he likes the American Civil War era best.

Chairman Kruzel thanked Mr. Unghire for what you are doing for our students. He wished him a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and congratulated him for receiving this prestigious accomplishment.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- a. Student Representatives Report – as presented
- b. Christmas Break – as presented
- c. December Events – as presented

Mr. Drezek thanked Mr. Unghire for everything he has done for our students.

Mr. Drezek added the weather could impact the Wreaths Across America program at Parkman on Wednesday, December 11th. If we have a delay, the ceremony will not be held at Parkman. The safety of our students, staff, truck drivers and convoy are our #1 priority. Check twitter in the morning.

8. AUDIENCES - None

9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. LeBlanc hopes the weather holds out. Wreaths Across America is such a wonderful program and is one of her favorite events. The ceremony is wonderful and she loves seeing the students honoring our Veterans. She wished everyone a safe happy holiday and new year.

Mr. Salazar congratulated the Prudence Crandall grade 5 students for collecting items for Lieutenant Keith Parent who is currently serving in the military. They held a ceremony last week and Lieutenant Parent participated remotely. Several Board members attended this moving event. Chief Fox will send items to him while he is stationed overseas.

Mr. Salazar extended a hello to Crandall student Charlie. He also wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and happy holiday season.

Mr. LeBlanc hopes the snow is done for the rest of the year but if it isn't, please shovel your sidewalks for the students that walk to school.

Mr. LeBlanc stated Winterfest will be held at STOWE on Wednesday evening. This is a great family event.

Mr. LeBlanc gave a shout out to the EHS Culinary Students. They prepared around 50

Turkeys for Enfield Loaves & Fishes. They deserve recognition for this. They are taking action by helping our community members in need. He applauded their efforts.

Mr. Ryder reminded everyone that Friday, December 13th is PJ day. All donations will go to CCMC. Eli Whitney PTO will hold a pancake breakfast on Friday also. December 16-20th is spirit-wear week.

Mr. Ryder stated Hazardville Memorial will hold a PTO meeting on December 11th. They will hold their Kids Corner Holiday Shop on December 12th and 13th and they will also hold their Winter Concert at the Enfield Annex on December 12th. You can find all these events at www.enfieldpto.com.

Mr. Ryder reviewed the Wreaths Across America parade route. This is a great event to visit. They have visited Enfield several times due to the outstanding welcome they receive from us. He hopes the snow does not impact us. If you can't attend the parade, please go to St. Patrick's Cemetery on Saturday, December 14th for the Wreath Laying Ceremony being held at noon.

Mr. Ryder also reminded everyone that Saturday, December 14th is the Rachel's Challenge Pancake Breakfast being held at St. Patrick's Church Hall.

Mr. Ryder thanked the Enfield Girl's Soccer Team and Coach Battista for everything they have done for the students at Hazardville Memorial. He wished everyone happy holidays and a happy new year. He also wished the staff and students a great and happy new year. He looks forward to seeing you in 2020.

Mrs. Hall stated the snow we received was great for making snowmen. She hasn't seen any snowmen in her neighborhood or any snow ball fights. Today is Emily Dickenson's birthday. The Merriam Webster Dictionary Company announced the word of the year is "They".

Mrs. Hall stated she used to bring box tops to her local school. This can now be done by collecting points on your cell phone and a lot of the products have changed that participate with this program. You can also go to www.donorschose.org and donate to the school of your choice.

Mrs. Hall wished everyone happy holidays. There are a variety of holidays between now and January 2nd. Enjoy them all.

Mrs. Costa also attended Prudence Crandall's assembly. They did a great job and the ceremony was wonderful. She is looking forward to the Wreaths Across America Ceremony and is hoping there will not be any snow.

Mrs. Costa thanked the Student Athletes for their presentation and for being such well-rounded students. She was impressed with how many honor and high honor student athletes there were.

Mrs. Costa wished everyone a safe, happy and healthy holiday season. We will see you again in January.

Chairman Kruzel also attended Prudence Crandall's ceremony. They did a great job. He thanked Donna Ellis for everything she has done for our schools by setting-up school fundraising events for our students at Red Robin.

Chairman Kruzel reminded everyone about the Rachel's Challenge Pancake Breakfast being held on Saturday, December 14th. He is the official taste tester.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

11. **NEW BUSINESS** - None

12. **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. Curriculum Committee

Mr. Salazar reported the Curriculum Committee will meet on Thursday, December 12th from 6:00 – 7:30 PM in the Curriculum office. The meeting is open to the public.

b. Finance, Budget Committee

Mrs. Costa reported the Finance Committee met on December 9th. She asked a lot of questions and we are on the right path.

Chairman Kruzel gave a shout-out to Pat West who will retire at the end of this month. She has done a great service to this town and she will be missed.

c. Policy Committee

Mr. Ryder reported the Policy Committee will meet on December 11th at 5:30 PM.

d. Leadership Committee - None

e. Joint Facilities Committee

Chairman Kruzel reported we met last week and are looking for additional funding for the roofs.

f. JFK Building Committee

Chairman Kruzel reported the JFK Building Committee meeting was cancelled last week. We will meet again on January 2nd.

g. Joint Security Committee

Mr. Ryder reported the Joint Security Committee met on December 4th and will meet again March. We meet quarterly.

h. Any Other Committees

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

13. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Hall moved, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc that the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 26, 2019 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 7-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mrs. Hall moved, seconded by Mrs. Costa that the Special Meeting Minutes of November 26, 2019 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 7-0-0** passed unanimously.

14. **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYROLL**

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

- The month of October 2019, total expenditures amount to \$6,184,959.31, broken down

between payroll totaling \$4,194,901.87 and other accounts totaling \$1,990,057.44. 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 7-0-0** passed unanimously.

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

- The month of November 2019, total expenditures amount to \$7,962,224.20, broken down between payroll totaling \$4,268,153.25 and other accounts totaling \$3,694,070.95. 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 7-0-0** passed unanimously.

Line Item Transfers – None

15. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION

Chairman Kruzel wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr. Drezek stated the Girls Volley Ball Team read their athletic report from an iPad. He was not sure if any Board member noticed this.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mrs. Costa that the Enfield Board of Education enter Executive Session for Matter(s) Related to Attorney-Client Privilege.

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

Mr. Salazar moved, seconded by Mrs. Costa to adjourn the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2019.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously. Meeting stood adjourned at 8:41 PM.

Tina LeBlanc
Secretary
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary