

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 12, 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 February 12, 2013.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Jonaitis, Tina LeBlanc, Kevin Fealy, Vin Grady, Donna Szewczak, Tom Sirard, Jen Rancourt and Timothy Neville

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joyce Hall

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Jeffrey Schumann, Superintendent; Mr. Christopher Drezek, Deputy Superintendent; FHS Student Representative Katie Saltzgeber and EHS Student Representative Brandon Andexler

6. **BOARD GUESTS**

- a. Fall 2012 Student Athlete Recognition

Chairman Neville stated tonight we will continue with our 2012 student/athlete fall awards.

Mr. Bernstein stated we will continue recognizing our student athletes. Chairman Neville, Vice Chairman Neville and Board Secretary Mrs. Szewczak distributed certificates to the following student athletes.

Enfield High School – The Sports Department All Area Team Recipients – Liam King (Boys Soccer); Kaylee Polmatier (Girls Soccer); Sierra Trzepacz (Girls Soccer) and Michael Crowley (Football).

Enrico Fermi High School – The Sports Department All Area Team Recipients – Conor Glettenberg (Boys Soccer).

Enfield High School NCCC All Conference Recipients – Liam King (Boys Soccer); Kaylee Polmatier (Girls Soccer); Sierra Trzepacz (Girls Soccer) and Madison LaRusso (Field Hockey).

Enfield High School All Pequot Conference Athletes – Avery Boissy (Football) and Michael Crowley (Football)

Enrico Fermi High School CCC All Conference Recipients – Katie Saltzgeber (Cross Country); Marci Macsata (Field Hockey); Julie Pycz (Field Hockey); Danielle Lavender (Field Hockey); Frank Kusta (Football); Baily Raymond (Football); Dustin Sroka (Football); Tyler Timpone (Football); Conor Glettenberg (Boys Soccer); Adrian Case (Boys Soccer); Dale Quesnel (Boys Soccer) and Rebecca Kaliff (Girls Swimming).

7. **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

- a. Staff In-Service Days, President's Day & Winter Vacation – as presented
- b. Final Superintendent's Book Club – as presented
- c. 2012-13 School Calendar & Graduation Update

Dr. Schumann stated to date, we have used 5 snow dates on October 29th and 30th, January 16th, February 8th and 11th. The last day for school or the 181st student day as of February 12th is scheduled for June 21, 2013. The firm dates for graduations are still planned to be held for Fermi on June 20th and Enfield High on June 21st providing there are no additional school closings.

Chairman Neville stated per Board Policy #6111 School Calendar we need to adopt the school calendar by the end of February. He would like this placed on the next regular meeting agenda for Board approval. Dr. Schumann stated this will be included on the next regular BOE Agenda.

8. AUDIENCES

Vin Weseliza, Deer Run – Mr. Weseliza stated he is here regarding the high school consolidation and the best course of action for our middle school. He would like to see the middle school moved to the Enrico Fermi building. JFK does not have adequate classroom space and athletic space. It also would require renovation to bring it up to what is currently available at Enrico Fermi. Fermi is a larger building by 40,000 feet. He believes we should move the middle school to Enrico Fermi. It would be a campus that the students would be proud to attend. He thanked the Board for listening to him.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Policy Revision #6146 Requirements for Graduation – Second Reading

Dr. Schumann stated this is the second reading for policy #6146 Requirements for Graduation. Ms. McKernan is available to answer any questions from Board members.

Ms. McKernan stated that Enrico Fermi Principal Newton is also available to answer any questions. The conversation regarding this policy revision was discussed with both high school principals. Ms. McKernan stated the Board had two questions the last time we discussed this policy revision. The Board wanted to know what other districts have science graduation requirements. In our DRG, they all of the schools have science graduation requirements. We also looked at schools in our athletic conferences. In the NCCC conference they all have science graduation requirements. Schools in the CCC conference - 17 out of 32 schools have science graduation requirements and 2 of the 32 schools are parochial schools.

Ms. McKernan stated the Board also asked about science related courses. Students can earn science credits in different areas. Mr. Newton stated we have 3 cross discipline courses in Technology Education and Automotive. Each course (Automotive I and II) are 2 credit course and .5 can be cross credited into science. In technology, students can take an Electricity and an Electronic Course. Each course is a 1 credit course and the entire course can be cross credited into science.

Ms. McKernan stated we also made an additional change to the language of the policy on line 18 starting with the class of 2016.

Mr. Jonaitis asked about the cross credited courses totaling 1 and ½ credits. Mr. Newton stated students could potentially earn 2 credits.

Chairman Neville is pleased to hear about the cross credits.

Mrs. Szewczak moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard that the Enfield Board of Education approves the

proposed revisions to policy #6146 Requirements for Graduation as a second and final reading.

Discussion:

Mr. Jonaitis asked if there are any additional crossover credits listed in the program of studies booklet? Mr. Newton stated you can view the program of studies on line. Architectural Drafting and Mechanical Drafting are each 1 credit courses in the Technology Education area and can each be cross credited into a .5 math credit. Business and Consumer Math I and II are in the Business Education can each be cross credited into a .5 math credit. Business Law I and II can each be cross credited into a .5 Social Studies credit. Economics also falls under the Business Education and can be cross credit into a .5 Social Studies credit.

A vote by **roll-call 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

b. Discussion Related to the Consolidated High School, Mascot and School Colors

Chairman Neville stated this was discussed several weeks ago. Our student reps came up with the suggestion to involve the students in the decision.

Mr. Drezek stated this was discussed on January 8th. The administration presented some ideas to start the discussion. The name of the school will remain the same – Enfield High School per our current Board Policy #9610 The Naming of Schools. The administration came up with the idea to name the new STEAM wing the Enrico Fermi STEAM Wing.

Mr. Drezek stated school colors were presented by the administration using the current 4 school colors that the combined Hockey Team is currently using – Black, Blue, Green and Gold. The Board asked the administration to solicit ideas from our students. Enrico Fermi teacher Mr. O’Connell’s period 5 & 6 Statistics & Probability course students were in the process of gaining Mr. Newton’s approval to conduct a project on the creation, development and administering a survey. Mr. Newton thought this would be a perfect opportunity to use this class project as part of the survey. Both Dr. Schumann and Mr. Drezek agreed with Mr. Newton for this class project and endorsed the project fully. The students did a great job especially Eric Mazarella. He prepared and presented the survey results to Mr. Newton, Mrs. Krieger and Mr. Drezek with the findings.

Mr. Drezek stated the survey asked two questions, what colors would you like the new high school to be. We used a color wheel with all of the current colors used in the CIAC that was used in each home room along with choice for them to write in color. The next question was in regards to the school mascot. We listed all the current mascots in the CIAC along with choice for them to write in a mascot. The students were randomly surveyed from the 3 secondary schools. We surveyed all the students at JFK but only used 500 surveys from JFK. We randomly selected 500 students from both EHS and FHS to take the survey. They presented the results from the surveys on Monday, February 4th.

Mr. Drezek stated the students chose black as the number 1 choice, gold was the number 2 choice and purple was the third choice for school colors. The students chose the Falcon as the number 1 choice for a mascot, a Spartan as the number 2 choice and an Eagle at the third choice.

Mr. Drezek showed Board members sample uniforms with the chosen colors. He thanked Mr. Bernstein for his help with the uniforms. Some uniforms will need to be white. We wanted to give the Board some options to view.

Mr. Drezek stated Board members will make the final decision regarding the school colors and mascot. Board members have 3 options. The first option is the 4 combined school colors with the Falcon as the mascot, the second option is using black and gold as the school colors with the Falcon as the mascot.

Mr. Drezek stated at the January 8th Board meeting, a Board member suggested using history from Enfield. We have the Town of Enfield Flag and the Enfield Town Seal colors are Blue and Gold. The third option is to use blue and gold as the school colors with an Eagle as the mascot. We chose the Eagle due to Bald Eagles that are currently nesting on the grounds by Enfield High School.

Chairman Neville thanked the student representatives for their suggestions and that this was made into a school project.

Mrs. LeBlanc thanked the student representatives. Green is a color for sports in Enfield. She would personally like to see the colors be green and black but she does like the blue and gold colors. Students that play travel sports in Enfield wear the color green proudly.

Mr. Fealy would like to hear from our two student representatives.

FHS Student Representative Katie Saltzgiver likes black and gold with the Falcon and the navy blue and gold with an Eagle for a mascot. She does not believe it is her right to say what she would like. You know what the students want and she is here to represent them.

EHS Student Representative Brandon Andexler stated he does not want to be biased but the Raider was not included on the survey. He believes we should get away from both current mascots. He likes Eagle vs. the Falcon. The Enfield High students also like the Eagle. If you have ever attended an outside game at EHS, occasionally you can see an Eagle fly over the field.

Mr. Jonaitis stated he likes the black and gold colors with the Eagle as the mascot. Maybe we can add a blue/gold patch on the uniform with the Town Seal.

Mr. Sirard likes both black and gold and blue and gold. The student's chose black and gold. He would like the Eagle as the mascot. The Enfield Eagles sounds better than the Enfield Falcons. Having Eagles residing on the property and being at a home game seeing a live mascot flying over head would be an amazing thing to see.

Chairman Neville thanked Mr. Sirard for the visual.

Mrs. Szewczak is more in favor of the Enfield Eagles and likes the black and gold. We are keeping the same name but are moving forward. Her children wore green until they went to school at Fermi. She likes the idea of the Eagle.

Mr. Fealy likes the black with gold. He is not in favor of gold with black. He thanked the student for their good input. Maybe black with gold piping on the uniform would be something to consider.

Mrs. LeBlanc also likes the Enfield Eagles.

FHS Student Representative Katie Saltzgiver agrees with the black and gold and not the other way. The home uniform should be black and with gold trim.

Chairman Neville stated his children all went to Fermi. He likes the idea of the Eagle as a mascot also. He would also like to see some uniforms with gold piping on them. We are here to hear information. We would like to hear from the public on this. This item can be placed on the February 26th Board meeting as an action item.

Mr. Drezek added when the students presented this information to us, they wore black and gold. He thanked the Fermi student who prepared and presented the power point presentation to them. He also thanked Mr. Newton for his participation.

Chairman Neville thanked everyone for this information. Next we need to hear from community members.

c. 2013-14 Budget Discussion Continued – SEED & Freshman Athletics

Chairman Neville stated Dr. Schumann presented this information to us last week. We were waiting for information regarding SEED. We will also discuss freshman athletics.

Dr. Schumann reviewed the Superintendent's recommendations from January 8th for a 5.98% budget increase. He reviewed full day kindergarten and the benefits. He reviewed curriculum, professional development, data warehousing, budget impacts and benefits. He reviewed JFK Athletics for \$9,807 and the additional requests for Freshman Sports for Football, Basketball and Soccer for a total of \$67,000. He reviewed adding 7 elementary assistant principals and benefits for \$758,723 and 3 elementary assistant principals and benefits for \$387,667.

Dr. Schumann stated that we have received word from the State Department of Education regarding implementation flexibility. We must still develop a plan by April 15th with an extension to July 1st. We met with the ETA & ESAA leadership this afternoon and they gave us their consent to recommend a partial implementation plan. If the Board approves this recommendation, the plan will be sent to the State Department of Education for their approval. He reviewed flexibility options. We must create and adopt a new evaluation plan and use it with 1/3 of all certified staff or all class room teachers in half of the schools. His recommendation is to hire a consultant to help with creating the new Educator Evaluation Plan for teachers and administrators. Use the new plan with teachers and administrators at JFK/EHS/FHS. Use building administrators, cabinet members and complementary evaluators to implement the new plan.

Dr. Schumann reviewed the budget impact, deferring elementary assistant principals for one year and reducing the 2013-14 Budget Proposed to 4.78%. If we add in Freshman athletics to the 2013-14 proposed budget, the increase will rise to 4.791%. We have a small window that we must adhere to. A response is needed by April 15th. If a decision is made, we can start the process tomorrow to get a waiver from the CSDE and secure the consultant that we would like to use to make the July 1st plan deadline.

Dr. Schumann would like the Board to consider making a motion allowing us to move forward with the use of a consultant to develop a plan and to ask the CSDE for a waiver utilizing 1/3 of our staff at the secondary level.

Chairman Neville stated this was also discussed at the Finance Meeting.

Mrs. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Enfield Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to seek approval from the CSDE to implement a new teacher evaluation plan with 1/3 of our certified staff in the 2013/2014 school year and authorizes the expenditure of up to \$125,000.00 in the 2012/2013 school year to develop the plan in accordance with the State mandates.

Discussion:

Mr. Sirard stated we will pay \$125,000 to a consultant that is half of the cost for full day Kindergarten. This is a prime example of an unfunded mandate. This can cost us up to \$1.2 million dollars and we are being told by the State to implement a program to evaluate our teachers without any financial help from the State. There is no educational value for this mandate. This is an opt out for No Child Left Behind (NCLB). We all agree that NCLB is bad because it costs us so much money. We are now dealing with this teacher evaluation program. This is in his mind NCLB on steroids. He understands that we can spend the money that is currently in our budget

to get the ball rolling but we already have an evaluation program that is working. This program will ultimately cost us way more than NCLB would have cost us.

Mrs. Szewczak agrees with Mr. Sirard. She says “no”. This is not part of the Education Cost Share (ECS). This is another unfunded mandate. She is tired of hearing that they will take it out of our ECS. Does ECS cover everything they ask for and can think of? If they want us to be part of the new teacher evaluation program, they should send us the funds for it.

Mr. Jonaitis stated this is stupid and wants the State of Connecticut to stop it. We have a tremendous education system in Connecticut. Now they are telling us to evaluate teachers that are doing a great job. Let the teachers teach. Enfield is a good town to get a great education in. Every town has a few teachers that are not pulling their weight. Those are the teachers you should be going after. Not the teachers that are doing a great job. Let us evaluate them they way we have been doing. This is insanity gone wild.

Mr. Fealy thanked Dr. Schumann for his efforts. Ms. McKernan gave us student scores compared to other schools in our DRG. We have done very well considering what our budgets have been. He does not see where there would be an educational value with this State mandate. We are not willing to accept this being forced upon us. He will not support anything that comes with a price tag of \$125,000 and gives us nothing back in return except for our tax rates increasing. This evaluation program will take our teachers out of the classrooms.

Chairman Neville he does not like the unfunded mandates. The cost associated with the new evaluation system bothers him. He sees some benefits to this system. He has concerns with the amount of time that will need to be spent with this. There are some efficiencies that can be gained. He also likes what Dr. Schumann has presented to us and has eased the pain that we are all feeling. He likes that there are bills in the legislature trying to extend this program date. Being an educator there is some value to this. He will vote for this so we can meet the July 1st deadline. We have the money in our current budget to hire the consultant needed to start this process.

Mr. Grady agrees with Mr. Fealy and understands why Mrs. Szewczak will vote no. He is concerned that the message we will be sending is that we would not give Dr. Schumann the leeway to hire a consultant. He does not like all of these unfunded mandates either and does not like this evaluation system program but we need to do this. We will only be hurting the Enfield School District by delaying hiring a consultant. He is in favor of hiring the consultant and starting the ball rolling.

Mrs. Rancourt understands this unfunded mandate. If a teacher is evaluated and is given a poor review we have a very hard time to remove them. This new evaluation system will train them to be a better teacher. How will this work if there are no consequences?

Dr. Schumann stated the standard by which educators will be evaluated is teachers will either be highly effective, effective, approaching effective and not effective. They will also receive a rating. Teachers and administrators that receive not effective ratings can be moved from their positions much easier than individuals that were proven to be incompetent. As mentioned by Mr. Jonaitis, most of our teachers are highly effective and effective. Teachers will be clearly identified under the new evaluation system.

Mr. Jonaitis stated with this new evaluation system you can be classified as highly effective, will you need to go through the evaluation process again the next year?

Dr. Schumann stated every teacher and administrator will need to go through the evaluation process again if you have been classified as highly effective or in-effective you will be evaluated by someone outside of our school system. Highly effective and in-effective teachers need to be verified. We will evaluate staff from other districts that have been classified as highly effective and in-effective.

Mr. Jonaitis asked if anyone has looked at what the legislatures are proposing. He would like to see our Board Chairman and other Board Chairman get together and say “no” to the State.

Mr. Fealy would propose on holding off of this vote. He would like to get our legislatures back and discuss this with them before we make a blind decision. A policy with no teeth is a waste. We are frustrated with this and he believes that it is necessary for us to make a good decision. He would like more information.

Mr. Sirard understands what is being said about removing an ineffective teacher. The new system requires us to re-evaluate an evaluated teacher to make sure they were evaluated correctly. When you have someone that is truly exceptional and need to question that rating is a waste of time and money. We have a representative that sits on the Education Committee. We need them to develop a bill that will derail or delay this mandate. We discussed unfunded mandates with them. He does not want to do this. They are not paying us to do this. It is not right and it is not fair.

Mrs. Szewczak stated all professions evaluate their employees. We now have the State and Federal government telling us what to do. Dr. Schuman has done a great job. What they are asking us to do to our employees is abusive.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated an outside evaluator is needed when teachers are evaluated as highly effective or ineffective. Would the outside evaluators know why they are there? Dr. Schumann stated yes they would know why they are there.

Mrs. LeBlanc believes they would be better to not know why they are there. It would be interesting to see the two evaluations based on the rubric.

Mr. Jonaitis stated the best evaluation is another teacher. Everyone’s opinion of a good teacher may be slightly different. There would be one commonality. We would all know who the bad teachers are or what teachers are not doing their jobs. It takes a long time to remove a teacher for poor performance. You get into education because you love to teach.

Mr. Grady stated additional information is a good idea but delaying the vote will affect the implementation of the plan. Dr. Schumann stated he has not sent the document to the State that was due on January 15th. He has held off on signing this document because he would like us to create our own plan that is due by April 15th with the help of a consultant. We have a short window of time until the end of the month to apply for a waiver.

Dr. Schuman stated we would be stressed to create a plan for SEED and would need additional staffing to accomplish this. We will work with whatever decision the Board makes.

Mr. Grady stated if we do this now, we can hire a consultant and it will cost us less. Dr. Schumann stated if we do not work with a consultant, the committee members would need to work on this until April 15th. All of their time would be consumed working on a plan. SEED is a concept. Once you accept SEED you are accepting the concept and need to develop the rubrics, evaluations and frameworks. Then we would need to implement the plan starting on July 1st. It would cost us time for substitutes and student learning. A consultant would help us tremendously.

Mr. Grady stated that is what he was trying to get at. We need to look at the pros and cons for this. He would love to say “no” but we can’t.

Chairman Neville understands where you are all coming from. We all have some questions. He asked would like to take a brief recess.

Recess:

Board members agreed to take a brief recess at 8:25 PM. Board members returned at 8:32 PM.

Chairman Neville reminded Board members that there is a motion on the floor and asked for a roll call.

A vote by **roll-call 6-2-0** passed with Mr. Jonaitis and Mrs. Szewczak in dissent.

Dr. Schumann thanked Board members and has listened to your concerns. He understands the Board is doing this under duress and this is not your first choice and you have been backed into a corner. He will follow-up with our legislatures and will make it know to them we are doing this under duress. We will create a document that this town and school district can be proud of and will diligently work on this.

Chairman Neville stated it was suggested by Mr. Fealy to contact our legislatures about this. Can you please contact them and convey the concerns of the Board and ask them if they have any specifics. If they don't have them look into this and get back to us as quickly as they can.

Dr. Schumann will do that. He spoke to Representatives Kiner and Alexander at the Legislative and Breakfast last week and the need to continue this discussion with the Board. They are expecting our calls.

Chairman Neville thanked Dr. Schumann and Board members. This is a topic that concerns us all.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Adoption, if any, on the FY2013-14 Budget

Chairman Neville stated we have heard all of the presentations. Not everyone has been available for all of the meetings. He has additional questions. We will have a special meeting on February 19th. It has been suggested to hold the meeting in the Board conference room. Can Board members attend a 6:30 PM meeting? We need to resolve the budget so it can be presented to the Town Council. You can ask specific questions or if you have any requests for additional data, you will need to get your questions to Dr. Schumann and the information will be shared with the entire Board.

Mr. Grady asked if he can call into the meeting. He is working that night. Chairman Neville stated yes.

Mr. Jonaitis stated most of what has been presented your budget to us and what you have presented will be better for education in this town. He would like to see added to the percentages your best estimate for the costs for the negotiations and the benefits that will be paid to the various unions. Adding this to the education percentages will let the people of Enfield know that we are looking at an astronomical sum. The additional costs for contract settlements are needed.

Mrs. Szewczak asked if this would be considered a fixed costs budget? Mr. Jonaitis stated when we ask the Town Council for an amount, we need to know what we need to add onto that fixed cost amount. This will be recurring from year to year.

Mrs. Szewczak stated we only do one budget at a time. Are you looking for multiple years? Mr. Jonaitis stated we will settle contract negotiations for 3 year settlements. You will know what will be spent out for the next three years.

Chairman Neville asked about the dates for ETA and ESAA contract negotiations? Mr. Jonaitis stated the ETA contract negotiations will start in the Fall. Chairman Neville added that will affect

the following year's budget. He is concerned with projecting numbers. You would not be bargaining in good faith.

Mr. Grady added you would be tipping your hat with percentages by giving rough estimates.

Mr. Jonaitis wants people to know what percentage we will be paying next year and the year after that for education in this town.

Chairman Neville stated we will only know by each contract for the coming year. Mr. Jonaitis is looking for a ball park figure of what the future looks like for negotiated settlements. Adding on full day Kindergarten, Freshman sports and sports at JFK. That is going to affect the budget for years to come. He is also concerned with negotiated settlements.

Chairman Neville does not believe we can do that legally.

Mr. Drezek stated in addition to the proposed budget you are looking for the possibility of additional costs. We can probably provide you with the most up to date settlement data that is public. The ETA negotiations will come up this summer and the ESAA will come up next summer for negotiations.

Mr. Jonaitis stated if you can come up with the settlements that have been received by the State to date will give us an idea of what is being offered. Mr. Drezek will try to get this information for the Board.

Chairman Neville stated we have been given this information as they have been coming out.

Mr. Sirard stated what Mr. Jonaitis is asking for is similar to SEED. Salaries will continue to go up. It is the nature of the beast. We are adding a new evaluation system. Adding full day Kindergarten will save us money in the long run. It is a good idea to see what we are investing in – long term costs.

Mr. Fealy was on the road and will contact Dr. Schumann with questions. He is concerned with class sizes for full day Kindergarten. We also have portables at JFK and would like to know what this will do for us in the future. We also have security concerns to deal with.

Mrs. Rancourt asked about the SPED increase and 14% of our students are classified SPED. How does this compare to the State? What will the SPED increase include more teachers?

Dr. Schumann stated we are slightly over the State average. No new positions are being proposed for SPED. The increase is for operating costs, outplacement costs and services for these students. He will get a breakdown for our next meeting.

Mrs. Rancourt asked about the new positions for increasing the 10 month secretaries to 12 month positions. Will the elementary assistant secretaries be increased to 12 month positions also.

Dr. Schumann stated we are increasing the 10 month elementary secretary positions to 12 month positions. The assistant secretaries will not be increased. The 12 month secretaries will be in the building year round and will help with security and they will be available to assist our elementary principals with work during the summer.

Mr. Grady asked if a 10 month secretary does not want to be a 12 month position what will happen. Dr. Schumann stated we would work with the bargaining unit bylaws and will follow their rules and will find someone that wants to work 12 months.

Mr. Fealy asked if you will amend your proposal with the evaluators in place and assistant principals in the elementary schools. Dr. Schumann stated that is correct. He is recommending

the budget increase of 4.78% and the consideration of Freshman sports.

Mrs. Szewczak stated participation was a big concern for Freshman sports. She would like some figures where we stood with this. This has been eliminated. She can see this coming back when the high schools are consolidated.

Mrs. Szewczak stated the SPED increase for next year, does it compare to what we have seen this year? Mr. Littizzio is nodding his head yes.

Mrs. LeBlanc asked Mr. Bernstein regarding the \$67,900 increase for Freshman sports seemed a bit high. It is based on participation of Freshman sports offered at each school. We can have Mr. Bernstein confirm this.

Chairman Neville believes the EHS Booster club pays for the Freshman Football Team. We are paying for one Football team. Mrs. LeBlanc stated that number would be if you filled every Freshman team to the maximum. She does not believe that will happen.

Mrs. Szewczak does not want to cut any academic programs for sports. Chairman Neville stated we will need to get numbers from Mr. Bernstein. The participation numbers had something to do with cutting this before.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated adding sports at JFK may increase the participation numbers for Freshman sports.

Mrs. Szewczak stated Freshman students can sign-up for the Junior Varsity teams. Mrs. Rancourt stated they can, but they are limited on who will make it. Mrs. Szewczak stated they are not told that they can't try out. Mrs. Rancourt stated that is correct but they have a snowballs chance in making the team.

Mr. Sirard asked how much of the SPED increase is due to the expanded broader diagnosis for autism. Dr. Schumann will look into this with our Pupil Services Directors.

Mr. Jonaitis does not believe that either high school will have the participation numbers for Freshman sports. Our enrollment numbers are continuing to decline. He would question the number of students that are being turned away from playing sports as a Freshman athlete. He does not believe bringing back sports at JFK will help out. We can put our money into other things like the Robotics program.

Mr. Jonaitis would prefer to meet at 7:00 PM for the February 19th Special BOE meeting.

FHS Student Representative stated you try out to be on a team and will take any place you can get. It also depends on the sport. She recommends focusing on some of the Freshman sports that participation levels are higher.

Mrs. Rancourt would like to know how much it will cost to have full time K-2 counselors. When did we eliminate the summer learning academy. Chairman Neville stated it was eliminated at the elementary level. We offer summer school at the secondary level.

Mrs. Rancourt would like to see on-line credit restoration available. Chairman Neville stated students will pay to take summer courses at the secondary level. Mrs. Rancourt would like to see this option available for elementary students.

Mrs. Rancourt was astonished at how many K-2 and 3-5 students are receiving in-school suspensions. Parents need to be aware of this. We have issues at the elementary levels and we only have part time counselors.

Chairman Neville stated we will meet at 7:00 PM on February 19th at Henry Barnard in the Board Conference Room. Our goal is to finalize the budget. If you have any questions, call the Superintendent prior to the meeting.

Mrs. Szweczak stated it would be nice when we come up with a final number the Town Council will want to know what that budget looks like. We will need to prioritize what will need to come off of the budget should we not receive full funding from the Town.

Chairman Neville agrees. We have talked about this and will need to prioritize where we are headed.

Mr. Fealy would like to receive an operating spread sheet. He found this quite useful last year. Chairman Neville stated that is a good idea for us to use as a tool.

11. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Szweczak stated the High School Consolidation information can be found at www.enfield-ct.gov under social media and e-mail subscriptions, you can sign up to receive agendas, minutes and information.

Mrs. Szweczak reported the High School Consolidation Subcommittee will start the process for the Construction Manager At-Risk at Parkman School on Saturday. This person will help to keep us on budget and on task with costs for our students. The meeting is open to the public to watch. Chairman Neville thanked Tina and Donna for their involvement. You have kept us up to date and well informed.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

FHS Student Representative Katie Saltzgiver stated the talent show was cancelled due to the storm and will be rescheduled for March 15th and 16th. The Fermi CAPT Breakfast will be held on Thursday, February 14th. The Fermi Jazz Festival will be held on Saturday, February 23rd. It is a lot of fun and she hopes everyone will come.

Mrs. LeBlanc stated Eli Whitney will hold a McEducator night on Wednesday, February 13th at the McDonald's near Shop Rite from 4-7:00 PM. She stated the Student Support Academy is going great. Her child is still learning, having fun and she has seen an improvement. She has seen new students there this week. She is happy to see this program and will mention it every week. Her son loves going as well as the other students that are there.

Mr. Fealy is looking forward to the FHS CAPT Breakfast. The Fourth of July Committee will hold a dance at the Elks Club on Saturday, February 16th. The ticket price includes dinner. It should be a lot of fun. He thanked our two student representatives. You both represent your schools very well.

Chairman Neville also thanked our two student representatives for your involvement with the suggestions for the school colors and mascot. You have both done wonderful jobs. He thanked everyone that has been working on the budget for your patience as we work through this process. He thanked Mrs. LeBlanc for the reports about the Student Support Academy. This is why we are here for the students. He would like to get through the budget and start discussing the good things our students are doing.

Mrs. Szweczak asked how we are doing with the buses with all of the snow removal that is going on. Mrs. Zalucki stated we have not received too many complaints so we are doing pretty well.

Mrs. Szweczak would like the Board to consider starting school later as we move towards the consolidated high school. Students perform better with a later start time at the high school level.

Mr. Fealy attended the Trivia Night for the First Readers with Mr. Sirard. It was a lot of fun. He is also looking forward to the CAPT Breakfast.

Mrs. Rancourt stated she will attend the McEducator night. She stated you can go to www.myschoolbucks.com and place money on an account with your child's ID number for purchasing lunch for students at the secondary schools. You can also see what they are eating. Enfield little league will hold a fundraiser event on March 9th. A lot of our students play little league through middle school and high school when they don't make the school teams. A lot of kids benefit from little league. See her for tickets if you are interested.

EHS Student Representative Brandon Andexler thanked the Board for listening to their ideas about the school colors and mascot. He appreciates Fermi compiling the information. Buzz Robotics will hold a pasta supper fund raiser at St. Bernard's on February 22nd from 5-8:00 PM.

13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard that the Special Meeting minutes of January 15, 2013 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 7-0-1** passed with Mr. Fealy abstaining.

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard that the Special Meeting minutes of January 22, 2013 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard that the Special Meeting minutes of January 29, 2013 be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 6-0-2** passed with changes mentioned by Mr. Jonaitis and both Mr. Fealy and Mr. Jonaitis abstaining.

14. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYROLL

a. For the Month of December 2012/13

Mrs. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Enfield Board of Education accept the superintendent's certification as follows: "I hereby certify that in the month of December, total expenditures amount to \$4,672,441.50, broken down between payroll totaling \$4,098,015.94 and other accounts totaling \$574,425.56. 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 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

b. For the Month of January 2011/12

Mrs. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Enfield Board of Education accept the superintendent's certification as follows: "I hereby certify that in the month of January, total expenditures amount to \$4,832.88, broken down between payroll totaling \$0.00 and other accounts totaling \$4,832.88. 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 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

c. For the Month of January 2012/13

Mrs. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Enfield Board of Education accept the superintendent's certification as follows: "I hereby certify that in the month of January, total expenditures amount to \$8,073,206.16, broken down between payroll totaling \$4,013,418.94 and

other accounts totaling \$4,059,787.22. 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 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

d. Line Item Transfers, if any - None

15. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS - None

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Szewczak moved, seconded by Mr. Grady that the Board enters into Executive Session for Matter(s) Related to Security at 9:17 PM. A vote by **show-of-hands 7-1-0** passed with Mr. Jonaitis in dissent.

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

The Executive Session ended at 10:15 PM. No Board action occurred while in Executive Session.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Grady moved, seconded by Mr. Sirard to adjourn the Regular Meeting of February 12, 2013.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting stood adjourned at 10:16 PM.

Donna Szewczak
Secretary
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary