

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 24, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held in Council Chambers on October 24, 2023.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Madam Chair LeBlanc.
2. **INVOCATION OR MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Scott Ryder
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Scott Ryder
4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT:**
5. **ROLL CALL:**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jean Acree, Dr. Gerald Calnen, Janet Cushman, Joshua Hamre, Amanda Pickett, Scott Ryder, John Unghire, and Tina LeBlanc

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jonathan LeBlanc

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Christopher J. Drezek, Superintendent; Mr. Andrew B. Longey, Assistant Superintendent; Student Representatives Jimmy Padilla and Isabella Dinnald

6. **BOARD GUEST(S)**

a. Enfield Loaves & Fishes

Mr. Drezek welcomed Enfield Loaves and Fishes Executive Director Maya Matthews and Enfield Food Shelf Executive Director Kathleen Souvigny to tonight's meeting.

Both Ms. Matthews and Ms. Souvigny shared with the Board information about Enfield Loaves and Fishes, and the Enfield Food Shelf program in Enfield. As partners, they assist the Enfield community by offering meals and groceries. They also discussed their outreach programs that includes: a mobile pantry, food assistance for seniors, comfort kits, weekly food distribution, providing basic needs, home deliveries, before/after school snacks for the ERfC program and the ERfC summer camp program. They reviewed the Summer Lunch Bunch Program they provide for our students. They also discussed a proposal to continue the Lunch Bunch program during school breaks and partner with Enfield Public Schools and the Board of Education. We have reached the 50% mark for our families that receive free/reduced lunches in Enfield. We will launch this program starting with this year's winter break. We are looking for volunteers to assist us to make this program a success. Allied Services will partner with us to help provide volunteer services. Over the summer, we had other groups partner with us. We also provide other activities. It is endless what we can all accomplish.

Madam Chair thanked them for what they are doing for our Enfield community and families.

Mr. Ryder asked if this program will be offered on long holiday weekends and breaks and will the location for the food be along the Magic Carpet bus line? Ms. Souvigny stated the Magic Carpet will make special stops for us every hour during regular distribution and they extend that for the Lunch Bunch program. We will also hand out bus tokens for anyone that needs them. We have a lot of walkers and people that drive up. We are doing this at our old building that is located at 96 Alden Avenue. It is our plan to continue that.

Ms. Matthews added this might be larger and we might need multiple locations based on our

marketing and outreach. There is also a stop at Enfield Loaves & Fishes. Free lunches were given out during Covid and Alcorn was utilized as a stop.

Mr. Ryder added during Covid, we provided lunches at both JFK and Enfield High where he volunteered. A lot of students would ride up on their bicycles. He just wants to make sure we have accessibility for this.

Mr. Hamre thanked them for being here. This is a real wakeup call about our community. He also volunteers and on Thursday you had your largest group ever. This speaks volumes about what he has been saying about our families in our community with food insecurities. We are a community in need and our town is changing. Thank you for what you are both doing.

Mrs. Acree also thanked them both for everything you are doing for our Enfield community and for all your hard work and partnerships you have created. You both care deeply for our Enfield community.

Mrs. Pickett also thanked them and thanked all the volunteers and partnerships. It truly does take a village and you are both showing this. She loves the partnership idea with the school. Please share your information with us so we can plan and take advantage of your programs. We recently met with KITE and discussed family engagement work. She would love to expand our partnership.

Ms. Souvigney stated we met with the administrators, nurses and teachers and they are aware of our services. We served 2,700 last year. We are seeing 8 to 10 new families each week. We are hoping to dispel the stigma around food assistance, and that it is okay to come to us. We are a community, and we are here to help. That is the message we would like to get out.

Ms. Matthews added for Enfield Loaves & Fishes, we do not take any personal information or statistics. We are trending around 65,000 meals per year and we are continuing to grow. Children are coming to eat, we are seeing up to 20 per night. These are neighborhood kids that are bringing their friends with them. They do not feel embarrassed to come and eat. They are here because they are hungry. We also give them snacks when they leave.

Ms. Souvigney added with all our 9 programs we are offering to the Enfield community, we are serving 600,000 meals and that includes Enfield Loaves & Fishes. This tells you about the need here in Enfield.

Mr. Unghire thanked them. He used to drive the van that would go to businesses and pick-up food items, and he has also volunteered at the Enfield Food Shelf. He also thanked our local business for what they are doing for our community with their donations.

Ms. Souvigney stated we benefit from our community businesses. When Covid was here, stores became more automated. The grocery business is inefficient, and we benefit from that. We have both reached out to multiple groups, so we bring in enough food, so we have plenty to offer for anyone that is in need. We appreciate what every volunteer does. We have a lot of hard jobs. She has attended national conferences and what Enfield is doing is so much more for our community than other towns are doing. We have collaboration with the warming center, food and other things like this. We have a wonderful caring community here in Enfield.

Ms. Matthews added we are happy to offer this to our Enfield community.

Madam Chair thanked them for their presentation. As Mrs. Pickett mentioned, we met with KITE about family engagement. We had a different perspective of what family engagement was. This is part of this process and making a bridge with our Enfield community. Meeting with our administrators was a great step in the right direction.

Madam Chair added Lauren Andrews from our Eagle Academy is having a food shelf as a pilot

program that you are helping with. Ms. Souvigney stated we have a Vista and Christian Pasini is our Ameri Corps Vista. He helped with the lunch program with Lanie LeBron who was our former Vista and is now an Assistant Outreach Coordinator. Ms. Andrews has modified her room to include a food shelf to provide food to go home with students and provide them with the opportunity to learn how to shop, cook and learn about the value of food. We are excited about this opportunity.

Mr. Hamre asked what Vista is. Is it volunteers in service to Ameri Corps? Ms. Souvigney stated it is Ameri Corps. Mr. Hamre stated this program also deserves recognition.

Ms. Souvigney urged students to look into the Vista program. It is a great opportunity to learn about bridging and learning about different experiences.

Dr. Calnen added this was a wonderful presentation. We are getting into cold weather. Do you communicate with the department of social services and EPD, so we are not only addressing food concerns, but their needs and shelter needs. Ms. Souvigney stated we have a cold weather committee and Mr. Hamre has been on that committee. We meet now on a monthly basis and work closely with the warming center. We also provide comfort kits. They are available at Enfield Loaves & Fishes, Enfield Police Department and police officers have them available in their cars as well as the Fire Department and Social Services Department. We also have an emergency area for unhoused people in Enfield. We work very closely with our Social Services Department to provide them with what they need.

Ms. Matthews added the cold weather committee meets with everyone as mentioned by Ms. Souvigney. We are now meeting weekly with the Fire Department, Police Department, the Health Department, Social Services along with both her and Ms. Souvigney.

Madam Chair has said this before, with the grid iron club we offer weekly dinners and some of the players would take home food for their family members. She is glad to hear we have different groups that are helping our families. Our numbers for free/reduced lunch have increased. She would also love to see this program continue to grow. This is such a great opportunity for our community. This is another example of what makes Enfield great.

Ms. Souvigney stated that both she and Ms. Matthews are open to any ideas. We are modeling the Eagle Academy pantry with our Asnuntuck College pantry. Ms. Matthews added we are trying to make this fun and dispel the stigma about food.

Madam Chair stated during Covid, neighbors were helping other neighbors out with pantries on their lawns. It is important to help as a community. She views you as experts and is blown out of the water with what you are both doing. Christian Pasini attended the Kite meeting. It is great seeing someone who used to go to school with her kids, graduate from college and get involved in his community. He was very proud of the work you are all doing.

Ms. Souvigney added our volunteers are wonderful. It is very exciting to see young people getting involved with non-profits. One of our interns recently graduated and left to take a job at Connecticut Food Share. We are keeping someone younger in this industry and it is exciting. It would be great if more of our young people looked toward this area for job careers.

Madam Chair added many colleges are offering these kinds of career paths for working in non-profits. Thank you both for being here tonight.

Mr. Drezek added saying no to Ms. Souvigney and Ms. Matthews is very hard. They do not get the credit they deserve. We are looking forward to getting this partnership up and running. Thank you both for everything you are doing for the Enfield community.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. Student Representative Update

Mr. Drezek congratulated Mr. Padilla for receiving a perfect score on his math SAT's. Board members congratulated him.

Student Representative Jimmy Padilla provided the Board with an update about Senior Night for girls soccer, girls swimming, field hockey and boys soccer. The band participated in a competition on October 22nd. They will also participate in the Veteran's Day parade. Field hockey, girls soccer and girls volleyball have all qualified for State games. November 1st is the free college application date for UConn and Eastern. The free application date for Southern Connecticut starts on November 1st – 15th. Western New England and Central, applications are free for the whole month of November. The Star Bucks on Elm Street and the National Arts Society has set up a table for top bins for the collection of toys.

Student Representative Isabella Dinnald also provided the Board with an update about PSAT's start tomorrow by using iPads. Grades will be closing on October 31st, so report cards will be coming out. Get ready for the tests. The National Honor Society Induction Ceremony will be held on November 9th. The Spanish National Honor Society is holding a spice fundraiser event that ends on October 31st. Picture retakes will be held on November 2nd and senior portraits will be taken on October 30th. Conferences are being held tomorrow and on November 16th. Voting for senior superlatives will end on October 27th. Spanish world language students can apply to live with host families for two weeks in the summer for the upcoming Spain trip. Enfield Youth Council and Youth Services will hold a drug take back on Saturday, October 28th. If any students are interested in peer tutoring, please complete the form. Also, we just finished our first civil discourse class and are looking to fill the second and third groups. Senior Cap & Gowns will be held on November 30th. We will hold a blood drive on November 21st.

b. Special BOE Meeting – as presented

c. Staff PL – NS – as presented

d. EPS Update – as presented

Mr. Drezek added as a reminder, we are back to paid lunches except for students that qualify for free/reduced lunches. Our percentages of students receiving free/reduced lunches has increased since Covid. We are just shy of 50% at this time. It is important for the Board to know that half of our students are receiving free lunches. We are still accepting lunch applications through the month of October. This number will only increase since we are still processing applications. He would not be surprised to see us pass 50%. The application is based on family or household income. Half of our kids qualify. Mr. Hamre has previously mentioned this. He remembers when we hit 20% as a district. In 2007, we were at 23%. We have doubled our percentage in only a couple of years. Our demographics have changed, and our kids and family needs have also changed and that requires us to change with them.

Mr. Drezek added as this Board signs off and the next Board will sit up here in a couple of weeks, it is important to understand what our kids and families need. It is also important to recognize the kids that are eligible are getting lunch free now for this year only. This is a real issue Board members need to understand, and we will be addressing this again in September. These kids will still be coming to school, and they will still be hungry. That is why partnership with Enfield Loaves & Fishes and the Food Shelf are so important. Our demographics are changing and that is not a bad thing. We talked about stigma tonight. These are our kids, and these are the needs of our kids. We have responsibility to meet the needs of our kids and families.

8. AUDIENCES

Madam Chair stated she will allow 4 minutes for audience member participation.

Stacy Thurston, Diamond Drive – Mrs. Thurston was a former Board member, and she is here to express her gratitude to each Board member for volunteering your time by serving on the

Board. She knows this can be a thankless job at times. She does not like politics and that is one of the reasons she left. She has been watching and served the longest with Madam Chair. You have gone out of your way to praise or thank our students, staff and parents for the amazing work they do every day. Even when facing ridicule and criticism, your unwavering support of our students and staff was there. She now sees this support as an EPS staff member. She knows that our Chairperson has our backs. On many Wednesdays when she comes to her school, she will hear someone say thank God we have Madam Chair. You go out of your way and the kids that she works with, especially the little girls, now have a role model. She is very proud that she was able to serve with you and is lucky to call you her friend. She wished each Board member good luck. We are watching and are proud of the work you have done.

William Delaney, JFK Teacher & VP ETA – Mr. Delaney stated over 130 EPS teachers live in Enfield. Enfield teachers value our students. Your decisions will affect the lives of many and our mission as educators. He urged the voters to vote for leaders that understand the needs of our students and families. The ETA supports the democratic slate and share their priorities. The entire right side of the Board is running again and that speaks volumes. They need to continue the great work they have started for all our students. Please support this group of candidates for the Board of Education and Town Council who will govern our town. They will raised standards for our students. They are dedicated to improving learning for all students. He urged everyone to go out and vote on November 7th for our talented responsible leaders who will continue the progress they started for all our students and will continue to make a stronger Enfield.

Maureen Griffin, Abbe Road – Mrs. Griffin thanked the Enfield Food Shelf and Enfield Loaves & Fishes for their presentation. We have increased our free/reduced lunch status to 50%. She urged everyone to remember this when you think about why we are an Alliance District. Our kids and families are facing many challenges. Our parents are doing a good job. Is there a number we need to get to where we will all receive free lunch? She urged everyone to think about the needs of our students when you are talking. The stigma for needing help should not be made light of. She also urged everyone to vote for the democratic slate. They have a real plan.

Liz Davis, North Maple Street – Mrs. Davis stated that becoming an Alliance District did not just happen in two years. Our schools have not been properly funded for many years. She was on the Town Council and the schools needs were not met. Politics can be dirty. She has served 24 years for our country. Do not listen to the misinformation that is being spread out there. Our CIP and fund balances have been drained by the past Town Council leaders that were in charge. This all happened before the 2021-23 term. Watch the past TC meeting for 16 years. There are many lies being told. Check the facts. She urged the graduating class of 2023 to vote. Vote to save our democracy and our country.

9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. Acree provided the Board with an update about happenings at Prudence Crandall. Staff and students participated in the Pink Out and they raised \$1,200. They will hold their Trunk or Treat on October 27th at Asnuntuck Community College. They will hold a Pride Assembly on October 31st. They are all working very hard at Prudence Crandall learning new skills. The new kid governor from Prudence Crandall is Madelyn Tomalonis. The grade 4 students have been working on STEAM by using potatoes for batteries. They will hold a clothing drive and the PTO will meet virtually on November 21st at 6 PM.

Mrs. Acree thanked Mr. Unghire for serving on the Board of Education. This will be his last meeting. She thanked him for his service to our Enfield community, and it has been a pleasure serving with you. She wished him good luck and you will be missed.

Dr. Calnen showed the audience Bernie the Bear who he had coffee with at the Sparkler

conference he attended this morning. KITE was also at this meeting. We discussed the importance of play. The Sparkler program is now being used at some pediatrician offices. EPS is a partner with KITE. We discussed results at the KITE meeting held on October 16th, family engagement and the 5 goals. He expressed some concerns that basic needs that need to be met before we look at higher needs (he reviewed the needs) as mentioned by Maureen Griffin. There are ALICE families that we need to understand and address their needs. There are no easy solutions, but family screenings could help. This coordination can be expensive so our less fortunate family's needs can be met so they can engage in productive relationships with the schools system.

Mrs. Cushman recognized Mr. LeBlanc and Mr. Unghire for their commitment and service to serving the Enfield community as Board of Education members. She thanked both of them.

Mrs. Cushman discussed banning books discussion that started last year. This conversation came from having objective guidelines in place for the selection of books. We want the very best books for our youth. Some of these cases have found their way into the courts. She discussed some past court cases. Districts have the prerogative to set guidelines.

Mr. Hamre stated JFK will hold conferences tomorrow and on November 1st. The JFK Club Catalog for students has been added to their website. Students will participate in the Halloween Spirit day being held on October 31st. He also reviewed items from the principal's newsletter.

Mr. Hamre attended Meet the Candidates night. Everyone had a great time and the conversations with the students were wonderful.

Mr. Hamre added the 50% free/reduced lunch status number is staggering. Our numbers have continued to increase. Social stigma can prevent people from getting the resources they need. This is based on income in order to receive free lunch. When we reorganized our elementary schools and closed Alcorn, it was because of this and there was no bonding left on the building that needed to be repaid back to the State. They did this as a cost saving measure and because the school was racially imbalanced. The district received some fines because of this. Closing any other school would have solved this problem. He wished this neighborhood school were still available.

Mr. Hamre spoke about the Town Charter and changing Board of Education membership without any political affiliation. Natalie still needs a kidney. He thanked Mr. LeBlanc for his service. It has been nice serving with you. He also added that ALICE families are suffering.

Mr. Hamre stated the book banning discussion started before 2021 when the policy for protecting our military and LGBTQ families was being discussed. We are protecting our families with our Board policies. We should not limit our policies and we need to keep all kinds of books available to our students.

Mr. Unghire stated this is his last meeting. He grew up in Enfield and attended school in Enfield. It has been an honor serving on the Board of Education. He wished his fellow Board members good luck.

Mr. Unghire spoke about a scary story he heard. The point of the story is kids do not know what is always best for them. As a member of the Board, he was committed to putting safeguards in place for our students regarding certain materials. Advocating for the removal of Board members and the anything goes mentality is dangerous. He appreciates and respects our teachers. He thanked them for all for what you are doing for our students. He also thanked the Republican Town Committee nominating him and the residents for electing him to serve on the Board of Education.

Mrs. Pickett recognized one of our parents Danielle Girard for receiving the 2023 Parent

Involvement Recognition Award. We are so lucky to have so many amazing parents in our district. Congratulations Danielle.

Mrs. Pickett stated she also attended Meet the Candidates night. Everyone did such an amazing job. She looks forward to this event. If you want to know what is going on, talk to our students.

Mrs. Pickett urged parents to check your junk e-mail folders. Many important messages from your child's school may be going there. You can also find the newsletters on Enfieldpto.com. Parent/teacher conferences are coming up. She provided an update on school events at Parkman: picture day is coming up, Trunk or Treat, student assembly, Halloween costumes. She also urged everyone to support family engagement & KITE. We are lucky to have them as a partner.

Mrs. Pickett stated it has been an honor to be part of the Enfield Board of Education. She reviewed BOE Policy #1000 Concept & Roles in Community Relations. She urged Board members to uphold this policy. We are deeply underfunded, and that is why we are an Alliance District. Our buildings need repairs. We have worked hard as Board members over the past two years and have plans in place. She thanked our residents for allowing her to represent them on the Board. She hopes to be re-elected to the Enfield Board of Education and urged everyone to vote on November 7th.

Mr. Ryder provided the Board with an update about Henry Barnard. He thanked Mr. Graham and staff members for everything they are doing for our students. He also urged parents to sign up for parent/teacher conferences. The next Barnard PTO meeting will be on October 27th. He reviewed upcoming events for Eli Whitney: Wolf Walk, Mad Science starts on Thursdays next week, PTO meeting will be held on November 1st, Sister School Trunk or Treat on November 2nd, parent/teacher conferences, coin challenge, and One Book – 3 Schools.

Mr. Ryder thanked everyone that participated in our first annual Pink Out Day. We raised just under \$4K or \$3,800. He is very proud of everyone that participated. PJ day will be held on December 8th.

Mr. Ryder thanked our families and staff. All newsletters are posted on enfieldpto.com. Our 5,100 students deserve a lot of credit. There are many different things that motivate our kids, and they are the reasons our kids come to school. He thanked our students for all the transitions they have endured. He also thanked his fellow Board members for the past two years.

Madam Chair stated she also attended the Kite meeting. She learned a lot about family engagement, and we cannot make assumptions about what they need. The families need to tell us what they need in order to be engaged. There are definite defining tiers. We can start this bridge with our family partnership with Loaves & Fishes and the Enfield Food Shelf. The Kite meeting was very thought provoking.

Madam Chair asked about some of the sports games that have been cancelled due to bussing concerns. Will the JFK games be made up? Mr. Drezek stated it is not just Enfield that is having transportation concerns. They are doing everything they can to make up these games. Madam Chair added they need to make up the games at the high school because they are conference games.

Madam Chair recognized 4 graduating soccer seniors (Mia, Sam, Abby and Sidney). They were freshman when her daughter had her senior night back in 2016. They are wonderful young ladies who are strong athletes and are great community members. Congratulations.

Madam Chair stated EHS will hold Career day on November 22nd. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Ceniglio. She will participate again in this event.

Madam Chair thanked Mrs. Thurston for her kind words. This is her last Board meeting and possibly her last meeting. She thanked our EPS staff members for everything they have done for our students. You have worked through unprecedented times. She also thanked Mr. Drezek and Mr. Longey for their leadership and vision and for leading this district and always focusing on our kids and their needs.

Madam Chair added our schools and town facilities need repairs. There has been a lack of long term planning and using CIP funds to keep mil rates and taxes down. This has caught up to us now. The Town budget has increased by \$21 million since 2011 and the education budget was increased by \$10 million. We have lost a lot of services in our town and gained many fees for our services. Taxpayers and residents need to understand the education budget. Taxpayers and residents need to know where our money is going. We need to ask how did we get here.

Madam Chair thanked staff and Town members who have volunteered on our school modernization committee. This plan is a big step forward for our town with a long term plan. We do not need more empty buildings. We are also planning for universal Pre-K that will be yet another State mandate. We have strong educators and administrators in Enfield. Talk to them to see what they are doing for our kids.

Madam Chair spoke about her nephew Jonathan LeBlanc who has been part of the Board of Education for 4 years. He has been very dedicated to his party. She expressed concerns she has witnessed made by his fellow republican member on the Board and Town Council. This behavior was also witnessed by members of her family. This behavior is unacceptable. Both Jonathan and I have put love and respect above politics as a republican and democrat and have worked together for our town. Johnathan knew where she stood on issues, and she knew where he stood on issues. This is what makes democracy great, that we can agree to disagree and still get the job done.

Madam Chair thanked both Mrs. Acree and Mrs. Cushman for their service and dedication during this term. She also thanked Mr. Ryder, Mrs. Pickett, Dr. Calnen and Mr. Hamre for their service and everything they have done for our schools and students.

Madam Chair stated this past term has been like no other term. She has been extremely honored to serve as the Board Chair. We have received threats, e-mails and were intimidated. What has happened in Enfield? We are all residents and taxpayers in this Town. This disruption and chaos was created by political ideologies and cost taxpayers money for FOI requests for their narratives. We also needed to involve the Enfield Police Department. There were times when we did not feel safe and that includes our families. Our staff members were ridiculed and bullied. Teacher morale was at an all time low. Retaining and recruiting teachers has become even more challenging in Enfield. This has affected her personally. She has learned not to let anyone's ignorance stop her from being the best person she can be and as the Board chair. It has been an honor to represent our wonderful students and amazing staff that makes up Enfield Public Schools.

Madam Chair thanked her husband and her three children. They are the reason she started this journey. Thank you.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Policy Revisions – Second Reading

Mrs. Pickett moved, seconded by Mr. Hamre, that the Enfield Board of Education approves the proposed policy revisions as presented for a second reading.

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

b. Discussion & Action if any regarding Enfield Mental Health & Wellness – Tabled 09-12-23)

Mr. Ryder stated this item will remain tabled until the next Board has been set and the Policy Committee can meet to discuss the Mental Health and Wellness Committee about forming this new subcommittee.

11. NEW BUSINESS: None

12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Curriculum – Mrs. Pickett reported the Curriculum Committee met on October 19th. We discussed the program of studies changes for several courses. We also discussed the vision of a graduate. Our next meeting is on November 16th, but she believes we will cancel this meeting.

Finance – Dr. Calnen reported the Finance Committee met on October 17th to review financial reports and end of year reports. Our next meeting will be held on November 6th.

Policy – Mr. Ryder reported the Policy Committee cancelled their November 21st meeting and will meet again on December 19th.

Leadership – Madam Chair reported Board Leadership has not met.

PK-5 School Modernization Committee – Mr. Ryder does not have an update for the School Modernization Committee.

Mr. Drezek added we are waiting for the final report from Russell & Dawson. Once the report is completed, Mr. Dague will let us know so the committee can reconvene.

Joint Facility – Mr. Ryder reported he does not have an update for the Joint Facilities Committee. They will meet next on October 26th.

JFK Building Committee – Mr. Ryder reported the JFK Building Committee met on October 19th.

Joint Security Committee – Mr. Ryder is not sure when the Joint Security Committee will meet next.

Enfield Mental Health Wellness & Workgroup – Dr. Calnen does not have an update for this committee.

Enfield Cultural Arts Commission – Mr. Hamre provided an update about the Opera House players and their next play Jesus Christ Superstar and about auditions being held for their next play A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder. Open mic night will be held on November 1st. There is an art exhibit at the Pearl Street Library. They will hold a reception on November 16th for this artist. November 4th there will be a public reading of the book Fahrenheit 451. A fundraiser event will be held on October 28th for scholarships for PFlag. The EHS Lamplighters production of Ax of Murder will be held on November 17-19.

Mr. Hamre also congratulated the EHS football team for their outstanding season.

13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Hamre moved, seconded by Dr. Calnen that the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 10, 2023, be approved. A vote by **show-of-hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

14. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS AND PAYROLL

Dr. Calnen moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the following line item transfers:

From: Account #100 Salaries	\$1,667,192.00
Account #400 Repairs/Maintenance	20,503.00
Account #500 Support Services	504,238.00
Account #600 Tech/Supplies/Material	248,698.00
Account #700 Equipment	343,789.00
Account #900 Other use of Funds	<u>32,805.00</u>
Total	\$2,817,225.00
To: Account #200 Benefits	\$1,827,022.00
Account #300 Professional Services	<u>990,203.00</u>
Total	\$2,817,225.00

A vote by **show of hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

Month of June 2023

Dr. Calnen moved, seconded by Mr. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of June 2023 the total expenditures amount to \$1,782,537.88, broken down between payroll totaling \$1,100,059.02 and other accounts totaling \$682,478.86 and;
- 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 document.

A vote by **show of hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

Dr. Calnen moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of June 2023 total Grant and Head Start expenditures amount to \$439,159.37 broken down between payroll totaling \$5,048,859.94 and other accounts totaling \$4,609,701.57; and
- 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 document.

A vote by **show of hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

Month of July 2023

Dr. Calnen moved, seconded by Mr. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of July 2023 the total expenditures amount to \$2,625,610.12, broken down between payroll totaling \$724,426.64 and other accounts totaling \$1,901,183.48 and;

- 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 document.

A vote by **show of hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

Dr. Calnen moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of July 2023 total Grant and Head Start expenditures amount to \$60,905.80 broken down between payroll totaling \$60,905.80 and other accounts totaling \$.00; and
- 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 document.

A vote by **show of hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

Month of August 2023

Dr. Calnen moved, seconded by Mr. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of August 2023 the total expenditures amount to \$2,708,781.21, broken down between payroll totaling \$795,295.48 and other accounts totaling \$1,913,485.73 and;
- 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 document.

A vote by **show of hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

Dr. Calnen moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of August 2023 total Grant and Head Start expenditures amount to \$290,609.59 broken down between payroll totaling \$71,240.30 and other accounts totaling \$219,369.29; and
- 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 document.

A vote by **show of hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

Month of September 2023

Dr. Calnen moved, seconded by Mr. Pickett that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of September 2023 the total expenditures amount to \$9,741,520.80, broken down between payroll totaling \$7,399,105.67 and other accounts totaling \$2,342,415.13 and;

- 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 document.

A vote by **show of hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

Dr. Calnen moved, seconded by Mr. Hamre that the Enfield Board of Education accepts the superintendent's certification for:

- The month of September 2023 total Grant and Head Start expenditures amount to \$630,725.87 broken down between payroll totaling \$521,750.93 and other accounts totaling \$108,974.94; and
- 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 document.

A vote by **show of hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously.

15. CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATION - None

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

17. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hamre moved, seconded by Mrs. Acree to adjourn the Regular Meeting of October 24, 2023.

All ayes, motion passed unanimously. Meeting stood adjourned at 9:26 PM.

Jonathan LeBlanc
Secretary
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Zalucki, Recording Secretary