

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
January 27, 2016
EAST WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL – Room N4**

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chair C. Simonelli called the meeting to order at 7:30p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair C. Simonelli led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ATTENDANCE

Chair C. Simonelli, Vice Chair Dr. G. Michna, Secretary R. Reichle, K. Bilodeau, P. Nelson, S. Morgan, W. Raber, Superintendent Dr. T. Kane Absent: N. DeSousa, D. Swaim

Also present: Dr. C. DeBarge, A. Paquette, E. Keleher, K. Hellerich, L. Foxx, BOE Student Representative D. Couture, BOS Liaison D. Nelson, community members

IV. OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

The 2015-2016 2nd Quarter Outstanding Student Award recipients were introduced to the Board by their respective building principal:

Janiyah Mathews – Grade K
Anthony Piteo – Grade 8
Alexander Martin – Grade 12

V. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

Alliance District School Building Grant

On a motion by S. Morgan, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board voted to approve the added agenda item: Alliance District School Building Grant. The vote was unanimous.

VI. MINUTES

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board voted to approve the 1/13/16 regular meeting minutes as amended. The vote was unanimous.

Dr. G. Michna also noted his unavailability to attend the upcoming Day on the Hill due to the scheduled state SAT administration scheduled on the same day and his need to remain in his district during the test administration.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

D. Couture outlined the news and events at all three schools.

Dr. Kane also provided an overview of today's senior luncheon hosted at the EWMS.

IX. PERSONNEL REPORT

The Board reviewed the current report provided in their packet.

X. FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Paquette reviewed the FY16 Report Update provided in Board member packets. He reported spending is progressing as planned. He also informed the Board he conducts frequent meetings with the district Food Service Director and also the FRC Director.

Dr. Kane noted the Food Service emphasis at the high school is to increase participation and explore additional food options.

A. Paquette also informed the Board the district just received (half-way through the school year) Title I and Title II funding. The Title I Grant was less than what we anticipated and, therefore, the difference will be absorbed in our budget.

Dr. G. Michna stated his concerns regarding the negative language toward the BOE contained in the recent BOF meeting minutes. Dr. Kane provided an overview of the recent meeting between the BOE Business Office personnel and the Town Treasurer. Without prior notification to the BOE staff, the BOF Chair and Town Administrator attended the meeting. Dr. G. Michna stated his concern that the BOE had not been notified of the outcome of the internal meeting and that of the BOF meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the merits of meeting jointly with the BOF versus a small group meeting (Treasurer, BOF Chair, First Selectman, TMS, Superintendent, BOE Chair and Vice Chair). The agreements reached in the small group would be brought back to both Boards at a joint meeting. Further discussed was the need for better communication, to be better educated on both accounting practices (Town and BOE), put aside issues and look for a way to resolve the issues.

Dr. Kane pointed out that the BOF is questioning the ability of the BOE is to make budget transfers. She stated this ability is provided by law and BOE policy. The BOE budget is a one-line item budget. Transfers within that one line are allowed. They are reported to the BOE in their monthly financial report on the TMS website.

XI. CURRICULUM REPORT

Dr. DeBarge presented the most recent STAR data:

- BBES Literacy & Math
- EWMS Reading & Math
- EWHS Reading & Math

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE

Policy Updates (2nd Reading)

- a. 4152.6/4252.6 Personal Leaves/Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)
- b. 5131.911 Hazing: Bullying Prevention and Intervention

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by R. Reichle, the Board voted to approve the second reading of policy 4152.6/4252.6 – Personal Leaves/Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). The vote was unanimous.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by R. Reichle, the Board voted to approve the second reading of policy 5131.911 Hazing: Bullying Prevention and Intervention. The vote was unanimous.

Approved Added Agenda Item: Alliance District School Buildings Grant

Dr. Kane reported her attendance at the recent EW Building Commission on Monday evening. She reviewed the Alliance District School Buildings Grant Application submitted on behalf of the EWPS and provided a copy to Board members. The packet included the application, our submission documentation, and the award letter from the state. She noted we would be resubmitting an additional application to include clarification on the following submission items from the first application: removal of oil tanks, replacement of windows, kitchen floor to cafeteria, 4 exterior doors, etc.

Dr. Kane is asking the Board to allow the Building Commission, per their offer, to oversee the projects associated with this grant. This is a project funded by the state, not the town, so they are not required to oversee the projects.

The Board offered their gratitude to the Building Commission for taking on this project.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board voted to allow the EW Building Commission to oversee the Alliance District School Buildings Grant projects. The vote was unanimous.

XIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

Updates:

1. BBES Modular Project Update – Dr. Kane reported the 4-unit will be delivered and installed on February 18. The 10-unit is on track for delivery and scheduled to be up and running for the start of school in September.
2. Alliance District School Buildings Grant – This item was discussed earlier on the agenda.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE

EWPS 2016-2017 School Calendars – The Board members reviewed the copy of the EWPS 2016-2017 School Calendars provided in their packets.

On a motion by W. Raber, 2nd by K. Bilodeau, the Board approved the EWPS 2016-2017 School Calendars as presented. The vote was unanimous.

XV. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

None

XVI. LIAISONS' REPORTS

Chair C. Simonelli reported her attendance at the recent BOS meeting. The BOS moved to allow \$500 to provide for a bus to the legislative hearing on the gun range on 2/2. The request has since been canceled.

XVII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

D. Nelson, BOS Liaison, stated she was able to successfully facilitate, as a liaison, for the Fire Department. She offered to facilitate a meeting between the BOF and BOE.

XVIII. MISCELLANEOUS

K. Bilodeau noted she is still receiving a number of “robo calls” and, due to the quantity, wants to ensure the messages are being viewed as useful and informative by parents.

She also inquired as to the number of lock-downs that are occurring at the schools.

XIX. CORRESPONDENCE

- Calendar of Events
- CHC Update
- State Testing Dates

XX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by S. Morgan, the Board voted at 9:40 p.m. to enter into executive session to discuss contract negotiations and safety/security. The vote was unanimous.

In attendance: Chair C. Simonelli, Vice Chair, Dr. G. Michna, Secretary, R. Reichle, K. Bilodeau, P. Nelson, S. Morgan, Dr. T. Kane
Absent: N. DeSousa, D. Swaim, W. Raber

The Board adjourned executive session at 9:59 p.m.

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XXI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by S. Morgan, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:59 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kalesnik
Recording Secretary

Randi Reichle
Secretary

Approved: 2/10/16