

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF
January 25, 2017
EAST WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL – Room N4**

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chair C. Simonelli called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.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, N. DeSousa, D. Swaim, K. Carey-Trull, Dr. T. Kane Absent: S. Morgan, W. Raber

Also present: Dr. C. DeBarge, Student Representative D. Couture, Dr. P. Tudryn, E. Keleher, H. Thomas, K. Hellerich, D. Rouillard, L. Foxx, M. Ryan, A. Paquette, First Selectman R. Maynard, EWEA President J. Jette, parents, community members

IV. OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

The 2nd quarter Outstanding Student Award recipients were introduced to the Board by their respective building principal:

Nathan Grushinski – BBES

Katelynn Smalley– EWMS

Jacob Rhodes – EWHS

On a motion by R. Reichle, 2nd by K. Bilodeau, the Board voted to take the agenda out of order and enter executive session at 7:36 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations: assistant superintendent. The vote was unanimous.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:00 p.m.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to approve the job description for the position of Assistant Superintendent for Student Services as presented. The vote was unanimous.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Dr. Patrick Tudryn to the position of Assistant Superintendent for Student Services at which time that Dr. DeBarge transitions to the position of Superintendent of Schools. The vote was 6-0-1. (R. Reichle abstained for personal reasons related to her daycare.)

V. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

None

VI. MINUTES

On a motion by N. DeSousa, 2nd by R. Reichle, the Board approved the January 11, 2017 special meeting minutes as presented. The vote was unanimous.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

First Selectman R. Maynard, 7 Blue Heron Way, noted the pleasure of Dr. Kane's attendance at the recent 250th Anniversary meeting. They are looking forward to the school district's participation in the celebration.

VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

D. Couture reported on the recent news and events at all three schools.

IX. PERSONNEL REPORT

The Board reviewed the current report provided in their packet.

X. FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Paquette summarized the most current report provided to the Board. Discussion ensued relative to discussion with the Town on the option of the 1% carryover. He informed the Board we would be placed on the next BOF meeting agenda in February for further discussion.

XI. CURRICULUM REPORT

Dr. DeBarge outlined the updated the PreK & kindergarten registration process.

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE

None

XIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

1. Updates:

a. Broad Brook Elementary School Modular Project Update:

Dr. Kane noted ModSpace is no longer filing for bankruptcy. They restructured their debt and are now solvent. She also reported the following:

- We are still awaiting dividers in the special education room
- Agreements are in progress for the connectors
- Sidewalks and landscaping will be done in the summer
- VCT flooring will also be redone

b. Alliance Capital Grant Update: Dr. Kane reported the following:

- Air conditioning unit has been installed and is ready for use, when necessary
- The vestibule is now open for business
- The shades for the main office windows are due to be delivered in the near future
- Window bids open this Thursday and will be reviewed by the Building Commission - funds have been put aside for abatement

2. FY18 Budget – The administration will be creating budgets with staff, Dr. Kane, Dr. DeBarge and A. Paquette next week. A. Paquette will prepare the budgets and present them to the Board at their February budget workshops.

3. BOF Meetings – January 18 and February 15 - The BOF was unable to include discussion regarding the 1% carryover on their 1/18 agenda. This item will be placed on their 2/15 agenda. Dr. Kane noted they took the opportunity to provide them with a written outline regarding the loss of grants funds \$215,153 between the Scheff grant, ECS Alliance, and special education grant reduction.

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A copy of the written document was provided in Board packets for their review.

4. Meet & Greet New Superintendent – A copy of the “Meet and Greet” schedule was provided in Board packets. Chair C. Simonelli noted the reschedule date for the 1/23 event, canceled due to inclement weather, is 3/2.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE

None

XV. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

1. Alliance Capital Grant Award 2017-2018 – Dr. Kane informed the Board we have been awarded a new capital grant in the amount of \$580,000 to be expended by June 2018. This grant is subject to Bond Commission approval with a 3/31 deadline for grant application submission. If approved, we will be looking to make improvements at the middle school and high school. Dr. Kane provided kudos to the Town Building Commission for their work with our projects while conducting their daily duties. The question arose as to why they would be providing us with an Alliance capital grant if we are no longer going to be considered an Alliance district. It was suggested that perhaps they will consider us an Alliance district for FY18.
2. Proposed Casino Update – Dr. Kane reported the Town Department Heads recently met to discuss the impact and mitigating impact the casino will have on the community. The Town has been asked to create a host agreement, along with other factors for which the Tribal Nation can base their decision. There were many collaborative ideas and productive discussions at this meeting. She noted the district will be impacted, whether the casino is here or in Windsor Locks. One of the largest impacts will be the number of English Language Learner (ELL) students who will move into the district because of work opportunity for their parents. K. Bilodeau noted the First Selectman mentioned Dr. Kane multiple times at the recent Town Casino Forum acknowledging her research in the matter. Her efforts are appreciated by all.
3. Radon Testing – Dr. Kane reported this testing is mandated every 5 years. Parents were notified of the testing via website posting. The cost for the testing will be absorbed by our maintenance budget.

XVI. LIAISONS' REPORTS

Dr. Kane, on behalf of S. Morgan, informed the Board he brought her to the 250th Committee meeting. The events planned from January 2018-September 2018 provides us ample time to plan. She noted floats will be included in the parade and thought it would be great for our students to get involved in one. We will bring information to PLC Leaders for them to share with their groups.

XVII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

XVIII. MISCELLANEOUS

None

XIX. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Calendars of Events
2. Community, Coffee & Conversation event flyer

XX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to enter their second executive session at 8:55 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations: Mohegan Sun/MMCT. The vote was unanimous.

First Selectman, R. Maynard joined the Board and Dr. Kane in executive session.

S Morgan entered at 9:02 p.m.

The Board came out of executive session at 9:38pm.

XXI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by S. Morgan, the Board voted to adjourn at 9:39 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kalesnik
Recording Secretary

Randi Reichle
Board Secretary

Approved: 2/7/17