

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF
September 9, 2015
EAST WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL – Room N-4**

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman C. Mickey called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman C. Mickey led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ATTENDANCE

Chairman C. Mickey, Vice Chair C. Simonelli, Secretary R. Reichle, P. Nelson, N. DeSousa, S. Morgan, W. Raber and Dr. T. Kane Absent: K. Bilodeau and Dr. George Michna

Also present: Dr. C. DeBarge, Dr. P. Tudryn, E. Keleher, H. Thomas, K. Hellerich, D. Rouillard, L. Foxx, M. Ryan, L. Zimmerman, C. Smith, J. Richards, community members

IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

1. Co-op Sports Transportation
2. Financial Report Update
3. Community Partnership Award

On a motion by C. Simonelli, 2nd by R. Reichle, the Board voted to approve the added agenda items. The vote was unanimous.

V. MINUTES

On a motion by C. Simonelli, 2nd by R. Reichle, the Board voted to approve the August 26, 2015 meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

VII. SCHOOL REPORT

Broad Brook Elementary School – L. Foxx, M. Ryan, L. Zimmerman and C. Smith outlined Alliance Grant work being conducted, in the classrooms.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE

None

IX. UNFINISHED BUSIESS: DISCUSSION

1. Broad Brook Elementary School Modular Project Update – Dr. Kane reported her attendance at the recent construction meetings. The project is on track according to the timeline and the sprinkler work is to be completed on 2nd shift or on weekends as not to impede the daily educational operations. The Board reviewed a copy of the timeline provided in their packets.
2. Nurse's Suite Update - The Building Committee recently voted to award the bid to the lowest bidder. The roof work will begin on September 22nd, with an expected completion of the overall project at the end of October or beginning of November.

3. Co-op Sports Transportation – Dr. Kane responded to an inquiry posed at a prior meeting as to why we do not transport our students who participate in the co-op sports program. Due to budget constraints, transportation for these programs were cut. Dr. Kane provided an outline of the associated costs.
4. Financial Report Update – Dr. Kane provided an update on the invitation extended to the BOS and BOF to conduct a joint meeting to discuss end-of-year expenditures. The September 10th date does not work for the BOF. We are still waiting for a response relative to their availability to meet on September 29th. The First Selectman thought it would be best that the BOF and BOE meet without the BOS. Therefore, the BOS will not be participating in the proposed meeting. Meantime, A. Paquette and K. Lord have been working on reconciliation of expenditures.
5. Community Partnership Award – The BOE will establish the award and set parameters relative to nominations. Discussion ensued relative to whether or not a sub-committee should be established to oversee the initiative. R. Reichle, P. Nelson, N. DeSousa and S. Morgan volunteered to serve on the sub-committee.

X. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE

1. November 10, 2015 Scheduled Meeting Change – Dr. Kane reminded the Board that the 2014-2015 BOE meeting schedule was established before the EWPS 2015-2016 School Calendar was approved. At that time, it was thought students would not be attending school on November 11th in observance of Veterans Day, so the November BOE meeting was scheduled to take place on November 10th. In accordance with the new state regional calendar, our students will now be in session on November 11th. Dr. Kane inquired as to whether or not the Board would like to maintain their regular Wednesday meeting schedule and reschedule the November 10th meeting to November 11th. It was the consensus of the Board to keep the November 10th meeting date.
2. Sheff Grant/Recreational Program – The Board was informed that the district qualifies for additional monies for small capital grant projects in the estimated amount of \$22,000. The funding would go to establish an integrated setting for students enrolled in the district through the Open Choice program to make them feel a part of our community. This would also be an area that students could access during the school day as a privilege. The proposed location would be the large open area in the rear of the high school near the IT Department. Funds would be used to purchase furniture, table games, a television, DVDs, a refrigerator, microwave, etc. The program would run on a weekly basis from Monday through Thursday at no charge to students and transportation would run as usual in the district with our current resources and late bus schedules. One teacher and two paraprofessionals would staff the program at a total cost of \$34,000. We would be able to accommodate funding via the cost savings incurred during our hiring process.

Discussion ensued relative to annual funding for the program, as well as the cap on student participation.

J. Richards thought establishing this program would complement the Teen Center.

The Board will hold a vote on this initiative once we receive grant award notification.

XI. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

1. SBAC Data Update – Dr. DeBarge provided a synopsis of the state testing results in Math, English, Grade 5 CMT Science, Grade 8 CMT Science, Grade 10 CAPT Science, SAT Reading, SAT Math, and SAT Writing
2. Alliance District School Building Grant - The Department of Education is offering funding to Alliance Districts for capital projects. They have set aside \$50,000,000 state-wide for these projects. The grant award will be based on population which will qualify us for \$1,250,000. The funding could not be used for school construction or to supplant current construction projects. Dr. Kane requested Board input relative to district priorities. October 30th is the first submission deadline, with other deadlines throughout the year. All funds would need to be expended by June 30, 2017. She offered Board participation at administrative meetings relative to district priorities. C. Simonelli and S. Morgan posed their interest to participate.
3. Community Newsletter Update – Dr. Kane informed the Board of our quarterly newsletter initiative. A district newsletter will be sent out to all community members, with the first edition slated to be sent on September 18th.
4. Safety/Security Update – Dr. Kane noted our district safety/security plan was sent to the state at their request. We, as a district, have a lot of good practices in place, but there are also areas that require improvements. She approached Mr. Knapp (current EWHS ISS staff member/ AD and former correctional officer) for a transfer into a safety position in the district. He will serve to fill the gap between knowledge from our SRO and administration. He will also address student discipline issues to free up administration to tend to academic leadership roles, while retaining his role as Athletic Director.

XII. LIAISONS' REPORT

C. Simonelli reported the BOS, at their August 4th meeting, voted to sign on to a non-binding "Energize CT" program that could result in a reduction of 20% energy consumption and inquired if the BOE was made aware of such.

W. Raber informed the Board that he and Randi Reichle, as BOE liaisons, have been invited to attend the FRC Advisory Board meeting to be held on September 16th.

XIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

XIV. MISCELLANEOUS

W. Raber inquired if the grubs and EWHS playing fields were treated over the summer.

He also provided kudos to E. Keleher and R. Knapp for their efforts in accommodating the EW Youth Basketball at EWHS due to the loss of use of the BBES gymnasium due to the construction project.

His final note was to announce that the Athletic Club would be installing a new backboard at EWHS as well as baseball and softball batting cages.

N. DeSousa provided kudos to the BBES administration for a well-received PreK orientation.

Dr. Kane shared the process in which she used to determine early releases over the past two days due to heat and humidity. The heat, humidity, room temperatures in classrooms and the number of students who were seen for heat-related issues contribute to her determination.

XV. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Calendar of Events
2. BBES & EWMS Newsletter

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by S. Morgan, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Randi Reichle
Secretary

Ann M. Kalesnik
Recording Secretary

Approved: 9/29/15