

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF
September 28, 2016
EAST WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL – Room N4**

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chair C. Simonelli called the meeting to order at 7:34 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, K. Bilodeau, W. Raber, D. Swaim, Dr. T. Kane
Absent: Secretary R. Reichle, N. DeSousa, S. Morgan

Also present: Dr. C. DeBarge, Dr. P. Tudryn, E. Keleher, H. Thomas, L. Foxx, M. Ryan, A. Paquette, J. Giuliano, BOE Student Representative D. Couture, BOS liaison D. Nelson, EWEA President J. Jette, community members

IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

New Business: Discussion: Filling a Board of Education Vacancy

On a motion by W. Raber, 2nd by K. Bilodeau, the Board voted to approve the added agenda item as listed. The vote was unanimous.

S. Morgan joined the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

V. MINUTES

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by S. Morgan, the Board voted to approve the 9/14/16 regular meeting minutes as amended. The vote was unanimous.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

D. Nelson commented on how well organized the BBES 65th Anniversary Celebration/Grand Opening was and how impressed she was with the new BBES addition.

VII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

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

VIII. PERSONNEL REPORT

The Board reviewed and discussed the current report provided by L. Slate, Human Resource Director.

IX. FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Paquette reviewed and discussed the current report provided in Board packets:

- Personnel hiring status
- Sheff Grant reduction

Dr. Kane reported the Department of Education had knowledge of the reduction in July, but did not inform the districts. There is no longer an incentive for accepting additional choice students. We have 56 choice students. We will be taking no additional choice students at this time.

X. CURRICULUM REPORT

Dr. DeBarge presented the district's Smarter Balance results:

- Purposes of State Summative Assessment
- Background Information on the Summative Assessment
- Scale Scores and Achievement Levels
- Data Highlights
- Curriculum and Instruction Implications
- CMT Overview

N. DeSousa joined the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Dr. G. Michna inquired about the correlation in the dip in the grade 7 test results in both STAR and Smarter Balance assessments. He also inquired whether it was due to a gap in instruction when the district changed over to Common Core.

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE

None

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

1. Updates:
 - a. BBES Modular Project Update/ b. Alliance District School Building Grant:
 - Dr. Kane noted we were in a precarious situation; our 30-day temporary Certification of Occupancy is due to expire. The Building Commission hopes to comply with the building inspector directive in order to eliminate a possible closing.
 - The handrails in the back of the building are to be installed on Thursday or Friday.
 - A plan for the connector between the existing building and 10-unit is being formulated.
 - The next construction meeting is Friday, September 30 (status update from ModSpace and Building Commission, along with discussion on hydro-seeding.
 - She put the Board on notice – should we get shut down, the entire district will be closed (similar to a snow day). Parents rely on older siblings to care for younger siblings while they are at work.
 - She reported none of the incomplete Alliance District School Building Grant projects are a safety concern – only punch list items are left to be completed.
2. Community Partnership Award- The sub-committee is seeking the Board's input on this award. The Board reviewed the draft application provided in their packet. Input will be forwarded to A. Kalesnik to share with the sub-committee.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE

EWMS Roof Replacement Project- The Building Commission engaged J. Giuliano to create a grant application for the project. He outlined the project details as provided in Board packets. A portion of the roof was replaced last year as part of the nurse's suite project. This project will replace the entire roof.

In addition, Dr. Kane stated the Town had a cost-saving opportunity with placement of solar panels on the East Windsor Middle School roof. She informed the Board she, R. Baker and R. Labrie approached the First Selectman and CIP three years ago regarding solar panels. They went back before CIP last week pertaining to the same opportunity.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to approve the September 2016 Educational Specifications for the East Windsor Middle School Roof Replacement Project. The vote was unanimous.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

1. EWHS Application to Establish an Unpaid Experiential Learning Program- Mr.

Keleher was present to provide an overview of the program:

- What is UELP?
- What students may participate?
- What are the requirements for EWHS?
- What are the responsibilities of the UELP Coordinator?
- How will students benefit from UELP?
- Questions?

2. Filling a Board of Education Vacancy – Due to the recent resignation of BOE member, Patti Nelson, there is a need to fill her seat. A letter was sent to the Democratic Town Committee Chairman, on behalf of the Board, requesting a nomination.

XV. LIAISONS' REPORTS

Chair C. Simonelli reported her attendance at a recent CIP meeting. They are reviewing presentations from Town Departments and prioritizing projects with funds from this year and also prioritizing projects with next year's funds.

S. Morgan noted the Veterans Commission raised \$15,000 for the war memorial. Their upcoming fundraiser is the Harvest Dance at La Note on October 22nd. Tickets are \$30/person or \$50/couple.

XVI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

XVII. MISCELLANEOUS

Chair C. Simonelli noted the desire to fill the vacancy on the Community Partnership Award sub-committee. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to hold off until the new member joins them.

N. DeSousa commended the BBES administration and staff for their role in the 65th Anniversary Celebration/Grand Opening. She noted the great turnout and was also impressed how staff took time out of their Sunday schedules to participate in the event.

Dr. Kane read a letter she wrote, addressed to the Board, announcing her retirement, effective October 31, 2017. Chair C. Simonelli commended Dr. Kane for her work in bringing the district forward and also informed the community of the Board's appointment of Dr. DeBarge as the next EWPS superintendent, pending successful contract negotiations.

S. Morgan noted the great turnout at Community Day on Saturday, September 24th.

XVIII. CORRESPONDENCE

Calendars of Events

XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to enter executive session at 9:15 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, dismissal or the health of a public officer or employee, provided that such individual may require that the discussion be held at an open meeting, and to discuss contract negotiations. The vote was unanimous.

The Board came out of executive session at 9:25 p.m.

XX. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by N. DeSousa, 2nd by S. Morgan, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kalesnik
Recording Secretary

Approved: 10/12/16