

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION  
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF  
February 11, 2015  
EAST WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL – Room N-4**

**I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman C. Mickey called the meeting to order at 7:37 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, K. Bilodeau, Dr. G. Michna, P. Nelson, S. Morgan and Dr. T. Kane. Absent: N. DeSousa

Also present: Dr. C. DeBarge, C. Cykley & J. Giuliano (CREC), T. Osoimalo, L. Foxx, K. Hellerich, E. Keleher, D. Rouillard, M. Ryan and community members.

**IV. OUTSTANDING STUDENTS**

The Outstanding Students for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter were introduced to the Board by their building principal. The students were:

Christian Natal (Grade 4)  
Emily Blachuta (Grade 6)  
Paul Desmond (Grade 11)

**V. VISITATION**

HR Block presented a representative of the EWHS A period Personal Finance Class and teacher, M. Scrapchansky with a check in the amount of \$5,000 for their 3<sup>rd</sup> place award in the recent HR Block National Budget Challenge. The class finished 3<sup>rd</sup> against a field of 510 teams across the country; 11,181 students in all. The funds will be used toward future Personal Finance Education.

**VI. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**VII. MINUTES**

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Simonelli, the Board approved the January 14, 2015 special joint meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Nelson, the Board approved the January 14, 2015 regular meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2<sup>nd</sup> by S. Morgan, the Board approved the February 5, 2015 special executive session meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous.

**VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**IX. SCHOOL REPORT**

EWMS teacher, D. Bidwell presented the Board with an update and overview of the current events relative to the STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) class:

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- STEM Essentials
- Engineering Design Process (EDP)
- Analytic STEM Performance Rubric
- STEM Science activities
- Outcome of recent visit from Pratt & Whitney

N. DeSousa joined the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

**X. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

D. Couture was unable to attend this evening's meeting.

**XI. PERSONNEL REPORT**

The Board reviewed the current report provided in their packets.

**XII. FINANCIAL REPORT**

In her absence this evening, Dr. Houle provided the Board with a written financial update for their review.

**XIII. CURRICULUM REPORT**

Dr. DeBarge provided an update on the district-wide STAR results.

**XIV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE**

BBES Modular Project – Dr. Kane, C. Cykley and J. Giuliano provided an update on the recent meeting with Paige Farhnam, CT Department of School Construction relative to the project. Ms. Farnham confirmed we can move forward with the partial project without completing the window project. The original application was submitted as an idea of the project; the bids confirmed the actual project. The Board of Selectman will take a vote to determine if there will be a Public Hearing on the project. No further paperwork will be required. The State will only require us to update them on the project as it progresses.

**XV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION**

Filling a Vacancy – The Board reviewed Board Policy 9221 and the Town Charter as it pertains to filling a Board vacancy. To date, we have yet to receive a recommendation/nomination from the DTC. The 45 day deadline for their submission is March 1, 2015.

**XVI. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE REQUIRED**

1. Proposed EWPS 2015-2016 School & Important Dates Calendars – On a motion by D. Bilodeau, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Simonelli, the Board voted to accept the calendars as presented. The vote was unanimous.
2. Technology Grant – T. Osoimalo informed the Board of our recent submission of the 2014-2015 District Technology Updates to Support Transition to the New Standards grant. If granted, funds would go toward infrastructure/mobile devices for the district. Kudos were given to Dr. DeBarge and Mr. Osoimalo for their work on this grant.

On a motion by C. Simonelli, 2<sup>nd</sup> by S. Morgan, the board voted to accept the district's submission of the 2014-2015 District Technology Updates to Support Transition to the New Standards grant. The vote was unanimous.

3. Renewal of Business Management Contract – On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dr. G. Michna, the Board approved the renewal of the TMS contract for a period of 1 year. The vote was unanimous.

**XVII. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION**

Facebook - T. Osoimalo shared the Technology Committee's rationale not to have a district Facebook page.

**XVIII. LIAISONS' REPORT**

N. DeSousa reported her attendance at the BOS Public Hearing prior to this evening's BOE meeting.

S. Morgan noted he was recently approached by the EW PTO with the request for him to act as liaison for the Board at their meetings.

Dr. Michna left the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Dr. DeBarge and Board members spoke to the recent adult internet/cyber-bullying presentation by Scott Driscoll.

**XIX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**XX. MISCELLANEOUS**

Dr. Kane updated the Board and community of the two bomb threats at EWMS – one last week and one today. Both threats were in the form of a note written on a bathroom wall at the school. The EWPD determined that neither were creditable threats. The school remained in lockdown until the investigation was complete. A letter went home to parents and a School Messenger was also provided. The EWMS Safe School Climate Committee and administration will conduct an assembly to review and stress the importance of this action.

She also informed the Board of today's bid opening relative to the EWMS nurse's suite. The lowest bid was \$10,000 over the architect's estimated projection. The Chairman of the EW Building Committee was present at the bid opening and was not pleased with the results.

Dr. Kane also spoke to snow days. Due to the recent inclement weather and number of reported snow days, the last day of school, as of today, is June 19, 2015. She will continue to update the Board as necessary.

Her final note was her recent successful "Coffee Hour" with PTO parents, arranged by PTO President, Tanya Unsworth. She will conduct subsequent events as requested.

**XXI. CORRESPONDENCE**

- Calendar of Events
- Correspondence Re: Donation of Monetary Gift
- Correspondence to DTC Re: Filling Vacancy
- Enrollment

**CORRESPONDENCE - continued**

- EWMS *The Wildcat*
- BBES Newsletter

**XXII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
None

**XXIII. ADJOURN**

On a motion by S. Morgan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to adjourn this evening's meeting at 9:55 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kalesnik  
Recording Secretary

Randi Reichle  
Board Secretary

Approved: