

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF
March 8, 2017
EAST WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL – Room N4**

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chair C. Simonelli called the meeting to order at 7:31 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, W. Raber, S. Morgan, D. Swaim, K. Carey-Trull, Dr. T. Kane Absent: N. DeSousa

Also present: Dr. C. DeBarge, EWEA President J. Jette, BOS Liaison D. Nelson, community member S. Smith

IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

None

V. MINUTES

On a motion by R. Reichle, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board approved the February 22, 2017 regular meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous.

On a motion by S. Morgan, 2nd by R. Reichle, the Board approved the March 1, 2017 special budget workshop minutes. The vote was unanimous.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

VII. SCHOOL REPORT – The Broad Brook Elementary School Report was postponed to a future date.

VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

There was no report this evening.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE

1. New Alliance District School Building Grant – Dr. Kane outlined the proposed grant projects:

- EWHS auxiliary gym connector
- Carpet in EWHS library
- EWHS auxiliary gym floor
- EWHS auditorium lighting
- EWMS gym bleachers
- EWMS gym wall pads
- EWMS Outdoor LED lights
- EWMS auditorium lighting
- EWMS LED office and cafeteria lights
- Replace AC in EWMS computer lab
- Replace AC in EWMS health room
- Replace AC in EWMS faculty room

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On a motion by W. Raber, 2nd by K. Bilodeau, the Board voted to approve the recommended projects for the new Alliance District School Building Grant. The vote was unanimous.

2. Community Partnership Award – The Board reviewed the draft copy of the criteria provided in their packet. After much discussion, a motion was made by R. Reichle, 2nd by S. Morgan to table this vote to their next meeting. The vote was unanimous.
3. FY18 Budget – Dr. Kane provided Board members with a hard copy of the FY18 budget reductions and all funds spreadsheets at the proposed 4.70% increase. On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board voted to accept the FY18 budget brought before them to be presented to the Board of Finance. The vote was unanimous.

C. Simonelli noted the Board of Education would be presenting their budget to the Board of Finance on March 15.

She also noted the Board of Finance will be holding a Public Hearing on the FY18 Budget on March 22 and that the Board of Education is scheduled to participate in a budget workshop with them, immediately following the Public Hearing.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

1. Updates:
 - a. Broad Brook Elementary School Modular Project Update – Dr. Kane informed the Board a meeting has been scheduled at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, March 10 to determine who will be conducting the connector work at BBES. They also recently determined who would be conducting the work on the room dividers for the special education rooms.
 - b. Alliance District School Buildings Grant – The VCT flooring, landscaping, and sidewalk are to be completed in the spring. We have been informed funds will be held until all projects are completed.
 - c. Casino Agreement – Dr. Kane noted our need to be aware and vigilant to pursue a resolution with the Town so there is a formal agreement in place regarding the impact the casino will have on the district. We only request to be monetarily compensated to cover those students who may be moving to the district as a job opportunity for families.

BOS Liaison D. Nelson noted a lobbyist was hired by the Town to ensure the legislature is written correctly and all entities are represented.

Dr. Kane reviewed Board Policy 1330 – Use of School Facilities with the Board relative to the questions posed for the use of the EWHS auditorium by citizens on the proposed casino. She informed them she would leave the decision up to the Board regarding use of the venue for this matter. After discussion, the Board noted they would not deny any entity the use of the venue for this matter, as long as they were informed of any other activities taking place in the building on the same evening to ensure the safety of our students. The Board also noted the requirement for the entity to hire a police officer for such an event in anticipation of a large meeting turnout.

- d. Power Pack Program – Dr. Kane informed the Board twelve students have signed up for the program and that flyers recently went home with students reminding parents of the program.

XI. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE

None

XII. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

Youth Service Bureau – Dr. Kane informed the Board of the recent vote by the BOS to approve the creation of a Youth Service Bureau. She contacted Representative Chris Davis who will add this matter to the legislative agenda. We are one of twenty communities that currently do not have one and our needs warrant it. If approved, a minimal state grant would be for \$14k. The Town would be required to contribute \$7K in cash and \$7K in kind contribution. The space in the high school and transportation would more than satisfy the in kind requirement. She will be meeting on Monday, March 13 with M. Maltese, K. Formanek, Officer T. Briody, D. Nelson, and W. Parker to discuss the logistics. The goal is to get the program up and running for the beginning of the next school year.

XIII. LIAISONS' REPORTS

R. Reichle noted her attendance at the March 7 FRC meeting:

- Funding was being cut by 50%, but the Governor came back with the additional funding
- A. Paquette and Dir. K. Mable created both a \$50,000 budget and \$100,000 budget, if necessary
- Annual inspection by State
- Rental of Scout Hall has increased for use during the summer

Dr. Kane noted FRC has a healthy reserve to get them through.

R. Reichle also provided kudos to our staff as she was informed by a parent of how impressed she was with our Open House and with the number of programs we offer our students. She was looking at sending her child out of district, but has since reconsidered her decision.

K. Carey-Trull reported her attendance at the Day on the Hill and outlined the various events/discussions that took place throughout the day.

S. Morgan noted hats were available for sale by the 250th Anniversary Committee at a cost of \$10.

Chair C. Simonelli noted her receipt of an email sent to CAFE Board Chairs regarding the change to the timing of when Boards need to present budgets to towns by CCM. This will be decided later in the year.

XIV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Steve Smith, 7 Cobblestone Drive, stated he sat through a debate on the aforementioned budget change and that it didn't look good.

XV. MISCELLANEOUS

S. Morgan noted the following events:

- East Windsor Police Department Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner at the Ware House Point Fire Department on March 18 from 5-8 p.m.
- American Legion and Veterans Commission have raffle tickets for sale to benefit the War Memorial
- American Legion

K. Bilodeau noted the EWHS production of Beauty and the Beast on March 24 & 25.

C. Simonelli congratulated the Boys and Girls Basketball Teams for going to the State Championships.

XVI. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Enrollment
2. Calendar of Events

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need for an executive session this evening.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by S. Morgan, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kalesnik
Recording Secretary

Randi Reichle
Board Secretary

Approved: 3/22/17