

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF
November 9, 2016
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, D. Rouillard, M. Ryan, M. Maltese, K. Formanek, parents, community members

IV. OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

The 1st quarter Outstanding Student Award recipients were introduced to the Board by their respective building principal:

Aiden Grasso – Grade 2

Aric Duncan– Grade 6

Alana Messier – Grade 10

V. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

None

VI. MINUTES

On a motion by N. DeSousa, 2nd by K. Bilodeau, the Board approved the October 26, 2016 regular meeting minutes as amended. The vote was unanimous.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. F. Neill, 153 Melrose Road, inquired about the status of the written correspondence from our attorney regarding the superintendent search. C. Simonelli clarified by stating she would obtain a written, legal response for a future meeting.

VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

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

IX. SCHOOL REPORT

H. Thomas presented an overview and changes to the Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT):

- 8 Key Changes to the SAT
- March 2016 SAT Scores
- Next Steps

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE

None

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

1. Updates:

a. Broad Brook Elementary School Modular Project Update:

- Dr. Kane informed the Board of R. Labrie's donation of additional mulch for the project and his advice to the Building Commission that they pay the Premier Park & Play bill as presented.
- R. Reichle shared she was informed of parent concerns regarding handicap accessibility to the playground equipment. Dr. Kane shared a mat will be placed under the handicapped accessible swing to make it accessible on the mulch.

C. Simonelli requested sending a letter to R. Labrie recognizing his service and donation.

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

- Vestibule is almost complete
- Lockers completed
- Sign-off of kitchen project
- Air conditioning underway
- Need to put a push for a referendum for window abatement to allow us to go out to bid. Now is the time before the prices increase.
- The window issue involved in the connection of the 10 unit to the existing building has been resolved.
- A reminder was given: Alliance funds must be spent by June 30, 2017.

c. Strategic Plan – Dr. Kane noted the following:

- The first meeting on November 1st was well attended. Participants reviewed the list of accomplishments under the current strategic plan and noted the work yet to be done.
- During the November 12th meeting, participants will articulate the future work under each strategic plan domain.
- Dr. Kane informed the Board Tony Rigazzio-Digilio updated her on the process for Saturday's meeting as he will be unable to join the meeting due to his recent hospitalization.

2. Backpack Program – M. Maltese and K. Formanek presented the East Windsor Hunger Action Team's Power Pack Program, in conjunction with the Five Corner Cupboard Food Pantry. This program is targeted for students identified as low income who already qualify for free/reduced lunch. The program will empower children and families to bring nonperishable foods home in backpacks. The food will be donated through Power Pack-specific food drives in town, as well as from purchased foods from Food Share and local grocery stores. The food will be placed

in the Power Packs by high school students and delivered to the school for distribution on Fridays. The bags will be returned on Monday and the process is repeated for the remainder of the school year. The purchase of the backpacks and food will be made possible via sponsorships and donations. January will be the program kick-off at Broad Brook Elementary School. They will then look to expand the program into our other two schools.

Dr. G. Michna shared Bristol runs a similar program and noted it is a phenomenal success. He offered to share contact information for staff in Bristol.

3. Board Sub-Committee Assignments – Chair C. Simonelli provided an overview of each committee, with the exception of negotiations, and the vacancies were filled accordingly.

Dr. G. Michna left the session at 9:00 p.m.

4. Student Enrollment/Retention – In response to a letter from a parent during the 10/26 Board meeting, Dr. Kane summarized and shared the current student statistics as presented in the Board meeting packet.

Dr. G. Michna returned to the meeting at 9:03.

XII. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE

1. Out-of-State/Overnight Field Trips – Dr. Kane reviewed the new process for presentation of these trips to the Board. The first review of the form by the Board will be for approval for the concept of the trip as to allow the staff to advertise the trip for student participation. The form will then be brought before the Board at a later date, upon completion.

N. DeSousa noted SATs are scheduled during the Close-Up trip dates. Dr. Kane shared they would likely take the make-up exam.

Dr. G. Michna questioned the need for the Board to approve the first round. Dr. Kane shared Board members had previously questioned if all information was complete on the form. We are not able to bring a completed form to the Board in a timely manner due to the process of seeking student interest, so Dr. Kane thought this would be the best way to inform the Board and seek approval for the trips. After discussion, the Board approved a one-time, up front approval by the Board. The superintendent will only bring the trip before them for a second round, should an extenuating circumstance arise.

2. CREC Constitution Changes – A Board vote regarding the changes to the CREC Constitution must be submitted by November 15, 2016. A copy of the changes was provided in the Board meeting packet.

After much discussion, on a motion by R. Reichle, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to approve the CREC Constitution changes as presented. The vote was 6-1. (K. Bilodeau voted in opposition.)

XIII. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

None

XIV. LIAISONS' REPORTS

K. Bilodeau reported her attendance at a recent Pension Board meeting.

XV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

XVI. MISCELLANEOUS

Dr. Kane noted it was brought to her attention by Chair C. Simonelli the minutes from the September 14th meeting were not posted on our website. Dr. Kane will see to it they are posted immediately.

She also reminded the Board that the Town Treasurer took the Adult Education grant funds as Town revenue last year. A. Paquette was recently questioned by the state grant office about this. The grant office believes the taking of these funds as Town revenue was wrong. The state grant office and financial office are in discussion to resolve this matter.

C. Simonelli noted an email she received from CAGE regarding the Delegate Assembly as part of the annual conference. Dr. Kane reminded the Board the conference is scheduled to take place on November 18 and 19.

The CCM conference on November 14 and 15 posed some interesting workshops, as well.

XVII. CORRESPONDENCE

1. BBES and EWMS Newsletters
2. Calendars of Events
3. 1955 EWHS Dedication and Open House Program

XVIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need for an executive session this evening.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Christine DeBarge
Recording Secretary

Randi Reichle
Board Secretary

Approved: 12/19/16