

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
December 19, 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, K. Bilodeau, N. DeSousa, D. Swaim, S. Morgan, K. Carey-Trull, Dr. T. Kane Absent: Secretary R. Reichle, W. Raber

Also present: Dr. C. DeBarge, EWEA President J. Jette, community members

IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

None

V. MINUTES

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to approve the 11/9/16 regular meeting minutes as presented. The vote was 6-0-1. (S. Morgan abstained.)

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

N. DeSousa, 25 Laurel Circle, East Windsor, as a parent inquired about the process for student absentee calls to parents. She noted her recent angst when she received a call from BBES informing her that her child was not present that day when, in fact, she was.

F. Neill, 153 Melrose Road, informed the Board of a sharp, broken piece of wood that was encroaching the sidewalk leading into the main entrance of the building which could cause potential harm. Dr. Kane immediately contacted the high school custodial staff to request the removal of the stick.

Ms. Neill also inquired if the legal opinion from the attorney regarding the superintendent search would be available to the public. Chair C. Simonelli informed Ms. Neill the letter would be provided to Board members this evening and made available to the public.

Ms. Neill's final inquiry was that of the status of the new superintendent "meet and greet" sessions. Chair C. Simonelli informed her those sessions would be scheduled after the first of the year.

VII. PERSONNEL REPORTS

The Board reviewed the November and December reports as presented.

VIII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Board reviewed the November and December reports as presented. Dr. Kane also noted the issue with the cafeteria fund is being resolved and that the auditors agree with A. Paquette. The issue will be further addressed at a meeting on Wednesday with the Town Treasurer. Also, we have been informed the CSDE Grant Department does not agree with the take-over of Adult Education grant funds by the Town. They are investigating it further and will get back to us with a finding.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE

None

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

None

XI. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE

1. 2017 East Windsor Board of Education Meeting Schedule:

On a motion from S. Morgan, 2nd by K. Bilodeau, the Board voted to approve the 2017 meeting schedule as presented. The vote was unanimous.

2. Adoption of 2016-2021 Strategic Plan – Chair C. Simonelli noted how pleased she was with the quantity of staff and BOE participants at the recent meetings. On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to accept the 2016-2021 Strategic Plan as presented. The vote was unanimous.

XII. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

Posting Requirements for BOE Meetings – As a result of the question as to whether or not our 12/14 meeting was adequately posted, Dr. Kane contacted Town Clerk, J. Slater to obtain their posting process. Meeting postings are required to be posted on our bulletin board at the Board of Education Office and also sent to the Town Clerk. Postings on our website are not required, but are done so as a courtesy for public viewing. Therefore, our 12/14 meeting was properly posted.

XIII. LIAISONS' REPORTS

None

XIV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

XV. MISCELLANEOUS

Dr. Kane informed the Board and community of the opening of the CHC health clinic at BBES. Their hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at EWSHS and 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at BBES. Flyers informing families of the opening will be distributed at holiday concerts this week and the news will also be noted in the Superintendent's Corner segment of the January school newsletters. K. Bilodeau spoke to a positive interaction she had regarding the high school program. She also inquired if the program would be opened up to the public. Dr. Kane noted that CHC would like to be able to open it up to the middle school students first, before they consider public participation.

Chair C. Simonelli shared the written legal opinion from Attorney C. Chinni regarding the selection of superintendent.

She also shared the written letter addressed to R. Labrie from the Board regarding their gratitude for his work on the modular project and playground.

It was noted the Building Commission is withholding payment for sidewalks and landscaping relative to the BBES Modular Project, which are scheduled to be re-done in the spring/summer, along with the VCT flooring in both the 4 and 10 units.

Dr. Kane also provided a brief update on the remaining projects.

K. Carey-Trull noted she did not recall seeing discussion posted on a prior agenda relative to discussion of a new superintendent. Chair C. Simonelli informed her that discussion would have taken place in executive session under contract negotiations.

S. Morgan noted he was informed our student representative, D. Couture, obtained her driver's license earlier in the week and, therefore, gave his congratulations.

Chair C. Simonelli shared the "thank you" letter being sent to all staff from the Board regarding their roles in the modular and alliance grant projects.

XVI. CORRESPONDENCE

None

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by S. Morgan, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to enter executive session at 8:03 p.m. for: Personnel matter – discussion and possible action on contract for Superintendent, 2017-2020 (discussion proposed for executive session). The vote was unanimous.

Secretary R. Reichle joined the session via phone at 8:04 p.m.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:34 p.m.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to approve the drafted contract of employment for Dr. Christine DeBarge as Superintendent of the East Windsor school district, effective upon retirement of the previous superintendent and continuing up to and including June 30, 2020. The vote was unanimous.

XX. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kalesnik
Recording Secretary

Approved: 1/11/17