

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2021**

East Windsor High School Library, 76 South Main Street, East Windsor, CT

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chair R. Reichle called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair R. Reichle led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ATTENDANCE

In attendance: Chair R. Reichle, Vice Chair H. Spencer, Secretary K. Carey-Trull, F. Neill, D. Swaim, C. Sevarino, W. Raber (via Zoom), Dr. P. Tudryn

Also present: D. Rouillard, Student Representative – V. Hernandez, community members

IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

None

V. MINUTES

On a motion by F. Neill, 2nd by C. Sevarino, the Board approved the October 13, 2021 regular meeting minutes, as amended. The vote was unanimous.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

VII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representative, V. Hernandez reported on the news and events at all three schools.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE

1. FY21 Budget

2. FY22 Budget

There were no budget updates at this time.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

1. Re-Entry Update – Dr. P. Tudryn reported his participation in a Sunday evening conversation with area superintendents, including quarantines (especially relative to Broad Brook School with the average of 30 students in quarantine weekly, but only 10 last week), impact on test scores, student achievement, where schools are seeing spread, ways to minimize cases and quarantine levels. All are awaiting next update from the state. Students may be able to remain in school if asymptomatic and screen and test, but the district would have to partner with a vendor to provide this service at the schools as the district does not have enough nursing staff to provide this service. The option for remote learning for quarantined students that chose not to test will be discussed at a later time as we are not at that point and will need to wait for the written state guidance in making that type of decision.
2. Strategic Plan – This item will be on all future agendas as a placeholder for updates and quarterly reporting. There was no update at this time.

X. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE

Job Description – Maintainer

On a motion by F. Neill, 2nd by D. Swaim, the Board voted to approve the job description as presented. The vote was unanimous.

Dr. P. Tudryn will look to see if special skills will save the district money, i.e. electrical contracting etc. The position was written in the ARP ESSER grant. He also noted he has met with DPW and shared that he learned the agreement with DPW is for restricted mowing only. This is primarily due to limited resources with staffing from DPW. The position of maintainer would be able to support work on our grounds, courtyards, and spruce up school grounds. The grant is for three years, and then the district could evaluate if the position is feasible to continue based on potential savings from contracting out.

XI. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

None

XII. LIAISONS' REPORTS

F. Neill reported her participation in a Pension Commission meeting - in a decent state, some volatility in the market but in decent state. Dr. P. Tudryn also attended and found it informative.

XIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

XIV. MISCELLANEOUS

C. Sevarino noted the community has expressed wanting to see meetings recorded and stated she has made inquiries about this option in the past. She requested putting this topic on a future agenda for discussion.

Dr. P. Tudryn stated the district is still having some meetings virtually and can conduct check-ins with all three principals by Zoom, which is much easier to collaborate, while staying at their own site. He noted they are looking to set up video-conference capability for each building in one place, using Zoom account to record off of that, then could have a screen for presentations. Based on BOE feedback, Dr. Tudryn will explore options to record future BOE meetings.

F. Neill mentioned the Cub Scouts are doing a bag drop this weekend for the Food Drive. They will be doing the drop-off and then pick-up the following weekend. Food donations can also be dropped off at the church.

Dr. P. Tudryn noted the CIP list included in the meeting packet. Some items have been on the list for a few years, but it is important from the town perspective to see what projects are needed. The CIP suggested if some projects could be broken up, like asbestos abatement, this might be helpful for funding decisions. W. Quinones will also attend and help strategize for the future.

High School Roof – The district/town would need to go through bonding for that project - Dr. Tudryn said he needs to determine where the process was stalled previously. The cost is hard to estimate because it is a constantly moving target – It was a \$3.5 million estimate to repair the roof recently.

Dr. P. Tudryn shared that he is pleased to announce that we have a math teacher (Sara Chmiel) that was nominated for a leadership program (eligible to Alliance Districts), research-based connected with UCONN, 5-year program – We are not sure if she will be accepted into the program, but will be an opportunity to be a change agent. He will keep the Board updated.

Dr. P. Tudryn also noted the high school applied for and was awarded a FASFA grant to increase completion of the FASFA form for federal aid for students for college – The grant is \$5,000 and will provide tools that will aid families to complete the form to get aid for college. D. Rouillard noted he did some research last year. There is a training scheduled in November that will provide high school and district staff information on how to access the funds.

It was reported that 28 families chose to take PSAT this year for eighth-graders.

Dr. P. Tudryn mentioned Mr. Masters is here and volunteered with Dr. Hellerich for Voice4Change, a program where the state offered ESSER funds not tied to the district. High school students will create proposals on how they think COVID funds should be used. The state will select winning proposals to fund.

He also reminded the Board of the Annual Veterans Day Road Race – A number of school staff are participating. The district is collecting registration forms, as well as sending them out to parents to build momentum. Hopefully, parents, students, and staff will participate, connect with families and town as well.

He informed the Board he has been in the buildings on a weekly basis and informed them of the recent lockdown at EWMS. He noted he was in building at time and credited the staff as there was zero disruption to instruction during the time of the incident and lockdown. When families hear lockdown, it means instruction is still taking place but doors are locked for normally a brief time, and the result is limited disruption to classroom instruction. In this particular situation, it was necessary for adults to assist a student down the hallway and the student left the building by ambulance. There have been a few lockdowns at Broad Brook School that have lasted only a few minutes. Protocols and procedures are working the way they should be, kids are engaged. Shelter-in-Place is a different situation, where staff and students move away from the door, with lights off, quiet, etc.

It was noted the Trunk or Treat event is tomorrow at Reservoir Ave.

XV. CORRESPONDENCE

Letters – Commendation/Donation

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by C. Sevarino, 2nd by D. Swaim, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

**East Windsor Board of Education
Meeting Minutes – October 27, 2021
Page 4**

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Carey-Trull
Board Secretary

Approved: 11/23/21