

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF
April 29, 2015
EAST WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL – Room N-4**

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman C. Mickey called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. (upon return of Board members from the Town Meeting.)

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, P. Nelson, W. Raber and Dr. C. DeBarge Absent: Dr. G. Michna, N. DeSousa and S. Morgan, Student Representative D. Couture

Also present: Community members

IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

None.

V. MINUTES

On a motion by C. Simonelli, 2nd by K. Bilodeau, the Board approved the Board approved the April 8, 2015, 2015 regular meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

VII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

D. Couture was not present at this evening's meeting due to another commitment.

VIII. PERSONNEL REPORT

The Board reviewed the current report provided in their packets.

IX. FINANCIAL REPORT

The Board reviewed the written financial update provided by TMS in their absence at this evening's meeting.

X. CURRICULUM REPORT

On a motion by C. Simonelli, 2nd by K. Bilodeau, the Board voted to table this item. The vote was unanimous.

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE

EWPS 2014-2015 School Calendar Update – It is proposed to end the school year on June 17 with 180 student days (required by the state) rather than June 19 with 182 student days. Certified staff will utilize the remaining 2 days participating in professional development initiatives.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board approved the proposed last day of the 2014-2015 school year as June 17, 2015. The vote was unanimous.

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

1. BBES Modular Project Update – Chairman C. Mickey reported the attendance of Board members and Dr. DeBarge at this evening’s Town Meeting. A vote approved the BBES Modular Project to go to referendum with the budget on May 12, 2015 with polls to open at 6:00 a.m.
2. FY16 Budget – The Board reviewed the “Understanding the Budget” flyer provided by the Board of Selectman’s Office.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE REQUIRED

1. Job Description: Curriculum Facilitator – Since Dr. Kane is on medical leave, Dr. DeBarge has been assigned her duties, as well as her own. This stipended position will require CT 092 administrator certification and will assist in taking on some of her tasks, i.e. professional development, grants, home school monitoring, etc.

On a motion by W. Raber, 2nd by K. Bilodeau, the Board approved the job description as presented. The vote was unanimous.

2. Alliance Grant Approval - Board approval is required for submission of our annual Alliance Grant. Dr. DeBarge reviewed the grant budget summary sheet provided to the Board in their packet.

On a motion by C. Simonelli, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board voted to approve the EWPS annual submission of the Alliance Grant. The vote was unanimous.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

None

XV. LIAISONS’ REPORT

K. Bilodeau reported her attendance at the Pension Committee meeting.

C. Simonelli reported on her work on the “Get out to Vote” plan, which goes into effect this coming Sunday at her house with phone calls, letter writing, etc.

XVI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

XVII. MISCELLANEOUS

Dr. DeBarge deferred to Mr. Richards to speak to the flyer submitted by Windsor Federal Savings. Mr. Richards informed the Board of Windsor Federal Savings upcoming initiative to benefit the East Windsor Education Foundation: For each new account opened at the bank, the bank will donate \$50 to the East Windsor Board of Education. It was the consensus of the Board to allow distribution of the presented flyer to all students.

S. Morgan joined the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

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K. Bilodeau stated she receives approximately 1 ½ “robo” calls per day and they are usually received when she is on her way home from work. She asked if this is common and, as much as she appreciates being informed, if it is necessary to send this many.

She also inquired as to how many different tests are being administered above our regular classroom testing.

Her final comment was that she was approached by Tom Stremper, owner of FleetMasters regarding his offer to assist our students who are not college-bound, but tech-bound, to provide mentoring and the opportunity for job shadowing. Dr. DeBarge will put him in touch with Mr. Keleher and/or Mr. M. Scrapchansky at East Windsor High School.

Mr. Raber inquired about coaching staff for next year. He would like to give those coaches who may not secure the positions next year (due to lack of student participation or budget constraints) the opportunity to apply for similar positions outside the district.

He also recommended obtaining three quotes for maintenance of our grounds/athletic fields.

S. Morgan apologized for not following up with his employer relative to the job shadow program. He later noticed they were already included on the list.

He also informed the Board of the need for donations for next week’s PTO Teacher Appreciation Luncheons.

P. Nelson recommended making a donation on behalf of the Board to the charity of choice in Marie Herbst’s memory.

Dr. DeBarge shared an email from the EW Rotary Club acknowledging Mr. Keleher’s participation and support of the recent Rotary Club Wounded Warrior Project fundraiser.

She also provided an update on our submission of the District Technology Upgrades to Support Transition grant. An error was detected on the side of the state that compelled them to issue a “no award” ruling for that grant. They expect to post a new RFP and we anticipate being able to re-use a substantial portion of our application. We will be contacted when the new RFP is posted.

The Board was informed of Mr. Keleher’s nomination and acceptance as the Class S representative for the CIAC eligibility committee.

Dr. DeBarge reviewed the job shadowing business listing as requested by members at their previous meeting.

Chair C. Mickey shared the letter of intent to retire from Betsy Blaisdell.

XVIII. CORRESPONDENCE

Calendar of Events

XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by C. Simonelli, 2nd by S. Morgan, the Board voted to enter into executive session at 8:58 p.m. to discuss pending litigation. The vote was unanimous.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:05 p.m.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by C. Simonelli, the Board approved the settlement terms to be paid through CIRMA for the pending litigation. The vote was 6-1. (W. Raber voted in opposition.)

XX. ADJOURN

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by S. Morgan, the Board voted to adjourn this evening's meeting at 9:07 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kalesnik
Recording Secretary

Randi Reichle
Board Secretary

Approved: 5/13/15