

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF
May 28, 2014
EAST WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL – Auditorium**

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman C. Mickey called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman C. Mickey led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ATTENDANCE

Chairman C. Mickey, Vice Chairman W. Schultz, R. Raber, K. Bilodeau, Dr. G. Michna, N. DeSousa, R. Reichle and Superintendent T. Kane. Absent: Secretary C. Simonelli (She was in attendance at the BOF budget workshop on behalf of the BOE), S. Morgan

Also present: C. DeBarge, E. Keleher, K. Hellerich, L. Foxx, M. McKee, C. Desjardins (TMS), A. Masters and community members.

IV. OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

The Outstanding Students for the 4th quarter were introduced to the Board by their principals. The students were:

Christian Jamrog (Grade 4) and Dillon Lyons (Grade 3)
Alyssa Saponare (Grade 6)
Mallory Norman (Grade 12)

V. VISITATION

Jessica Fett, MSN, APRN, NPC, was present for introduction to the Board and to provide a brief outline of the EWHS Based Health Center.

VI. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

Appointment of SRO

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board voted to accept the added agenda item. The vote was unanimous.

VII. MINUTES

On a motion by Dr. G. Michna, 2nd by K. Bilodeau, the Board approved the minutes from the May 14, 2014 regular meeting. The vote was unanimous.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by Dr. G. Michna, the Board approved the minutes from the May 19, 2014 special meeting. The vote was unanimous.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Christine Rodrigue, 14 Sharon Lane, inquired if the EWHS Health Clinic would also be available to the community.

Dr. Kane informed Ms. Rodrigue that the EWHS Health Clinic services students from each of our three schools who have enrolled in the program.

IX. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

There was no student representative in attendance at this evening's meeting.

X. PERSONNEL REPORT

A copy of the current personnel report was provided in Board packets and made part of the record. Discussion ensued relative to the role of the online facilitators and translators.

XI. CURRICULUM REPORT

Ms. DeBarge outlined the role of the district online facilitators as part of the 1:1 initiative. These facilitators have been appointed for teacher improvement/PD, pending FY15 Title II funding. Item discussion included:

- Feedback from facilitators relative to teacher questions and concerns
- Organizing PD for June 17, 18 & 19
- Delivery of devices to all high school and 8th grade teachers
- Teacher adaptation to Windows 8 program
- Distribution of devices to students
- Updates to current BOE policies relative to use of devices
- Exploring additional features for future use via Edline, i.e. drop box, discussion boards, etc.

Mr. Masters, one of the appointed online facilitators, provided a presentation of his Edline class page to the Board.

(S. Morgan joined the meeting at 8:22 p.m.)

XII. FINANCIAL REPORT

C. Desjardins (TMS) reviewed the district's current financial status as provided to the Board in their meeting packet and made part of the record.

XIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE

1. Policy 1331: Smoke Free Environment – 2nd Reading – On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board voted to approve the policy as presented. The vote was unanimous.
2. Policy 6111: School Calendar- 2nd Reading – On a motion by W. Raber, 2nd by S. Morgan, the Board voted to approve the policy as presented. The vote was unanimous.
3. Policy 6141: Curriculum Committee – 2nd Reading – On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by W. Schultz, the Board voted to approve the policy as presented. The vote was unanimous.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to take a short recess in order to allow the superintendent to communicate with the BOE representative at the BOF workshop occurring simultaneously to this meeting. The vote was unanimous. The time was 8:47 p.m.

The Board reconvened in regular session at 9:01 p.m.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board took the agenda out of order to discuss the FY15 Budget Update/Referendum Results. The vote was unanimous.

XIV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

FY15 Budget Update/Referendum Results – Dr. Kane provided an update on the BOF budget workshop and their attempt to keep a 0% tax increase and reviewed the scenarios should the vote result in either 2% or 3% increase. Dr. Kane also reported she was informed by the Town Treasurer that the amount for the EWMS Nurse's Suite had been reduced to \$40,000.

XIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE (Continued)

4. Pension Board – The term for the BOE representative to the Town Pension Board expires on June 1, 2014. The new term for the appointed representative will be June 1, 2014 – June 1, 2018. The Chair called for nominations for Board representation on the Pension Board. On a motion by N. DeSousa, 2nd by S. Morgan, the Board nominated K. Bilodeau to serve on the Pension Board for a term of June 1, 2014 to June 1, 2018. The Vote was unanimous.
5. Organizational Chart – Dr. Kane presented the updates to the EWPS Organizational Chart. On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by Dr. Michna, the Board approved the updated EWPS Organizational Chart. The vote was 7-0-1. (N. DeSousa abstained.)

XIV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION (Continued) - ADDED AGENDA ITEM

Appointment of SRO – Dr. Kane was pleased to report Officer Tamrah Stepien has been appointed to the position of School Resource Officer for the EWPS, commencing in the fall. She will begin her orientation with administrators this summer. The Board welcomes Officer Stepien to the district.

Secretary C. Simonelli and M. Chapulis joined the meeting at 9:22 p.m. (They were both in attendance at the BOF budget workshop.)

XV. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE

Transportation Contract – C. Desjardins (TMS) reviewed the contents of the memorandum provided to the BOE in their packet and made part of the record. In addition, Mr. Desjardins noted that as the only bidder for the transportation bid, Smyth Bus was willing to negotiate an extension to the current bus contract, rather than use his bid price, which was higher than the 3% extension.

On a motion by N. DeSousa, 2nd by S. Morgan, the Board voted to approve the contract extension as presented. The vote was unanimous.

XVI. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

None

XVII. LIAISONS' REPORTS

K. Bilodeau reported her attendance at the Pension Board prior to this evening's BOE meeting. She is continually impressed with their functionality in meeting benchmarks. She reported net fees are at 11.74%, which is their goal and where they want to be.

XVIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

XIX. MISCELLANEOUS

Dr. Kane provided answers to questions posed during Public Participation at the May 14, 2014 meeting. She reported she contacted Mr. Kruzel relative to his offer to assist in revitalizing the EWHS shop area. In their discussion, he suggested sending students to a career fair which is held in October of each year. Dr. Kane informed him the district has participated in these events in the past. He offered to visit the school and speak with the students. She thanked him for his offer.

A question was posed if there was incentive to reach deadlines relative to the BBES modular project. Dr. Kane reported there is no incentive for this, nor is there a penalty for not meeting deadlines (per CT statute).

A statement was made that nothing is going on in the district and that half the Town is in agreement with that statement. Dr. Kane reported that the statement is not accurate. She reported the results of the recent parent satisfaction surveys:

BBES - 78% of parents who participated in the survey (20%) are satisfied with their child's school experience

EWMS - 88% of parents who participated in the survey (25%) are satisfied with their child's school experience

EWHS - 74% of parents who participated in the survey (6%) are satisfied with their child's school experience.

BBES - 76% of parents who participated in the survey feel the school has high academic expectations of their child.

EWMS - 83.91% of parents who participated in the survey feel the school has high academic expectations for their child.

EWHS - 75% of parents who participated in the survey feel the school has high expectations for their child.

BBES - 85% of parents who participated in the survey feel the school is a safe environment for their child

EWMS - 95.4% of parents who participated in the survey feel the school is a safe environment for their child.

EWHS - 91.5% of parents who participated in the survey feel the school is a safe environment for their child.

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Dr. Kane also shared a copy of the memorandum from Morgan Barth of the Department of Education outlining and applauding district progress.

Mr. E. Keleher invited Board members to the upcoming events:

- 5/29/14 – Mr. East Windsor – EWHS Auditorium – 7:00 p.m.
- 6/2/14 – Visual Arts Awards Night – Warehouse Point Library – 6:00 p.m.
- 6/3/14 – EWHS Scholarship Night – EWHS Auditorium – 6:30 p.m.
- 6/5/14 – Performing Arts Night – EWHS Auditorium – 6:00 p.m.
- 6/9/14 – Guest Speaker, Chris Herren, professional Basketball player to speak with high school and 8th grade students relative to his battle with drug abuse throughout his career – EWHS Auditorium – 12:30 p.m.
- 6/18/14 – EWHS Graduation – Maneeley’s – 6:00 p.m.

Chairman C. Mickey informed the Board that he responded to the recent letter from a parent.

R. Reichle inquired about the MIECHV Grant. Dr. Kane informed the Board the district is walking away from the program, effective June 30, 2014. Windsor Locks also walked away from the program by virtue of qualifying factors. The process was problematic to begin with due to the qualifying limitations of the program.

K. Bilodeau requested an update relative to the regional state calendar. C. DeBarge will provide an update at a future meeting.

On a motion by N. DeSousa, 2nd by S. Morgan, the Board voted to meet past 10:00 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

C. Simonelli provided an update from this evening’s BOF budget workshop. She reviewed the changes to the Town budget which included:

- Increase in the electric quote (by \$12,000 or \$17,000)
- Increase in insurance (↑ \$24,000)
- Reduction of \$60,000 in BOE CIP line item (EWMS roof)
- Allocation of \$50,000 to Town road maintenance

To get to 0% mill rate = BOE loss of \$282,695 = flat 3% increase over last year’s budget.

Spending increase – 2.31% overall budget increase
1.3% Town side
3.0% BOE side

XX. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter of commendation from State Department of Education Re: Title III, Tier I Part A Self- Assessment Checklist
2. District enrollment
3. Calendar of Events

XXI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by N. DeSousa, 2nd by S. Morgan, the Board to enter into executive session to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation. The vote was unanimous. The time was 10:02 p.m.

The Board came out of executive session at 10:17 p.m.

XXII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by N. DeSousa, 2nd by S. Morgan, the Board voted to adjourn. The time was 10:17 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kalesnik
Recording Secretary

Catherine Simonelli
Secretary

Approved: 6/11/14