

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
September 14, 2016
EAST WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL – Room N4**

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chair C. Simonelli called the meeting to order at 7:32p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair C. Simonelli led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ATTENDANCE

Chair C. Simonelli, Secretary R. Reichle, K. Bilodeau, P. Nelson, S. Morgan, W. Raber, David Swaim, Superintendent Dr. T. Kane Absent: Vice Chair Dr. G. Michna, N. DeSousa

Also present: Dr. C. DeBarge, K. Hellerich, D. Rouillard, EWEA President J. Jette, BOS Liaison D. Nelson, community members

IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

None

V. MINUTES

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by R. Reichle, the Board approved the 8/24/16 regular meeting minutes, as amended. The vote was unanimous.

On a motion by R. Reichle, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board approved the 8/30/16 special meeting/executive session minutes. The vote was unanimous.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

VII. SCHOOL REPORT – East Windsor Middle School

K. Hellerich and D. Rouillard provided an update on their Safe School Climate initiatives.

Dr. G. Michna joined the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE

None

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

1. Updates:

a. BBES Modular Project Update – Dr. Kane reported the following:

- The Town Inspector issued a temporary 30-day Certificate of Occupancy for the opening of school due to his displeasure of the following:
 - ✧ Railings on the north parking lot are on walls of the retaining wall (permanent railings should be installed next week)
 - ✧ The location of the 10-unit as it abuts against the existing building (abuts half-way through a window – window will be tested for asbestos and removed)

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- The landscaping/topsoil depth is being addressed
- The playground plan has been approved and equipment has been ordered
- The fence along the full field has been approved

a. Alliance District School Building Grant- Dr. Kane provided an update on the grant projects:

- The glass in the window area of the main office has been installed
- The door to the main hallway has been ordered
- The kitchen is up and running
- Lockers are in (all but 2)
- 2 toilets were cracked due to over tightening by the company

She provided kudos to the Building Commission and EWPS staff for their hard work and dedication to get these jobs completed.

She also noted the following:

- The enlarged square footage of the building is causing teacher coverage/duty concerns - The BB Focus Group is meeting to discuss solutions
- We petitioned the Traffic Committee to continue the no parking in front of BB on Rye Street. It is under review.
- The Building Commission is displeased with the sidewalks (cracking and not properly graded in correct joint). In order to close the project and audit, they will need to pay all the bills associated with the project. If they hold the pay for the sidewalks, they will not be able to close the project. They are weighing their options.

b. End-of-Year Close-Out- Dr. Kane was happy to report that we successfully closed out the year with no left-over money. The auditor pointed out to the Town Treasurer that the July 14, 2016 check register included expenditures from June 30, 2016. (The Treasurer thought we closed out on June 23, 2016.) The resolution going forward is to run a June 30 register. She and R. Maynard thanked K. Lord and A. Paquette for their work in resolving this issue.

2. Opening of the 2016-2017 School Year- Dr. Kane reported it was a fun opening of the school year for staff. A luncheon and Convocation, including a “jib jab” presentation and stand-up comedy routine by our very own, A. Paquette, occurred on August 25th. To end the ceremony, a Chewbacca mask was given away as a way to “experience the joy in life,” as stated by the “Chewbacca Mom” who went viral with her slogan on YouTube. She also reported it was a smooth start of the school year for students. Buses also ran well with typical bus change requests.
3. BBES Grand Opening/65th Anniversary Celebration- Dr. Kane informed the Board and community of the following activities taking place at the event:
- 1:00 p.m. - Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
 - 1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Guided Tours of the Additions
 - 2:30 p.m. – Anniversary Celebration with cake/punch

4. Superintendent Evaluation- Chair C. Simonelli reported a great evaluation for Dr. Kane and acknowledged a lot has been accomplished under her leadership. She publically thanked her for her work in moving the district forward. The evaluation will be placed on the district website.

X. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE

PreK Grant- Dr. Kane informed the Board we would like to apply for a PK grant. When full-day K was instituted, it was met with opposition from some local day care providers. Therefore, she wanted the BOE aware of this application. This grant would allow 2 PreK teachers to provide a full-day program to students who qualify for free and reduced lunch. These students do not typically attend a daycare program. It is a multi-year grant, with the first year of the grant used for capital improvements to the high school rooms where the programs will be located. Locating the programs at EWHS will allow high school students to interface with children, should they be interested in entering a career in early childhood.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board voted to approve the PreK grant. The vote was unanimous.

XI. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

Central Services Entrance – Dr. Kane informed the Board of the installation of cameras and “buzz in” system at Central Services, as part of our security measures. She also reminded them the office would be closed on Monday, September 19th due to office renovations.

XII. LIAISONS' REPORTS

C. Simonelli reported her attendance at a recent CIP meeting. Departments are in the process of preparing their CIP Plans. They are looking to spend down funds with normal projects and special projects that are not awaiting budget funding. (\$400,000 has been approved by the state to get the projects done.) There is another meeting scheduled on September 19 at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall.

S. Morgan reported his attendance at the recent 250th Anniversary committee meeting.

XIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

D. Nelson noted how pleased she is to see all departments working together. She thanked the Board for their efforts and will pass her thanks along to R. Maynard, First Selectman.

XIV. MISCELLANEOUS

S. Morgan reminded the Board the Four-Town Fair was taking place this weekend, and Community Day on 9/24. Conversation ensued as to which Board members would be available to march in the Community Day Parade.

D. Nelson noted the East Windsor Rotary Wine Tasting event will take place at 2:00 p.m. on 9/24.

W. Raber informed the Board he was approached by a parent inquiring about the “Back Pack” program. Dr. Kane informed them it was a Park and Rec initiative and that they were working with EWPS Nurse Leader, Wendy Gage and Food Service Manager, Perry Kokofsky regarding the logistics.

K. Bilodeau noted her granddaughter attends Bristol schools where everyone is granted free lunch. She inquired as to the district qualifications to grant this offering. Dr. Michna is a Bristol employee and stated it is not offered across the entire Bristol district.

W. Raber inquired as to how we allowed buses to enter developments RT 5. Dr. Kane informed them she spoke with the manager of Mill Pond and learned it was not illegal for buses to turn around in a development. She requested the change to enter into the development, instead of on RT 5 as a safety measure.

S. Morgan inquired if we had a student representative assigned for this school year. Ms. A. Kalesnik informed the Board she spoke with T. Keleher earlier in the day and he confirmed D. Couture would serve as the representative again this year.

He also inquired about the outcome of the Car Show that was held in May.

Dr. Kane informed the Board she will be working with Tony Ragazio-Digillio tomorrow to work on the Strategic Plan.

Chair C. Simonelli reported the following:

- She received a call from the CREC Council chairman because we haven’t had a CREC Council liaison present at their meetings. She informed them that attendance is difficult due to work schedules and their scheduled meeting time (2:00 p.m.)
- The NEASC process was underway at EWHS
- The recent article in the Hartford Courant “Court order for changes in CT public schools” would make for interesting conversation
- Open dates for the BOE retreat are 9/20 & 9/22, but not everyone is available on those dates. She offered a Saturday date. D. Swaim inquired as to what the retreat was about. She stated it was how we do business among ourselves and with others. W. Raber suggested holding the retreat on a Saturday morning when everyone is fresh and not coming from work. Dr. G. Michna recommended canceling one of their regularly scheduled meetings and hold it on that evening

XV. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Calendars of Events
2. Correspondence Re: BBES Traffic Request

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by S. Morgan, 2nd by K. Bilodeau, the Board voted to enter executive session at 9:15 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, dismissal or the health of a public officer or employee, provided that such individual may require that the discussion be held at an open meeting. The vote was unanimous.

The Board came out of executive session at 9:26 p.m.

On a motion by R. Reichle, 2nd by K. Bilodeau, the Board voted to make the following amendment to the superintendent's contract dated July 2011:

- Contract to be extended to June 30, 2019
- 3.5% raise
- 25 telecommute/work remotely days
- \$ 3000.00 stipend for the completion of the BBES addition

The vote was unanimous.

W. Raber left the meeting at 9:28 p.m.

On a motion by S. Morgan, 2nd K. Bilodeau, the Board voted to return to executive session. The vote was unanimous.

Dr. C. DeBarge joined the meeting.

At 9:59 p.m., a motion by S. Morgan, 2nd K. Bilodeau, to come and of executive session and go past the 10:00 p.m. deadline. The vote was unanimous.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd S. Morgan, the Board voted to return to executive session. The vote was unanimous.

R. Reichle left the meeting at 10:40 p.m.

The Board came out of executive session at 10:43p.m.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by S. Morgan, 2nd by K. Bilodeau, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kalesnik
Recording Secretary

Randi Reichle
Secretary

Approved: 9/28/16