

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF
March 22, 2017
BROAD BROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Gymnasium**

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chair C. Simonelli called the meeting to order at 8:24 p.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, N. DeSousa, W. Raber, S. Morgan, D. Swaim, K. Carey-Trull, Dr. T. Kane Absent: Dr. G. Michna

Also present: Dr. C. DeBarge, BOS Liaison D. Nelson, community members

IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

New Alliance District School Building Grant Re-Vote – On a motion by W. Raber, 2nd by N. DeSousa the Board approved the added agenda item as presented. The vote was unanimous.

V. MINUTES

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board approved the March 8, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. The vote was unanimous.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Emily Syme, 72 Windsorville Road, shared her written letter to the Board regarding her enrollment in the Rockville Agri-Science program and the alleged rivalry with the Suffield Agri-Science program.

Jennifer Syme, 72 Windsorville Road, noted there are 19 Chapters of FFA in Connecticut, each of which provides a list of towns under their umbrella; East Windsor falling under Vernon. She also noted there are few exceptions with a set curriculum between Rockville and Suffield, and that her family followed the rules by attending Rockville.

Lorelai Standish, 25 Laurel Circle, stated she had fun at the recent Mr. Popper's Penguins Party at Broad Brook Elementary School.

Adolph Forbes, 21D Folkstone Road, noted the different cultures with different issues. "The point is not to rock the boat, but if the boat rocks, we are all in it together." When a child is physically assaulted, it is not simple. He requested to know what is going on. He appreciated the superintendent reaching out to start a dialogue, but as the Board of Education, you take a more aggressive approach to stop things before they get too complex.

VII. PERSONNEL REPORT

The Board reviewed the current report provided in their packet. Congratulations goes out to Ms. Drake on her official notice of retirement.

VIII. FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Paquette summarized the most current report provided to the Board:

- Transfers are on target, even with covering the Food Service deficit
- If 1% fund does not happen, we will not lose - \$511,000 projected in special education tuition that can be carried over

K. Carey-Trull inquired about the Food Service deficit. A. Paquette noted the changes in food initiatives increase costs. They would like to see Food Service break even, but that is rarely seen. Dr. Kane noted a recent unexpected repair and also stated the participation rate is a driving factor. She commended changes made to the program under the direction of Food Service Manager, P. Kokofsky.

Dr. Kane thanked A. Paquette for the wonderful job in answering questions at this evening's BOF meeting at Town Hall, prior to our Board meeting.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE

1. FY18 Budget - The Board was provided in their packets the FY18 PowerPoint budget presentation to the BOF. It is recommended they vote the new budget increase (4.70% to 4.51%), given the recent insurance reduction.

On a motion by N. DeSousa, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board voted in favor of the change to 4.51%. The vote was unanimous.

2. New Alliance District School Building Grant Re-Vote – Dr. Kane informed the Board of the security needs that have been added to the grant.

On a motion by K. Carey-Trull, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board approved the inclusion of the security needs as presented. The vote was unanimous.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

Updates:

- a. Broad Brook Elementary School Modular Project Update:
Dr. Kane noted a calendar was set for the project reworks, agreed to by the Building Commission and to be completed in July.
- b. Alliance Capital Grant Update: The window project is underway. All other projects have been completed.

XI. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE

None

XII. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

None

K. Carey-Trull requested an update on the Community Partnership Award be placed on a future agenda.

Also, relative to Responsive Classroom, she inquired how things are handled when something happens, and how are parents informed of the services provided in the classroom.

XIII. LIAISONS' REPORTS

K. Carey-Trull inquired if a student in town, but not in school, could utilize the services of the Youth Services Bureau. Dr. Kane informed her that has yet to be decided.

XIV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

XV. MISCELLANEOUS

W. Raber requested to discuss the Suffield Agri-Science issue and involve all appropriate parties in the discussion. Dr. Kane stated she would be in discussion with Chair C. Simonelli as to how to approach this matter. She reminded the Board of their role in deciding policy and budget. They would need to decide if this would fall under policy or a daily operation of the superintendent.

W. Raber was disturbed with the document provided by a parent this evening. Dr. Kane noted the Connecticut State Department of Education states one can send their child to the program of their choice. C. Simonelli stated school choice is different today; it is not up to us to tell parents where to send their children for an education.

S. Morgan informed the Board the recent East Windsor Police Department's Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner raised over \$1,000 for Special Olympics. He also noted the Home Show at the old Walmart building is taking place this weekend. The Veterans Commission and 250th Anniversary Committee will have booths at the event.

N. DeSousa mentioned the BBES One School One Book event was well attended last night and fun was had by all.

Chair C. Simonelli thanked Dr. C. DeBarge for doing a great job at the recent "Meet and Greet" sessions.

K. Carey-Trull noted the EWHs production of Beauty and the Beast is scheduled this Friday and Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

XVI. CORRESPONDENCE

Calendars of Events

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need for an executive session this evening.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by S. Morgan, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board voted to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine DeBarge, Ed.D
Recording Secretary

Randi Reichle
Board Secretary

Approved: 4/5/17