

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION  
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF  
January 11, 2017  
EAST WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL – Room N4**

**I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

Chair C. Simonelli called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**III. ATTENDANCE**

Chair C. Simonelli, Vice Chair Dr. G. Michna, Secretary, R. Reichle, S. Morgan, W. Raber, D. Swaim, K. Carey-Trull, Dr. T. Kane Absent: K. Bilodeau, N. DeSousa

Also present: Dr. C. DeBarge, K. Hellerich, D. Rouillard, BOE Student Representative D. Couture, E. Schorr, A. Delphia, BOS Liaison D. Nelson, EWMS students, parents, community meeting

**IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**V. MINUTES**

On a motion by S. Morgan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Raber, the Board approved the December 19, 2016 meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous.

**VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**VII. SCHOOL REPORT – East Windsor Middle School**

EWMS Music teachers E. Schorr and A. Delphia shared their vision as to where they would like to see the middle school music program grow over the next few years:

- Philosophy/Mission Statement
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills: Creativity, Collaboration, Creativity
- Upcoming Events

They concluded their presentation with short performances by the middle school select chorus members and three select flute players.

**VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

D. Couture reported on news and events at all three schools.

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE**

None

**X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION**

1. Updates:

- a. Broad Brook Elementary School Modular Project Update – Dr. Kane had no news to report on the connector as it related to the project.
- b. Alliance District School Buildings Grant – Dr. Kane reported the following:
  - The air conditioning project for the office and cafeteria will be completed on January 16.

- The vestibule is finished and operational. Shades for the office have been ordered.
  - All other projects have been completed.
  - The window replacement bids will be opened in the end of January. Vendors have already conducted a walk-through.
  - There will be no flexibility for an extension on the 6/30/17 deadline for expenditures regarding the project.
  - The Town has been notified that ModSpace, the contractor for the BBES Modular Project, has filed for bankruptcy. The Building Commission will be meeting to discuss the matter. We have a performance bond on the project, so we should have no concern with the news.
  - Outstanding project concerns: sidewalks need to be redone, The VCT flooring needs to be corrected, and landscaping will be done in the spring.
2. Foreign Language Field Trip- Dr. Kane reminded the Board of the change in the April Foreign Language field trip due to the lack of participation for the initial trip. The Board was provided with an updated request form, which designated London, England and Paris, France as the destinations for this trip.

#### **XI. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE**

1. Use of School Facility- S. Morgan noted the Veterans Commission is requesting use of Broad Brook Elementary School on 11/11/17 for the Veterans Road Race. Due to event participation, they have outgrown the use of Town Hall. The venue would allow participants use of restrooms, cafeteria, and a warm resting place, should they encounter cold weather. On a motion by W. Raber, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Reichle, the Board voted to allow use of Broad Brook Elementary School by the Veterans Commission on 11/11/17. The vote was 7-0-1. (S. Morgan abstained.)
2. EWPS 2017-2018 School Calendars- On a motion by Dr. G. Michna, 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Raber, the Board voted to approve the calendars as presented. The vote was unanimous.
3. Change in February Meeting Date- On a motion by S. Morgan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Reichle, the Board voted to change the regular BOE meeting on 2/8 to 2/7, immediately following the Public Budget Hearing at Town Hall. The vote was unanimous. The BOE meeting will be held at BBES on 2/7.
4. BOE Budget Workshop Dates- The Board was provided with a tentative schedule for their budget workshops in their packets. The Town budget meeting dates are also included in the schedule. On a motion by S. Morgan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Reichle, the Board approved the 2/13 and 2/14 workshop dates as presented. The vote was unanimous.
5. FY17 ECS Reduction – The impact of the \$64K reduction to our ECS funds was discussed, including the reduction in our alliance grant funding. We will consider this when preparing our future budgets. What do we do with the \$64K gap for this year? Do we approach the Town for an added appropriation for the funds? Dr. G. Michna recommended beginning conversations with the Town to inform them of the impact this will have on our budgets. Dr. Kane informed the Board they have already started the conversation with the Town Treasurer. They are looking at the option to establish a 1% fund to carry over funds each year for this purpose.

She also noted the next meeting of the BOF was on 1/18. She asked the Board if it was their desire to be put on their agenda that evening to discuss the matter. It was the consensus of the Board to do so.

**XII. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION**

Suffield High School Agriscience Program –Dr. Kane informed the Board two middle school students are seeking approval to make application to the Suffield program. She informed the Board the tuition does not pose a financial impact on the district, as it is the same cost. Therefore, EWPS will recognize the Suffield program as an option along with the Rockville program.

**XIII. LIAISONS' REPORTS**

Vice Chair Dr. G. Michna noted his receipt of an email from CABA regarding the upcoming Board Chair Roundtable event next week. He and Chair C. Simonelli noted it would be difficult to attend the event as it is scheduled in the middle of the workday.

S. Morgan noted 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary sweatshirts are available for sale. Mugs and bags will be available in the near future. Scott invited Board members and the community to contact him, should they be interested in purchasing the merchandise. Dr. Kane requested to meet with Scott to discuss our role in the celebration. Scott will reach out to her after the next committee meeting on 1/19.

**XIV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Fran Neill, 153 Mill Rose Road, submitted the BOE failed to follow the bylaws regarding the new superintendent search. She strongly encourages the Board to follow policies in the future.

Sarah Pashe, 32 Margaret Drive, noted her support of Ms. Neill's comments and encouraged the Board to follow the appropriate process and keep communication open in the future. She stated they look forward to meeting and working with the next superintendent.

**XV. MISCELLANEOUS**

Student Representative D. Couture noted the Girls Basketball Team won their recent game against Bolton and will be going to the State Championships. She also noted the Boys Basketball team won their game earlier this evening.

Vice Chair Dr. G. Michna spoke to the policy regarding the student representative to the Board. He noted a student representative in another school district was put in an unfortunate situation of being contacted by Board members to find out what was going on in the schools. It was later brought up in the student representative's Board report. He would like to see something applied to our policy to protect our student representative.

D. Swaim noted he has been reading a lot lately about heroin use and inquired about the programs we currently have in place within the district. Dr. Kane informed him our Safe School Climate work is a proactive approach to keep our students on the right track to a productive and healthy life – “stopping it before it starts.”

**XVI. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Enrollment
2. Calendar of Events
3. BBES Newsletter
4. EWMS *Wildcat*

**XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by S. Morgan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Reichle, the Board voted to enter executive session at 8:50 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations:

- a. East Windsor Education Association
- b. Assistant Superintendent

The vote was unanimous.

W. Raber was not present for the session.

Dr. Kane left the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

The Board came out of executive session at 9:58 p.m.

On a motion by Dr. G. Michna, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Reichle, the Board voted to accept the tentative agreement of the contract between the East Windsor BOE and the East Windsor Education Association for 2017-2020. The vote was unanimous.

**XVIII. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by S. Morgan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Swaim, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:59 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kalesnik  
Recording Secretary

Randi Reichle  
Board Secretary

**Approved: 1/25/17**