

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT**

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF
February 13, 2013
EAST WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL – Room N-4**

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman C. Mickey called the meeting to order at 7:30 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, Secretary C. Simonelli, W. Raber, G. Michna, R. Maynard, K. Bilodeau, N. DeSousa, and Superintendent T. Kane.

IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

On a motion by C. Simonelli, 2nd by W. Raber, the Board approved the field trip request as an added agenda item. Vote: 8-0

V. MINUTES

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by W. Schultz, the Board approved the minutes of January 23, 2013 as amended. Vote: 8-0

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no requests for public participation at this time.

VII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

A student representative was not present at this evening's meeting.

VIII. NEW MEMBER/FILLING BOE VACANCY

On a motion by W. Schultz, 2nd by C. Simonelli, Randi Reichle was nominated to fill the Board of Education vacancy. Vote: 8-0

IX. CURRICULUM REPORT

Ms. DeBarge provided an overview of the academic work that has been completed in the district, including a presentation of the new English Language Arts (ELA) and Math data provided on the data wall.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (VOTE REQUIRED)

2013-2014 School Calendar - Dr. Kane presented the Board members with the results of the surveys sent to parents and staff. She noted the staff is in favor of keeping the current calendar, while parents are split 50/50 in their desire to remain with the current calendar or change. Discussion ensued relative to:

- Amendment to the calendar reflecting the change of the existing professional days from full-days to shortened days and the selection of said days
- Possibilities for childcare due to said changes
- Effect these changes would have on students and staff
- EWHS student exam schedules
- Number of staff and households that received the survey
- Clarity of the survey questions
- Possibility of conducting an additional survey
- Consistency of the start date of school, depending where Labor Day falls on the calendar in the future
- Possible change to the February break.

Superintendent Kane took two action items: 1) Review with High School Administration what effect the shortened days in April will have on AP students preparing for the May tests and 2) Review with High School Administration whether to change the mid-term test days to shortened days. Superintendent Kane will bring two schedules to the next meeting for review incorporating any changes necessary due to the action items above as well as indicating shortened days at the High School for Final Exams. One schedule will contain a full five day February break while the other will have a shortened February break.

On a motion by C. Simonelli, 2nd by N. DeSousa, the Board tabled a vote on this item to the next scheduled Board of Education meeting. Vote: 8-0.

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (DISCUSSION)

- a. Strategic Plan Update – Dr. Kane outlined the outcome of the recent Strategic Planning Committee meeting, as provided in Board member packets. She reported that this update will be posted on our website and forwarded to staff by the end of the week.
- b. FY14 Budget – The scheduled dates for the FY14 budget workshops were discussed.

XII. NEW BUSINESS (VOTE REQUIRED)

(Approved added agenda item:)

Field Trip Request – (Via Board policy, the Board is charged with approving out-of-state field trips.)

On a motion by W. Raber, 2nd by K. Bilodeau, the Board approved the East Windsor Middle School Ski Club field trip to Okemo Mt, VT. Vote: 8-0

XIII. NEW BUSINESS (DISCUSSION)

Status of School Roofs – With the recent snow storm, Dr. Kane informed the Board that the staff has inspected the roof conditions and the roof drains are properly draining the melting snow. The building roofs are fine and there is no further action required except continued monitoring.

XIV. LIAISONS' REPORTS

None

XV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Marie DeSousa inquired about the incurred transportation costs, should there be a change to the February break in next year's calendar. She also commented on the comparison of the number of students living in and attending our schools vs. the number of our transient students relative to our district data.

XVI. MISCELLANEOUS

N. DeSousa reported that there were no public participants at the recent Public Hearing.

R. Maynard reported his attendance at a recent Technology Committee meeting and discussion regarding the possibility of videotaping the East Windsor Board of Education meetings. It was the consensus of the Board to videotape.

C. DeBarge informed the Board that she participated as a judge in the recent Poetry Out Loud contest. It was a wonderful experience for her to participate in this capacity and our students did an outstanding job.

N. DeSousa inquired as to whether the issue of smoke in the student restrooms had been rectified. She had received recent complaints from constituents. (Mr. Keleher, Principal of East Windsor High School was present in the audience and confirmed that the issue has been addressed.)

XVII. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Response and Clarification from L. Giuliano
2. Broad Brook *Monthly Parent Newsletter*
3. *The Wildcat*

XVIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by C. Simonelli, 2nd by W. Schultz, the Board voted to go into executive session at 9:25 p.m. to discuss a pending claim. Vote: 8-0

Executive session ended at 9:39 p.m.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2nd by W. Schultz, the Board voted to adjourn at 9:39 p.m.
Vote: 8-0

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Simonelli
Secretary

Ann M. Kalesnik
Recording Secretary

Approved 2/27/13