

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION  
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, February 12, 2020  
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**

In attendance: Chair C. Simonelli, Vice Chair R. Reichle, Secretary K. Carey-Trull, K. Bilodeau, D. Swaim, F. Neill, S. Andrews, C. Sevarino, Dr. C. DeBarge

Absent: W. Raber

Also present: Dr. P. Tudryn, D. Rouillard, B. Kaminski, Student Representative A. Trull, EWEA President J. Jette, community members

**IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS**

1. FY21 Budget Workshop Minutes – February 4, 2020
2. FY21 Budget Workshop Minutes – February 5, 2020

On a motion by R. Reichle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by K. Bilodeau, the Board voted to approve the added agenda items as presented. The vote was unanimous.

**V. MINUTES**

On a motion by R. Reichle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by F. Neill, the Board approved the January 22, 2020 regular meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous.

On a motion by R. Reichle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Swaim, the Board approved the February 4, 2020 FY21 Budget Workshop minutes. The vote was unanimous.

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Swaim, the Board approved the February 5, 2020 FY21 Budget Workshop minutes. The vote was unanimous.

**VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Barbara Petano, 12 Stiles Road, was present and noted her attendance as the BOF liaison for the evening. A permanent representative will be appointed by the BOF.

**VII. SCHOOL REPORT**

East Windsor High School – B. Kaminski reported on EWHS Student Life:

- Great Winter Concert
- Safe School Leaders Winter Carnival (planned, designed, hosted and implemented by them)
- Celebration of our Athletes
- Lincoln Tech Presentation (hosted by our CTE Department)
- Academics at EWHS
- PSAT/SAT Student Reflection and Conferences

- Future Planning Fair
- Parent Conference Communication
- NEASC

**VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Student Representative A. Trull shared the news and events at all three schools.

**IX. PERSONNEL REPORT**

The Board reviewed the current report provided in their meeting packet.

**X. FINANCIAL REPORT**

A. Paquette reported the following:

- Unallocated funds: \$93,929 (includes \$46,800 payment for MUNIS, increase in Food Service Department overages, EWMS oil tank removal)
- Grant funding soon to be received
- Choice Program – Dr. DeBarge spoke to the Commissioner regarding the recent request from the Hartford Public Schools to provide residency verification for our special education students prior to us receiving funds for services we provided to those students - CSDE is trying to work on a resolution

Food Service Update:

- Trending with a deficit, but \$11,287 less than this time last year
- Receipt of increase in commodity funding, which is being spent wisely
- Creating positive initiatives to increase participation
- Food Service consultant has visited our schools and will offer feedback
- Participation = 61% EWHS, 50% EWMS, just under 50% BBES (breakfast participation is in the low teens or into 20%)

K. Bilodeau noted a derogatory post on Facebook related to the Food Service Program. Dr. DeBarge is aware of the post.

**XI. CURRICULUM REPORT**

D. Rouillard reviewed the proposed courses being brought before the Board:

- Community Problem Solving
- AP Literature & Composition/Honors American Literature/Academic Level American Literature
- Mathematics – Financial Literacy
- Music Appreciation/Evolution of Music

**XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE**

1. FY20 Budget – This is a standing item on the BOE agenda. There was no action to be taken this evening.
2. FY21 Budget – Dr. DeBarge suggested the Board hold on a vote at this time as they are working on the EWHS 2020-2021 course schedule which could have an impact on staffing. Additionally, 16% has been budgeted for insurance for next year. At a meeting at Town Hall today, we heard it to be 17 %, which our insurance representatives believe would be worse case scenario. (They will go out for an RFP for insurance.) Finally, the FY21 budget includes the costs to run middle school sports. When surveying middle school students, the outcome was that the primary sports of student interest were soccer, softball, and baseball. With all the aforementioned considered, Dr. DeBarge suggests the Board hold on a budget vote this evening.

The Board reviewed the updated FY21 budget sheets provided by A. Paquette. The requested budget increase of 8.23% is now at 7.12%.

**XIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION**

None

**XIV. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE**

New Course Proposals:

1. Community Problem Solving
2. AP Literature & Composition/Honors American Literature/Academic Level American Literature
3. Mathematics – Financial Literacy
4. Music Appreciation/Evolution of Music

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2<sup>nd</sup> by F. Neill, the Board approved the proposed course approvals as presented. The vote was unanimous.

**XV. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION**

None

**XVI. LIAISONS' REPORTS**

K. Carey-Trull reported her attendance at the recent Education Foundation meeting, whereas she was elected a director. There was not a large participation, but it is their hope for additional future participation. Application forms will be forthcoming to the schools to give teachers the opportunity to apply for grants the Foundation may fund.

**XVII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Charlie Nordell, BOS Member, noted that just because the public rejects the budget doesn't necessarily mean they are rejecting our budget.

**XVIII. MISCELLANEOUS**

K. Bilodeau noted she has been asked by community members whether or not it is possible for us to record our meetings.

F. Neill noted her attendance at the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade concert last evening. She provided kudos to Ms. Ellis on the performance and student interaction.

Dr. DeBarge informed the Board of the annual Principal of the Day initiative at BBES as part of the Winter Reading Program. One of the winners, student Alex Olsen, proposed a Hat Day fundraiser to benefit St. Jude's Hospital, with the suggestion to donate \$1 toward the fundraiser. This will be a district-side fundraiser on February 21.

EWEA President, J. Jette noted his attendance at Suffield High School on February 11. Hanging in the hallway of the school, which caught his eye, was a "Suffield Teacher of the Year" banner. He thought that would be a good initiative for our district.

**XIX. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Enrollment
2. Calendars of Events
3. Correspondence: Donation

**XX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no need for an executive session this evening.

**XXI. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by K. Bilodeau, 2<sup>nd</sup> by F. Neill, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kalesnik  
Recording Secretary

Approved: 2/26/20