

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION  
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, June 24, 2020  
7:30 p.m. – Via Zoom  
Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://zoom.us/j/99406146276?pwd=ZlI6WTE4bGJ6RWp2b3c3K2ozMEdlQT09>

Meeting ID: 994 0614 6276  
Password: 801623  
One tap mobile  
+13017158592,,99406146276# US (Germantown)  
Dial by your location  
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)  
Meeting ID: 994 0614 6276  
Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abjq61FDfv>

**I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

Chair C. Simonelli called the meeting to order at 7:32 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, W. Raber, F. Neill, Dr. C. DeBarge

Absent: D. Swaim, S. Andrews, C. Sevarino

Also in attendance: A. Anderson, D. Casella, community members

**IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**V. COMMENDATIONS**

CABE Student Leadership Award Recipients – A. Anderson, EWHS Principal, introduced the 2020 CABE Student Leadership Award recipients to the Board: Bushrah Khan & Jarod Witzke.

C. Sevarino joined the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

D. Swaim joined the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

S. Andrews joined the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

**VI. MINUTES**

June 10, 2020 - On a motion by W. Raber, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Reichle, the Board voted to accept the meeting minutes as amended. The vote was as follows: W. Raber – yes, R. Reichle – yes, C. Sevarino – yes, F. Neill – yes, K. Carey-Trull – yes, D. Swaim – yes, S. Andrews – yes, C. Simonelli – yes. The vote was 8 yes, 0 no.

**VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: VOTE**

FY20 & FY21 Budgets – Dr. DeBarge reported the following:

- The Governor’s guidance for re-entry is expected to be received later this week
- Based on our summer guidelines, we are in the process of purchasing PPE and materials (touchless faucets, paper towel holders, etc.)
- We are in the hiring process to replace staff resignations and retirements
- Discussions taking place by staff Re: Individually preferred insurance options
- Wrapping up budget
- Monitoring special education changes

Discussion ensued relative to approved cleaning and disinfecting supplies. Dr. DeBarge noted we are trying to find available cleaners provided on the list from the CDC, especially appropriate products that can be used while students are in the classrooms, but they are hard to find and costly. We may use items outside of “green cleaning”, i.e. Lysol, etc.

There was no voted required this evening.

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: DISCUSSION**

Re-Entry Sub-Committee Assignments – The Board discussed the outline of each individual sub-committee:

1. Facilities
2. Medical
3. Mental Health
4. Academic
5. Information Technology
6. Special Education
7. Food Service

Discussion ensued relative to re-entry options.

On a motion by R. Reichle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Raber, the Board voted to recess from discussion on this item and take the New Business:Vote item out of order for action. The vote was as follows:  
W. Raber – yes, R. Reichle – yes, C. Sevarino – yes, F. Neill – yes, K. Carey-Trull – yes,  
D. Swaim – yes, S. Andrews – yes, C. Simonelli – yes. The vote was 8 yes, 0 no.

**X. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE**

Filling a Board Vacancy – Town Republican Committee nominee, H. Spencer, was present at the meeting to answer any questions the Board may have relative to her candidacy. When asked if she was looking to serve for the long-term, she informed the Board she was in it for the long-haul and feels this a good way to give back to the community.

On a motion by R. Reichle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by K. Carey-Trull, the Board voted to appoint H. Spencer to the Board of Education. The vote was as follows: W. Raber – yes, R. Reichle – yes, C. Sevarino – yes, F. Neill – yes, K. Carey-Trull – yes, D. Swaim – yes, S. Andrews – yes, C. Simonelli – yes. The vote was 8 yes, 0 no.

The Board then revisited the re-entry subcommittee assignments as previously discussed. The Board volunteered to the sub-committees as follows:

Facilities: W. Raber, H. Spencer  
Medical: R. Reichle  
Mental Health: F. Neill (Alt.: C. Sevarino)  
Academic – K. Carey-Trull, C. Simonelli  
Information Technology – C. Simonelli  
Special Education – H. Spencer  
Food Service: C. Sevarino

**XI. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION**

“Implicit Bias” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kKHSJHkPeLY>

D. Casella was present to outline the meaning of “Implicit Bias.” We support cultural development around cultural differences and around diversity and obstacles:

- Social Emotional
- Necessary “Soft Skills,” Good Leaders
- We already have a strong foundation as we established these teachings years ago
- Conversations with parents/students

The Board viewed a YouTube video on Implicit Bias (Tedx MidAtlantic – “Ted Talk”) from the link included with this item on their agenda and provided by Dr. DeBarge from her screen. It was noted that this video was filmed in 2017, so it is not a new conversation that has surfaced.

Dr. DeBarge informed the Board she has taken the survey on the Implicit Bias website referenced in the video. She encourages all Board members to take the bias tests/surveys as the results could facilitate future trainings.

The Board discussed our current work and the goals we have in place relative to these issues.

Dr. DeBarge noted our new SRO has been appointed: Officer Nikki Devlin. She comes highly recommended by the EWPD and we are excited for her to start her new role. The Board noted the SRO is a positive influence in the EWPS.

**XII. LIAISONS’ REPORTS**

K. Carey-Trull noted the PTO has new leadership. J. Blanchard is the new president, but they are looking for a vice president and additional members.

**XIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**XIV. MISCELLANEOUS**

D. Swaim welcomed H. Spencer to the Board. The remaining members concurred.

C. Simonelli commended Dr. DeBarge, A. Anderson, and B. Kaminski for their work on the recent EWHS Class of 2020 events: Awards Night, Graduation, and senior car parade. Again, the remaining members concurred.

**XV. CORRESPONDENCE**

Letters: Student Commendations (Invention Convention accomplishments by EWMS students A-L Davis, P. Davis, and M. Feeney.)

The Board commend Mr. Bidwell for his long hours and dedicated service after school hours to support these students in the recent Invention Convention competitions.

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**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by R. Reichle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Raber, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 p.m. The vote was as follows: W. Raber – yes, R. Reichle – yes, C. Sevarino – yes, F. Neill – yes, K. Carey-Trull – yes, D. Swaim – yes, S. Andrews – yes, C. Simonelli – yes. The vote was 8 yes, 0 no.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kalesnik  
Board Recording Secretary

Approved: 7/20/20