

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, August 23, 2023
Broad Brook Elementary School, Room A5 - 7:30 p.m.**

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chair R. Reichle called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair R. Reichle led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ATTENDANCE

In attendance: Chair R. Reichle, Vice Chair K. Carey-Trull, Secretary H. Spencer, F. Neill
C. Sevarino, L. Sinsigallo, D. Menard, N. Farmer, P. Tudryn

Also in attendance: D. Rouillard, R. Galloway

Absent: E. LeBorious

IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

None

V. MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting Minutes – July 26, 2023 – N. Farmer commented that the minutes were well-written and expressed her appreciation of the clarity. The minutes were completed as a collaborative effort by H. Spencer and Dr. Tudryn. On a motion by F. Neill, 2nd by C. Sevarino, the Board approved the minutes as presented. The vote was unanimous.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

VII. PERSONNEL REPORT

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

R. Reichle commented that it's been a busy hiring season. D. Menard thanked Dr. Tudryn for sharing the news article with the Board on the teacher shortages within the state. She inquired if there are many vacancies left to fill. Dr. Tudryn stated that he is pleased to share that the school district is completely staffed at the teacher level, which places East Windsor in a much stronger position to start the school year in comparison to many other surrounding school districts. Dr. Tudryn stated that the number of teaching vacancies that need to be filled each year since the pandemic has increased significantly. There were almost 30 new staff at last week's new teacher orientation. K. Carey-Trull inquired on an update of the athletic director. Dr. Tudryn shared that Dean Edwards was recently hired and that a press release and a school messenger to families on the hiring would go out tomorrow. N. Farmer asked the meaning of the acronym of "MTSS." Dr. Tudryn shared that "MTSS" stands for Multi-Tiered Systems of Support which refers to regular education intervention services for students in need of additional academic and behavioral supports.

VIII. FINANCIAL REPORT

FY 2023

R. Galloway shared as of tonight that all encumbrances are now closed. R. Galloway is currently working on the EFS (Educational Financial System) for the state to complete the end of year expenditure reports. R. Galloway stated that the business office is still awaiting a check from CSDE for magnet school tuition reimbursement despite making several inquiries on the status of the disbursement. Once the revenue is received and booked, the FY23 budget can be closed.

R. Galloway stated that cafeteria/food service and FRC (Family Resource Center) reports are up-to-date and encumbrances are closed, and these updates will be reflected in next month's reports.

N. Farmer asked for an update on the budget audit. R. Galloway stated that he met with the auditor and Dr. Tudryn. R. Galloway reported that the initial meeting went well, and the auditor expressed she did not have any concerns at this time.

K. Carey-Trull inquired about the final balance in the financial report. R. Galloway stated that once the magnet school tuition reimbursement revenue is received, the Board of Education will be returning approximately \$40,000 to the town.

IX. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE

1. Surplus Equipment and Instructional Materials

On a motion by D. Menard, 2nd by L. Sinsigallo, the Board unanimously approved to donate or discard the surplus equipment and instructional materials listed on page 34 of the Board packet.

X. LIAISONS' REPORTS

None

XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

XII. MISCELLANEOUS

N. Farmer commented that the recent landscaping and schools look great. She also shared that she has received a lot of positive feedback from community members on the recent participation of the schools during National Night Out.

D. Menard shared that she recently saw a post for Trunk or Treat and inquired if the schools will be participating. Dr. Tudryn shared that it is the goal to participate and was unaware that the date had been posted. He will reach out to Melissa Maltese regarding participating this year.

Dr. Tudryn shared there is a reveal for the recent Broad Brook School mural that the Arts and Culture Committee recently organized and completed is tentatively scheduled at 7 p.m. on September 13 prior to the start of the next Board meeting. More information will be forthcoming. The mural was thoughtfully designed to allow additional books to be painted each year following the One School One Book program.

Dr. Tudryn shared that Convocation went very well this past Monday and there is a lot of positive optimism to the start of the school year. Kindergarten orientation took place earlier today and went well. Preschool orientation is scheduled for tomorrow. The school administration is very pleased with the talent coming in from the new hiring of staff. The schools are in a good position to start the school year.

Dr. Tudryn notified the Board that the Middle School band teacher was able to find a company that will take irreparable unused music instruments in exchange for gently used, refurbish instruments that will be a benefit to our students and music program.

Dr. Tudryn stated that several calendar invites were sent to Board members as notification of subcommittee meetings. H. Spencer suggested that upcoming subcommittee meetings for each month be listed on Board agendas as a reminder. Board members were in support of this suggestion. In addition, a list of dates and times for subcommittee meetings will be provided at the next Board meeting and posted on the district website.

Discussion took place on recent correspondence regarding the need to address the potential issue related to the Middle School watermain. Additional concerns expressed included obtaining estimates, funding sources, and engineer plans. Dr. Tudryn will reach out to the First Selectman and work to identify potential possibilities to address the concern. D. Menard suggested that the watermain be placed on the agenda to a future Board of Finance meeting to bring awareness to the need.

R. Reichle reminded Board members of the upcoming CIP tours of school facilities.

XIII. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 2023 Perkins Supplemental Enhancement Grant Award
2. 2023 CAS-CIAC Endowment and Flanagan Grant Award
3. ARPA - Mental Health Specialist Grant Award
4. CIP School Facilities Tours Letter

Dr. Tudryn stated that the district has done very well securing competitive grants. The three grants listed in correspondence in addition to the dual credit grant shared at the last Board meeting, the district has secured approximately \$100,000.

N. Farmer inquired if the funding for the ARPA- MHS covers the entire salary of the position. Dr. Tudryn shared that funding covers partial salary for three years.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by N. Farmer, 2nd by H. Spencer, the Board voted to enter into executive session at 8 p.m. to: discuss the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, dismissal or the health of a public officer or employee, provided such individual may require that the discussion be held at an open meeting – Superintendent’s Evaluation; to discuss contract negotiations; and, discuss pending claims/litigation.

The Board came out of the session at 8:58 p.m.

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XV. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by F. Neill, 2nd by D. Menard, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Spencer, BOE Secretary

Approved: