

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 27, 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, C. Sevarino, L. Sinsigallo, D. Menard (remote), N. Farmer, E. LeBorious, P. Tudryn

Also in attendance: D. Rouillard, R. Galloway, J. Martin, E. Johnson

F. Neill arrived at 8:24 p.m. during the executive session.

IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

None

V. MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting Minutes – September 13, 2023 – On a motion by C. Sevarino, 2nd by K. Carey-Trull, the Board approved the minutes. The vote was unanimous (8-0).
2. Special Meeting/Executive Session Minutes – September 13, 2023 - On a motion by K. Carey-Trull, 2nd by L. Sinsigallo, the Board approved the minutes as presented. The vote was unanimous (8-0).

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

VII. UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

The following meeting and event dates were reviewed. E. LeBorious shared that this addition to the agenda is very helpful. Dr. Tudryn shared that the school administration led by Mr. Field was participating in the Haunted Highway again this year and Board members are welcome to join. The theme is Care Bears. D. Menard and C. Sevarino stated that they plan to join. Going forward, the upcoming meetings/events will be placed on the second meeting agenda for each month.

1. September 27, 2023 - Curriculum Council subcommittee at 6 p.m.
2. October 11, 2023 - Finance subcommittee at 6 p.m.
3. October 11, 2023 - Board of Education meeting at 7:30 p.m.
4. October 18, 2023 - Board Policy Review subcommittee at 5:30 p.m.
5. October 18, 2023 - Town Board of Finance at 7 p.m.
6. October 25, 2023 - Curriculum Council at 6 p.m.
7. October 25, 2023 - Board of Education meeting at 7:30 p.m.
8. October 26, 2023 - Haunted Highway at East Windsor Park from 5-7 p.m.

VIII. FINANCIAL REPORT

R. Galloway reviewed the FY24 financial report that was presented as part of the agenda materials. He shared that since this report was posted that the financials for FRC, Food Service, grants and general fund have been updated and those updates will be reflected in the next financial report. R. Galloway indicated that going forward in the future, the first financial report for the new fiscal year will be provided in the month of October. This will allow sufficient time to complete end-of-year financial items, allow adequate time to provide a clear financial picture of the new fiscal year, and allow the finance subcommittee the opportunity to review the first financial report for the new fiscal year.

IX. PERSONNEL REPORT

The Board reviewed the personnel report. K. Carey-Trull inquired if we have always hired this many bus monitors and the area of need the monitors serve. Dr. Tudryn shared that the number of monitors is consistent with past years but there was a change in process due to the last collective bargaining agreement. Prior, bus monitors were paid based on voluntary interest for the work. The positions are now posted and hired as an extra duty for current employees. The vast majority of bus monitors are hired as a need to service students with special needs. N. Farmer asked if employees need to apply for the stipend positions listed and inquired on how one person can fill multiple stipended positions. Dr. Tudryn responded that employees do have to apply for the stipended positions and that the work involved is performed outside the time of the normal duties. An employee can perform more than one stipend position as long as the time required to perform the duties for each stipend does not cause a conflict in scheduling and time. Staff cannot simultaneously work multiple stipend positions.

X. CURRICULUM REPORT

D. Rouillard presented the curriculum update on analyzing the data on student achievement on standardized state assessments. Staff are required to review student achievement data to indicate strengths and weaknesses, and then develop targeted instruction in the areas in need of improvement. Each school identifies common best teaching strategies to be implemented with consistency and fidelity across all classrooms. Each school conducts learning walks as a plan to improve instruction. Curriculum updates have been continuous over the last couple of years. The professional development for each school is individualized based on the needs. Both the elementary and middle schools' professional development is focused heavily on literacy instruction. The high school is focused on increasing academic rigor for professional development. The work described during the presentation is performed as a collaborative effort between administrators and teachers. Reviewing the achievement data, the trajectory continues to move in an upward trend. East Windsor placed in approximately the top third of Alliance Districts for the second consecutive year. D. Rouillard shared that we are closely monitoring student academic growth and it is anticipated that growth trends will increase this school year.

XI. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

1. EWPS Capital Improvement Inventory List

Dr. Tudryn shared that the CIP Inventory List was submitted to the Town and are scheduled to present to the Town CIP Committee next week on October 3. The items are listed from highest to lowest priority. Dr. Tudryn added that the High School CIP tour was moved to October 4 which was a change after the BOE agenda went out.

XII. LIAISONS' REPORTS

H. Spencer shared that the first Town CIP meeting for this fiscal year was held to begin planning. More information will be forthcoming.

N. Farmer attended the first kick-off PTO meeting. The PTO is currently holding its annual membership drive and beginning the planning of events for the year. The PTO asked its members with assistance with messaging information out. N. Farmer also reported on the the last Board of Finance meeting in which the BOF conducted their usual business and there was nothing out of the ordinary.

E. LeBorious inquired if there is a way that schools can help get information out to the community and if there can be a link to the PTO website placed on the school district website. Dr. Tudryn shared that the schools post and forward the PTO informational flyers to families. Dr. Tudryn responded that the link to the PTO website can be placed on the parent page of the school district website.

Dr. Tudryn shared that at the last Board Policy Review meeting, the subcommittee reviewed the model policy service from Shipman and Goodwin. The BPR subcommittee agreed to move in the direction to adopt the model policy service and work with Shipman and Goodwin in an effort to update, streamline, and overhaul the current policies in place. A number of surrounding districts have either completed this initiative or are moving in this direction. C. Sevarino commented that this is a good opportunity and process for the board to streamline and learn the policies.

XIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

XIV. MISCELLANEOUS

C. Sevarino inquired if Board meetings can start at an earlier time. Dr. Tudryn shared that the start time of Board meetings is indicated in Board policy. D. Menard suggested that Board Policy Review revisited the start time after November elections as there may be new members impacted.

K. Carey-Trull shared that the High School Open House was well attended and the new format worked well with increased flexibility for parents to walk around.

C. Sevarino shared that the Middle School Open House was well attended. Dr. Tudryn shared that

N. Farmer requested clarification in regards to whether the Middle School cross-country team was in addition to Middle School soccer or in replacement of soccer. Dr. Tudryn responded that cross-country replaced soccer due to low enrollment to run soccer. Cross-country currently has approximately 40 students participating. N. Farmer inquired if there are challenges with enrollment in the other seasonal supports. Dr. Tudryn responded that basketball has high enrollment and there were sufficient student interest for baseball and softball. There were challenges last year with students completing the medical clearance in a timely manner for baseball.

Dr. Tudryn shared that there will be correspondence coming out from the High School later this week regarding updated protocols responding to vaping. There is not an uptick with vaping and this response is being implemented as a proactive measure.

XV. CORRESPONDENCE

None

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by C. Sevarino, 2nd by K. Carey-Trull, the Board voted to enter into executive session 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 vote was unanimous.

F. Neill entered the executive session at 8:24 p.m.

The Board came out of the session at 8:45 p.m.

On a motion by K. Carey-Trull, 2nd by H. Spencer, the Board approved to accept the proposed Superintendent’s goals by Dr. Tudryn for the 2023-2024 school year. The vote was unanimous (9-0).

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by H. Spencer, 2nd by K. Carey-Trull, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m. The vote was unanimous (9-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Spencer, BOE Secretary

Approved: