

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, October 11, 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, E. LeBorious, P. Tudryn

Also in attendance: D. Rouillard, L. Foxx, M. Ryan, B. Kaminski, D. Edwards, Z. Stinson, J. Kaprielian, Student Representative- V. Hernandez

IV. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

None

V. COMMENDATIONS

1. Letter of Commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Program – Dr. Tudryn and B. Kaminski presented High School student Vincent Hernandez with an award of recognition of outstanding potential for academic excellence. The national award recognizes high achievement for PSAT scores.

VI. MINUTES

1. September 27, 2023 - Regular Meeting Minutes – On a motion by F. Neill, 2nd by K. Carey-Trull, the Board approved the minutes. The vote was unanimous.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

V. Hernandez presented the news and events at all three schools.

IX. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE

1. Overnight field trips (3) – On a motion by F. Neill, 2nd by H. Spencer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Yale Model Congress overnight field trip. On a motion by K. Carey-Trull, 2nd by E. LeBorious, the Board voted unanimously to approve the American International College Model Congress overnight field trip. On a motion by F. Neill, 2nd by C. Sevarino, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Hershey Park overnight field trip.
2. Policy Updates (1st Reading)
 - a. 9010 - Powers, Duties, Limitations of the Board
 - b. 9270 - Conflict of Interest -
 - c. 4112.8/4212.8 - Nepotism: Employment of Relatives

Discussion ensued relative to policies 9010, 9270, and 4112.8/4212.8. E. LeBorious inquired whether the Board should adopt new policies when the Board will be transitioning from CAFE policies to Shipman and Goodwin policies. C. Sevarino reviewed the process, time and work to update the policies (presented on the agenda) through the Board Policy Review subcommittee. H. Spencer commented that the policy series 9000 may be the last to be reviewed and updated with the transition to Shipman and Goodwin model policies. D. Menard inquired if legal consultation was obtained through the Board Policy Review process. Dr. Tudryn confirmed that the legal consultation was obtained through the process.

Discussion included that the policies 9010 and 4112.8/4212.8 need to include additional language that addresses potential conflicts with collective bargaining. These policies will be brought back to BPR for further discussion before a final vote by the Board.

E. LeBorious requested a copy of the district's organizational chart.

On a motion by N. Farmer, 2nd by L. Singsigallo, the Board voted unanimously to waive the second reading on policy - 9270 - Conflicts of Interest. On a motion by N. Farmer, 2nd by L. Singsigallo, the Board voted unanimously to approve policy 9270 as presented.

X. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

1. Expansion of sports, arts, music/band, and world language

Dr. Tudryn shared that this agenda item was a request by multiple Board members. In preparation for discussion, Melissa Maltese, Dean Edwards, and school band teachers were in attendance per Dr. Tudryn's invitation. N. Farmer shared that she requested this agenda item as a starting point for ongoing conversations to grow these programs to ensure the students have enrichment opportunities within the arts, music, and sports. F. Neill shared that due to the size of the school district it can be difficult to field consistently competitive teams and is interested in promoting and encouraging increased enrichment opportunities. E. LeBorious encouraged the partnership between the schools and parks and recreation, along with offering to explore potential grant opportunities. Upon inquiry, D. Edwards shared that the high school currently co-ops with high school football and baseball. M. Maltese shared that decreased numbers in athletics is a national trend following the pandemic.

Discussion ensued relative to establishing an athletic subcommittee to partner with parks and recreation and other community stakeholders. Board was in agreement to re-establish this subcommittee following November elections. N. Farmer volunteered to participate on the subcommittee. M. Maltese volunteered to participate on the subcommittee.

The Middle School band teacher shared that the band numbers are increasing significantly. In addition, she presented the benefits that music and band has on our students, the gains that middle school students have made over the last year, and provided an update on the progress of the overall music program. There are currently 28 students in the first year of the fourth grade band program. The middle school band shared the challenges with meeting the increased demands for performances and providing the needed attention to the chorus program with two teachers between the middle and high schools. Consideration was requested to add a chorus teacher during the upcoming budget season. The Board thanked both band teachers in attendance for their great work.

J. Kaprielian read a letter from the high school art teacher thanking the Board for increasing the position to full-time. The letter stated that student participation in classes has increased, along with the benefits of an after school program, and student artwork will be highlighted in an upcoming after school art show event.

XI. LIAISONS' REPORTS

H. Spencer and D. Menard provided an update on the town CIP committee meetings along with a timeline of the decision-making process.

XIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

XIV. MISCELLANEOUS

D. Menard requested that in the future when discussing policies during Board regular meetings, the board receive both the current policy and proposed revised policy to have a better understanding of the changes being proposed.

XV. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Commendation Letters
2. Farm to School Letter - Additional funding
3. CSDE HASA Presentation
4. FAFSA Challenge Grant Award Notification
5. Donation letter

Dr. Tudryn stated that he included the CSDE HASA Presentation on correspondence to the board to share the recent data on teacher and paraprofessional shortages, especially the impact on Alliance districts.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by N. Farmer, 2nd by E. LeBorious, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Spencer, BOE Secretary

Approved:

Student Representative Report
BOE Meeting 10.11.23

Broad Brook School Report

Parent teacher conferences and the Scholastic Book Fair are this week. Teachers are looking forward to connecting with parents to share beginning of the year assessment results. Last week, BBS teachers met for data meetings to determine goals for the first round of intervention. Next

week on October 18th, BBS will celebrate unity day. Everyone will wear orange and students are working on All about me posters to share with each other. EWHS students will teach lessons on unity to each class and enjoy lunch with the Kindergarteners.

Middle School Report

- Parent teacher conferences and the Scholastic Book Fair are this week.
- October 16th, EWMS Cross Country Team has a meet vs. Somers.
 - Weekly Wildcat, each grade level team selects six students showing Respect, Ownership, Awareness and Responsibility (ROAR). Each selected student picks a friend, and they are able to eat outside at our new outdoor lunch area or at a special table in the cafeteria.
- October 18th, EWMS will celebrate Unity Day and EWHS students will be helping with our celebration.
- On October 27th, EWMS will be holding its next school-wide event. So far this year, we have had two school-wide events. In August, we held a welcome-back carnival, and in September, we had a pep rally.

High School Report

- The high school had a well attended open house on September 13. There were over 125 panthers in attendance, despite the bad weather and soccer game being postponed. ● PSAT/SAT School Day was scheduled for today. All students took their assessments. ● EWHS will re-started Unified Sports this winter. We received a grant from the CIAC for \$4000 to help the program get up and running.
- The high school applied and received the FAFSA grant for \$4500. This is the 3rd year in a row the school has received this grant.
- The National Honor Society will be proudly inducting 6 new members at their induction ceremony in late November. So far our group has approved of our bylaws and are in the process of planning our first fundraiser.
- The class of 2026 held their first fundraiser of the year at Red Robin on October 4th. ● Yearbook club students have actively been working on this year's Archive. We have a large number of students participating this year and are excited to be working on this project! ● Diversity club began working on revamping our courtyard to celebrate various cultures in themed decor. They plan to continue this through each season.

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- They are actively planning for future fundraisers and are excited for the year ahead. ● This past week the high school had grade level assemblies. To better inform all students of the clubs and activities the school has to offer, each assembly ended with an activities fair. ● Girls' Volleyball will have their Senior Night on October 13, 2023.
- In conjunction with EWHS Booster Club, Friday, October 20th is the high school's annual homecoming dance. The dance will be followed by spirit week, culminating in a pep rally on Friday, October 27th. That evening, the school will host homecoming games for both girls and boys soccer night starting at 5:00. These will also be the sports' Senior nights On Saturday, October 28th the school will end its homecoming festivities with a PowerPuff game at 7:00. Student government has planned the spirit week and our safe school leaders are working on planning our pep rally!
- On Friday, October 20th the 8th graders will be coming to the high school to learn about

their future school and the programs the high school has to offer.