

EASTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Eastford Elementary School
12 Westford Road
Eastford, CT 06242
April 14, 2022

Present: Lauren Barlow (virtual), Michael Bilica (6:26 PM), Stephen Bowen, Terry Cote (virtual 6:04 PM), Robert Ellsworth (virtual), Adam Minor, Jessica Perry (virtual)
Also Present: Dr. Donna Leake, Superintendent; Carole McCombe, Principal; Mary Jo Chretien, Pupil Services Director

I. Call to Order

Chair Bowen called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Bowen led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Citizens of the Trimester

Cayden Menor, grade 8 student, and Ilsa Reiner, grade 3 student, were named recipients of the Trimester Citizenship Award. The Board of Education recognizes students who exemplify the qualities of leadership, respect, support of peers and involvement in school activities. Miss Reiner was able to attend the meeting and be congratulated by the Board.

IV. Citizen Participation

None.

V. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: (Minor/Cote) That the Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2022 be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Correspondence, Communications

- Letters to Citizens of the Trimester families
- Town Roof Committee minutes from March 21, 2022
- Readiness Council resignation letter from Michelle Bibeault
- Professional TV Studio press release from The Woodstock Academy
- EES Second Trimester Honor Roll
- Resignation letter from ELA teacher, Adam Phelps
- Email from Principal Carole McCombe to middle school families, regarding Mr. Phelps' resignation and planned coverage

VII. Committee Reports

- A. Executive/Personnel— None.
- B. Fiscal— None.
- C. Policy— The Board received the minutes of the meetings held on March 15, 2022 and April 12, 2022.
- D. Woodstock Academy – Mr. Ellsworth reported that The Academy is happy that the Ukrainian students are arriving and there is a meeting next week.

- E. EastConn— Ms. Cote reported that Gary Mala retired at the end of March, and she is serving on the search committee.
- F. Long Range Facilities—The Board received the minutes of the meeting held on March 21, 2022.
- G. Transportation—None.
- H. Curriculum— None.
- I. Scholarship Steering Committee – The Board received the minutes of the meeting held on March 15, 2022.
- J. School Safety Committee – None.

VIII. Superintendent Report

Provided the BOE with updates including:

- Highlight of the Month – Attending the EES Auction
- Educational Leadership – ELA curriculum, new math program, student SEL needs, and current employment opportunities posted. Dr. Leake expressed her appreciation to teachers Michelle Bibeault and Catherine DePercio for stepping in to fill the ELA vacancy.
- Facilities – Heating and plumbing system concerns and the Town Roof Replacement Project
- Collaboration and Communication – Continued collaboration with the First Selectman, oil purchasing through a RESC Consortium, attendance at meetings and working with the Eastford Congregational Church on family programs
- Finance – Budget process update and additional after school and summer program funding
- Comments on the Agenda
- Breakdown of Preschool costs
- Updated Student Count

IX. Principal Report

Received the Principal's report which discussed and/or provided the following information:

- Field Trips/ Virtual Field Trips
- Readiness Program/ Council Update
- Data on Student Progress
- Curriculum Updates
- Professional Development
- Community and Other Events

X. Director of Pupil Services Report

The Board received the April report, which shows changes from the March report.

XI. Unfinished Business

A. Discussion and Possible Action: Woodstock Academy Contract

MOTION: (Barlow/Perry) To approve the 2022-2027 contract with The Woodstock Academy. Barlow, Cote, Minor, Perry voted in favor. Ellsworth abstained. Motion passed.

Mr. Bilica joined the meeting at 6:26 PM.

B. Policy 5118, Non-Resident Students

MOTION: (Barlow/Perry) To adopt the revisions to Policy 5118, Non-Resident Students. Motion passed unanimously.

- C. Repeal Bylaws 9010, 9012, 9020, 9150 and 9214
MOTION: (Barlow/Bilica) To repeal Bylaws 9010, 9012, 9020, 9150 and 9214. Motion passed unanimously.
- D. Repeal Bylaw 9000, Role of Board Members, and replace it with the Shipman & Goodwin model, Role of Board Members
MOTION: (Barlow/Bilica) To repeal Bylaw 9000, Role of Board Members, and replace it with the Shipman & Goodwin model, Role of Board Members. Motion passed unanimously.
- E. Repeal Bylaw 9121, Board of Education Officers, and replace it with the Shipman & Goodwin models, Officers, Official Duties – Chairperson, Official Duties – Vice-Chairperson, and Official Duties – Secretary
MOTION: (Barlow/Bilica) To repeal Bylaw 9121, Board of Education Officers, and replace it with the Shipman & Goodwin models, Officers, Official Duties – Chairperson, Official Duties – Vice-Chairperson, and Official Duties – Secretary. Motion passed unanimously.
- F. Repeal Bylaw 9133, Committees and Advisory Committees, and replace it with the Shipman & Goodwin model, Committees
MOTION: (Barlow/Bilica) To repeal Bylaw 9133, Committees and Advisory Committees, and replace it with the Shipman & Goodwin model, Committees. Motion passed unanimously.
- G. Repeal Bylaw 9221, Vacancies, and replace it with the Shipman & Goodwin model, Filling Vacancies on the Board
MOTION: (Barlow/Bilica) To repeal Bylaw 9221, Vacancies, and replace it with the Shipman & Goodwin model, Filling Vacancies on the Board. Motion passed unanimously.
- H. Retain Bylaws 9131, 9141 and 9220
MOTION: (Barlow/Bilica) To retain Bylaws 9131, 9141 and 9220. Motion passed unanimously.

XII. New Business

- A. Approval of school Readiness Grant Submission
MOTION: (Bilica/Cote) To approve the submission of the School Readiness Grant. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Approval of IDEA Grant Submission
MOTION: (Bilica/Barlow) To approve submission of the IDEA Grant. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Ethel Cushing Gardner Music Scholarship recipient
The Committee recommended three candidates, who were not named at this time.
MOTION: (Cote/Barlow) To approve the recommendation(s) of the Ethel Cushing Gardner Music Scholarship Selection Committee. Motion passed unanimously.
- D. Set date for grade 8 graduation
MOTION: (Ellsworth/Barlow) To set the date of graduation as June 16, 2022. Motion passed unanimously.
- E. Repeal Bylaw 9222, Removal of Board Officers and replace with S&G Model Policy, Removal of Board Officers
The Board received the current bylaw and the S&G model policy for first reading.
- F. Repeal Bylaw 9250, Reimbursement of Board Member's Expenses and replace with S&G Model Policy, Reimbursement of Board Member's Expenses
The Board received the current bylaw and the S&G model policy for first reading.
- G. Repeal Bylaw 9271, Code of Conduct for Board Members and replace with S&G Model Policy, Code of Conduct
The Board received the current bylaw and the S&G model policy for first reading.
- H. Retain current Bylaw 9311, Formulation, Adoption, Amendment or Deletion of Policies
The Board received the current bylaw for first reading.

- I. Repeal Bylaw 9312, Formulation, Adoption, Amendment or Deletion of Bylaws and replace with S&G Model Policy, Formulation, Adoption, Amendment or Deletion of Bylaws

The Board received the current bylaw and the S&G model policy for first reading.

XIII. Additional Agenda Items

MOTION: (Ellsworth/Bilica) To amend the agenda to include New Business, J. Set the last day of school. Motion passed unanimously.

XII. New Business, cont.

- J. Set the last day of school

MOTION: (Ellsworth/Minor) To set the last day of school for students as Friday, June 17, 2022. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Barlow asked to add a discussion of exit questionnaires to the agenda, though no motions were made. Mrs. Barlow, Mr. Minor and Mr. Bowen collaborated to put together a short questionnaire, consisting of four questions, which would be given to exiting staff and returned directly to the Board. Mrs. Barlow was tasked with sending the questionnaire to the Board members for their review and input.

XIV. Financial Reports

- A. March 2022 Disbursements—sent to BOE via email
- B. Monthly Financial Summary, March 2022
The Board received and reviewed the monthly report.
- C. Budget Transfers

MOTION: (Cote/Barlow) To authorize the proposed transfer in the FY 2022 budget:

\$19,500 from 100.1200.3.111.00.5 (Salary, Teachers SE) to 100.2600.1.340.00.5 (Purchased Svc, Maintenance)

Motion passed unanimously.

XV. Citizen Participation

Lauren Barlow thanked teachers Michelle Bibeault and Catherine DePercio for stepping up to cover the middle school ELA classes. Mrs. McCombe and many others seconded this sentiment.

XVI. Adjournment

MOTION: (Bilica/Minor) Motion to adjourn the Board of Education meeting at 6:42 PM. Motion passed unanimously,

Respectfully submitted,

Kymerli A. Gaylor, Clerk