

EASTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Eastford Elementary School
12 Westford Road
Eastford, CT 06242
June 9, 2022

Present: Lauren Barlow (virtual), Michael Bilica, Stephen Bowen, Terry Cote (virtual), 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. Scholarship Recipient Recognition

Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut (CFECT) Scholarship recipients from Eastford were recognized for their accomplishments. Carl Asikainen from CFECT was in attendance to present certificates. This year's recipients were Michael Bilica, Kayla Gaudreau, Anna Kellermann, Clayton Singleton, Isaac Torcellini and Micah Torcellini.

Scholarship Committee chairperson Terry Cote also congratulated Clayton Singleton, Isaac Torcellini and Micah Torcellini who were recognized as recipients of the Ethel Cushing Gardner Music Scholarship from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. It was nice to have all the students attend the meeting, both in person and virtually.

IV. Citizens of the Trimester

Ammar Kuljancic, grade 8 student, and Calan Gaudette, grade 1 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. Calan was able to attend the meeting and be congratulated by the Board.

V. Grade 8 Presentation – Washington, D.C.

Middle School Social Studies teacher Charles Kernan attended the meeting on behalf of the grade eight students. He presented a slideshow of the recent eighth grade trip to Washington, D.C. He thanked the Board for allowing the class the opportunity to travel to D.C.

VI. Citizen Participation

None.

VII. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: (Bilica/Ellsworth) That the Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2022 and Special Meeting Minutes of May 31, 2022 be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Correspondence, Communications

- Invitations to attend Grade 8 graduation on June 16
- Letters to Scholarship Recipients

- Letters to Citizen of the Trimester families
- Letter from CABE, thanking the Board for their commitment
- Letter from Christopher Sandford, The Woodstock Academy Head of School, providing an end of year update

IX. Committee Reports

- Executive/Personnel— The committee met prior to this meeting to discuss non-affiliated salaries for 2022-23.
- Fiscal— None.
- Policy— None.
- Woodstock Academy – Mr. Ellsworth noted that they just completed the headmaster’s evaluation.
- EastConn— Ms. Cote noted that the search committee is underway to hire a new Executive Director.
- Long Range Facilities— The committee has been attending all Town Roof Committee meetings.
- Transportation—None.
- Curriculum– None.
- Scholarship Steering Committee – None.
- School Safety Committee – None.

X. Superintendent Report

Provided the BOE with updates including:

- Highlight of the Month – A shout out to Joe Tomanelli and the EES singers
- Educational Leadership – Grade 8 graduation, curriculum development, summer programming and staff vacancies
- Facilities – Roof project update and safety walkthrough
- Collaboration and Communication – Oil consortium and emergency preparation drill
- Finance – Grant reporting, Town meeting and budget impacts
- Comments on selected agenda items
- Recent student count

XI. Principal Report

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

- Field Trips
- Readiness Program/ Council Update
- Data on Student Progress
- Curriculum Updates
- School Climate Survey and Progress Toward Goals
- Professional Development
- 2022 Fall Sports Update
- Community and Other Events

XII. Director of Pupil Services Report

The Board received the June report, which shows changes from the May report.

Mrs. Chretien thanked the Board and expressed her appreciation of her time at Eastford. She encouraged people to explore the website for National Geographic photographer and motivational speaker Dewitt Jones, www.dewittjones.com. She also noted that his TED Talk is well worth the time for individuals and families.

XIII. Unfinished Business

- A. Revise Policy 5144, Administration of Student Medications in the Schools
MOTION: (Barlow/Bilica) To revise Policy 5144, Administration of Student Medications in the Schools. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Repeal Bylaw 9230, Orientation of Board members and replace with corresponding CABE policy
MOTION: (Barlow/Bilica) To repeal Bylaw 9230, Orientation of Board members and replace with corresponding CABE policy. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Repeal Bylaws 9313, Formulation, Adoption, Amendment or Deletion of Administrative Regulations; 9314, Suspension of Policies, Bylaws and Regulations; and 9322, Public and Executive Session and replace with the corresponding Shipman & Goodwin policies
MOTION: (Barlow/Bilica) To repeal Bylaws 9313, Formulation, Adoption, Amendment or Deletion of Administrative Regulations; 9314, Suspension of Policies, Bylaws and Regulations; and 9322, Public and Executive Session and replace with the corresponding Shipman & Goodwin policies. Motion passed unanimously.
- D. Repeal Bylaws 9330, Board/School System Records and 9350, Board of Education Hearings
MOTION: (Barlow/Bilica) To repeal Bylaws 9330, Board/School System Records and 9350, Board of Education Hearings. Motion passed unanimously.
- E. Retain current bylaw 9326, Order of Business
MOTION: (Barlow/Bilica) To retain current bylaw 9326, Order of Business. Motion passed unanimously.

XIV. New Business

- A. Teacher's Tuition Reimbursement
MOTION: (Bilica/Ellsworth) To approve the teacher's tuition reimbursement of \$2,500 to Charles Kernan. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Approval of new Math Program
MOTION: (Bilica/Barlow) To approve the purchase of the new math program, Illustrative Mathematics, including all materials and professional development. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Set Tuition Rate for 2022-2023 school year
MOTION: (Cote/Perry) To set the tuition rate for 2022-2023 at \$16,075 per pupil. Motion passed unanimously.
- D. Non-Affiliated Salaries
MOTION: (Bilica/Barlow) To set the salaries of non-affiliated employees according to the recommendations of the Executive Committee. Motion passed unanimously.
- E. Unexpended Funds for Municipal Reserve Fund (2021-22)
Mr. Bowen tabled this agenda item, to be discussed at a Special Meeting of the Board on June 20, 2022 at 6:00 PM. He asked the Board to review the lists provided to them regarding possible funds available and items/projects hoping to be paid for in FY22.

- F. Extension of Superintendent contract
MOTION: (Bilica/Perry) To approve a one year extension for the Superintendent's contract through 2025. Motion passed unanimously.

XV. Additional Agenda Items

MOTION: (Bilica/Minor) To amend the agenda to include New Business, G. Change date of August 2022 BOE Meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

XII. New Business, cont.

- G. Change date of August 2022 BOE Meeting
MOTION: (Bilica/Perry) To change the date of the August 2022 BOE Meeting from August 11 to August 25. Motion passed unanimously.

XVI. Financial Reports

- A. May 2022 Disbursements—sent to BOE via email
- B. Monthly Financial Summary, May2022
The Board received and reviewed the monthly report.
- C. Budget Transfers

MOTION: (Bilica/Barlow) To authorize the proposed transfers in the FY 2022 budget:

\$4,200 from 100.2140.3.323.00.5 (Purch Svcs, Evals/Consults) to 100.2210.1.322.00.5 (Prof. Development, Teachers)
\$456.54 from 100.2210.3.322.00.5 (Prof, Development, SE) to 100.2210.1.322.00.5 (Prof. Development, Teachers)
\$2,032 from 100.2310.1.340.01.5 (Purch Svcs, Audit) to 100.2310.1.340.02.5 (Purch Svcs, Actuary)

Motion passed unanimously.

- D. End of Year Budget Transfers and Purchases
Mr. Bowen tabled this agenda item, to be discussed at a Special Meeting of the Board on June 20, 2022 at 6:00 PM.

XVII. Citizen Participation

None.

XVIII. Adjournment

MOTION: (Minor/Barlow) Motion to adjourn the Board of Education meeting at 7:16 PM.
Motion passed unanimously,

Respectfully submitted,

Kymerli A. Gaylor, Clerk