

Note: Per C.G.S. 10 – 218, Board of Education meeting minutes are provided in a draft format within 48 hours of the date the meeting was held. With the exception of motions and votes recorded, these minutes are unofficial until they have been read and approved by a majority vote of the Board. Should edits be necessary, they will be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting, noted in the meeting minutes, and voted upon.

## SCOTLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION

Scotland, Connecticut

### Regular Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2024

**Cassidy Martin called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Board members present were Clark Stearns, Brittany Santiago, Beth Troeger, Gracie Martin and Lisa LaBelle. Administrators present were Superintendent Valerie Bruneau and Principal Ann Knowles. Unable to attend was Board member Kaitlyn Shafer.**

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chair read the Intro Statement.

#### 2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

#### 3. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

- Letter of resignation received from PreK teacher Jessica Allaire effective the end of the contract year.
- Letter of resignation received from Special Education teacher Chuck Mayer.

#### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Regular Meeting of May 7, 2024:**

***#1-23/24 Motion to approve May 7, 2024 regular meeting minutes, made by Gracie Martin, seconded by Lisa LaBelle and carried unanimously.***

#### 5. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD OR DELETE AGENDA ITEMS: None

#### 6. CELEBRATIONS – STUDENT UPDATES:

Finishing up the afterschool program and will be back for part 2 next year. Every student is receiving a pack of educational and family-oriented items (age appropriate) for the summer. Sample items for younger grades include: Brain Quest, Build & Play game, book, music items, road trip items, fidgets, can you spy games, flash cards, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, Math, around the world fidgets, Wikki Stix, milestones to build on and \$25 movie gift card for each family (2 gift cards for families with 3 or more children).

#### 7. REPORTS

##### A. Chairperson's Oral Report:

- Parish Hill Administration will be attending SES 6<sup>th</sup> grade Graduation and Kindergarten Step-Up Celebration next Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>.
- No response received from the other Board Chairs regarding dinner meeting (asked for response by June 10<sup>th</sup> – sent reminder).

##### B. Superintendent's Report:

- Working with Michelle on the General Fund and finishing up grants by June 30<sup>th</sup> to make sure everything is encumbered.
- Partnering with the Scotland Library for 3-4 summer programs including snacks and prizes for Summer Reading (sponsored by SES through the Afterschool Grant).
- All students enrolled in Huntington Home Museum membership (through the grant) that included a T-shirt (Board presented with T-shirts). Working with Kevin Ring to help the Museum move forward – hoping for one event per month.
- ESY will be held for 3 weeks with fuller staff than usual for BCBA Services, PreK Boot Camp and HES ESY students.

- CABE CAPSS Convention will be held November 15 – 16 in Mystic with 30 fantastic breakout sessions.
- Budget Public Hearing will be held on June 5<sup>th</sup> and Annual Town Meeting will be held on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

**C. Principal's Report:**

- Enrollment is at 98 students with 8 students graduating from 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
- For the upcoming year, PreK is projected at 25 students (will have 2 classrooms). Total enrollment projected at 100 students or more.
- Received NAYEC accreditation (good until January 2030) passing with 93% or above in all 4 areas.
- SBAC testing for grades 3-6 is finished with everyone (including Special Ed students) except 1 student taking the test (on the right trajectory for success). Scores expected in the fall (Valerie thanked Ann for her research on getting scores for every student and comparing them to other benchmark assessments to see where they stand).
- Partnering with Parish Hill with 6<sup>th</sup> grade (6 students) to attend Parish Hill by bus for 7<sup>th</sup> grade Math and 7<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts. Parish Hill reaching out to have their own Open House.
- Field Trips include: PreK – 1<sup>st</sup> grade went to the Zoo, grades K-4 will attend live musical performance of Charlotte's Web in Woodstock, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade will attend the Adventure Park in Storrs.
- Field Day will be on Friday – nice partnership with the PTO.

Cassidy Martin reported grant funding is available for 1<sup>st</sup> grade and their parents to attend the Science Center (Ann noted that Wheels to Learning Grant is available for transportation).

**D. Special Education Report:**

Dawn Davis has finished PPTs and transition meetings for 6<sup>th</sup> graders up to Parish Hill (will be here through the summer and transition to Special Ed Director on July 1st).

**E. Financial Report:**

84% of the budget spent to date with projected surplus of about \$15,000.

***#2-23/24 Motion to approve Financial Report, made by Gracie Martin, seconded by Clark Stearns and carried unanimously.***

**F. Shared Services updates:**

In talks with potential candidate for Speech & Language (accepted part-time position in Andover).

**G. Liaison Reports including Readiness Council & PTO:**

Community Relations, Spec. Programs

- Hampton offers BOE meeting packets to anyone on their distribution list to keep in better contact with the community (anyone interested can have their email added to the list). Beth Troeger is working on weekly town email to inform people of meetings and events and can add a link for access to the Scotland BOE. The Board could post a reminder on Facebook when they receive their meeting packets.
- United Services Coalition Partnership for Success has a huge grant that focuses on prevention for teens including: alcohol and vaping. Currently, there are 3 college students going into schools for peer mentoring. Looking for people to join (parents, teachers, staff) - will be part of Resource Fair in the fall.

Regional Issues – 1<sup>st</sup> meeting with new Superintendent went well.

School Readiness – will meet in the fall.

PTO – 14 volunteers signed up for Field Day. Newsletter will go out with list of everything done this year.

**8. BOARD BUSINESS**

**Executive Session Anticipated**

**A. Item: Superintendent Contract (Discussion & Action):**

***#3-23/24 Motion to enter into Executive Session (8:01 PM) for the purpose of discussing Superintendent Contract and invite the Superintendent to attend for the first part, made by Gracie Martin, seconded by Brittany Santiago and carried unanimously.***

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:36 PM.

***#4-23/24 Motion to renew Superintendent Contract with salary term decided in the budget for the term 2024-2027, made by Lisa LaBelle, seconded by Clark Stearns and carried unanimously.***

**9. OLD BUSINESS UPDATES:** None

**10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**11. OTHER ACTION ITEMS:** None

**12. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Regular Board Meeting July 8, 2024 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday)
- Items for Next Meeting and Assignments: Policies updates, Superintendent & BOE Evaluations

**13. ADJOURNMENT:**

***#5-23/24 Motion to adjourn (8:39 PM) was made by Lisa LaBelle, seconded by Clark Stearns and carried unanimously.***

***Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Scott  
Recording Clerk***