

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

October 1, 2024

Chair Cassidy Martin called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Board members present were Clark Stearns, Beth Troeger, Lisa LaBelle (online - Brittany Santiago, Gracie Martin, Kaitlyn Shafer). Administrators present were Superintendent Valerie Bruneau, Principal Ann Knowles, Special Ed Director Dawn Davis (online).

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

2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

3. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD: None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **Regular Meeting of September 3, 2024:**

#1-24/25 Motion to approve September 3, 2024 regular meeting minutes, made by Lisa LaBelle, seconded by Beth Troeger and carried with abstention by Clark Stearns.

5. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD OR DELETE AGENDA ITEMS: None

6. CELEBRATIONS – STAFFING UPDATES:

- A Little Library put in out front (modeled after winning design by 6th grader John Zotara) as part of an afterschool activity for student architects (article with photo in the Chronicle). Lights on the front powered by a solar panel and library stocked with many books for the taking thanks to many donations.
- Generation of Love Special Person's Luncheon well attended by 78 guests (44 families) - Family Stamp Card eligible (cards filled with 10 stamps go into big raffle in December and again in June).
- Para certified as a teacher resigned (have a possible candidate for the position).

7. REPORTS:

A. Chairperson's Oral Report:

Met with Hampton and Pomfret BOE Chairs to discuss small town issues. Attended Zoning Commission meeting for 55+ housing.

B. Superintendent's Report – grant & facilities updates:

- CABA Convention in November does Board Recognition Awards. This Board meets criteria on checklist except Related Organizational Leadership (consider participation with CABA Day on the Hill and get involved with the EASTCONN Board - checklist available online).
- Board presented with Fuss & O'Neil Report on meeting outside air requirements and exhaust calculations (will followup with company to discuss what needs to be done in areas that didn't pass - Clark asked if built to correct standards or have standards changed).
- Seal replaced on milk cooler, dishwasher soap dispenser replaced, condenser replaced on Traulsen unit (half cold/half hot for quick storage – having it checked due to veggies freezing), filters changed.
- Congratulations to maintainers Nate on birth of his daughter Serenity and Ryan on birth of his daughter Eloise Joyce.
- Working with Dime Oil to lock-in price for FY 25-26 (best price with Andover).
- Teacher Negotiations coming up with 1st meeting in November to set dates (Kaitlyn interested).
- Family Pumpkin decorating event coming up.

C. Principal’s Report – curriculum and instruction updates:

- Enrollment at 96 students with 17 PreK students (2 classrooms).
 - Next PD will be October 11th with staff meeting followed by rollout of Certified Teacher Evaluation.
 - Community Wellness Fair with many resources will be held October 19th from 10am to 1pm (extended to Chaplin and Hampton – hoping for larger community attendance).
 - Cross Country is an afterschool activity coached by Mr. Hunt with 1st meet on October 8th with Chaplin and Hampton.
 - 6th graders go to Parish Hill for Math and also participate on the Parish Hill soccer team.
 - 1st Field Trip for Adventure & Exploring this Friday with PreK – 1st grade going to an orchard (Stamp Card eligible).
 - 1st School Readiness Council meeting held (partnering with Hampton and EASTCONN liaison).
- Cassidy Martin asked about approving Teacher Evaluations (using the state model).

D. Special Education Report:

Census – 26 students identified (2 more in referral process, 2 may exit services (being evaluated), 5 in the 504 Plan). 3-2-1 Direct training for para educators working out well. Attended Back to School meeting for Directors with theme of the year - Belonging. Continue to use CT SEDS to align goals and objectives with the curriculum. Working on cataloguing and organizing standardized assessments.

E. Financial Report:

Valerie Bruneau reviewed Financial Report. Scotland not on current Title Grants Recipient list (previously qualified - looking into). Potential tuition anticipated for student at different location (some funds in the budget to cover).

#2-24/25 Motion to approve Financial Report, made by Clark Stearns, seconded by Lisa LaBelle and carried unanimously.

F. Shared Services updates: Covered already

G. Liaison Reports including Readiness Council:

Board asked to consider EASTCONN Board (meets 3rd or 4th Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm in Hampton).

8. BOARD BUSINESS:

A. New Board Goals (Discussion and probable vote to accept): Reviewed – discuss at next meeting.

B. Policies: updates and new suggested (discuss and first read):

Board presented with 1st read for Policies 3000 to 3171 related to the budget (discuss at next meeting).

9. OLD BUSINESS UPDATES: Newsletter went out – will be available in the Town Hall, Library, and Post Office.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

11. OTHER ACTION ITEMS: None

12. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Regular Board Meeting November 5, 2024
- Items for Next Meeting and Assignments: Policies updates, School Student Score Presentation, 2nd Read Policies 3000 to 3171, Budget Goals

13. ADJOURNMENT:

#3-24/25 Motion to adjourn (8:16 PM) made by Lisa LaBelle, seconded by Clark Stearns and carried unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Scott
Recording Clerk*