

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
CHESTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
September 27, 2018 7:00pm**

The regular meeting of the Chester Board of Education was held on Thursday, September 27, 2018. In attendance were David Fitzgibbons, Tom Englert, Becky Iselin, John Stack, Charlene Fearon, Theresa Myers, Rob Bibbiani, Rebecca Greenberg-Ellis and Maria Scherber. Also in attendance were Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent, Kristina Martineau, Assistant Superintendent, Kim Allen, Business Manager, Tyson Stoddard, Principal and Kelley Frazier, Clerk. Absent:

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fitzgibbons called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion made by John Stack and seconded by Becky Iselin the Chester Board of Education **VOTED** unanimously to approve the minutes from the May 24, 2018 regular meeting and the Accounts Payable report as amended.

Amendments:

Mr. Bibbiani was not present.

STUDENT REPORT

Held until November.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Principal's Update

Introduction of Staff

Mr. Stoddard introduced new staff members: Jen Larkin and Stephanie Carvin as well as Para professionals Cathy LaBella and Linda Petras.

Update on 2018-19 School Year Opening

Mr. Stoddard gave a brief update of the opening of school. He also gave an update of things done over the summer.

Possible VOTE to accept donation in the amount of \$200 from the Deep River-Chester Lions Club to be used at principal's discretion

Possible VOTE to accept donation in the amount of \$189.99 from the United Way to be used at principal's discretion

Upon a motion made by Tom Englert and seconded by Becky Iselin the Chester Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to accept the \$200 donation from the Deep River-Chester Lions Club and the \$189.99 donation from the United Way which will be used at the Principal's discretion.

Upon a motion made by Tom Englert and seconded by Theresa Myers the Chester Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to add to the agenda a Vote on returning funds to the town.

Discussion ensued regarding the funds available and the need to upgrade the camera system.

Upon a motion made by Tom Englert and seconded by Maria Scherber the Chester Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to return funds in the amount of \$6,642.63 and to request funds from the town in the amount of \$6,642.63 to upgrade the camera system.

Financial Status Report – Ms. Allen

Ms. Allen gave a brief update on the financial status for Chester Elementary School.

Cafeteria Report – Ms. Allen

Ms. Allen gave an update on the status of the cafeteria budget. The state has changed the Free and Reduced lunch program identification.

Committee Reports

Finance – Policies which dealt with expenditure limits were reviewed. The Health Insurance reserve was discussed. This reserve may need to be replenished during budget planning.

Curriculum – This meeting was held September 17th. The Math Coaches from all three schools made a presentation.

Policy – Next meeting is November 12, 2018.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Supervision District Committee Update

The annual transportation report was discussed. Superintendent Goals were also discussed. A special meeting will be held next month to vote on the district calendar for the next two years.

LEARN

No update.

Ad Hoc School Security Advisory Committee

This committee will do a site survey and will prioritize the recommendations. The next meeting is October 3rd. A recommendation will be available before budget planning begins. Ms. Greenberg-Ellis will represent Chester.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

General Update

Ms. Martineau gave a brief update. Discussion was held regarding the Math and ELA assessments. Next Generation Science was also discussed. There is benefit in having consistent and aligned goals K-12. Mr. Stoddard will report at the next meeting on the participation of children in the music program. It was suggested that a Math Coach be interviewed by the Valley Courier.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

District Update – Critical Thinking and Creative Problem Solving

Chester was named the #2 school in Middlesex County by the Niche Report and #17 in the entire state of Connecticut. The opening to school was discussed. Dr. Levy gave an update on the I/B program.

Pertinent Legislative Updates for 2018-19

No Update.

Appoint Board Representatives to Joint BOE Ad Hoc Tuition Committee

This meeting will discuss establishing tuition rates. The next meeting is October 2, 2018 at 9:00am. John Stack will join this committee.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

The Social and Wellness Committee will present three programs this year. The programs will discuss substance abuse. A community dinner will be held in April to present the strategic plan. Dr. Levy discussed the manufacturing program which is growing and will be expanded. The Technology Committee will investigate new technology and new policies corresponding with this. Tom Englert will be on this committee.

Discussion Regarding and Pending Policies – standing item

Policies discussed

#1331 Smoking in School Facilities

#5131.6 Students – Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco

#4118.231 Personnel – Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Bibbiani shared a story about how his daughter has benefited from the social development taught at Chester Elementary.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Next Joint BO meeting October 4, 2018
- Next Chester BOE Meeting is November 19, 2018 @ 7:00pm
- Election of Board Officers (Nov or after seating of new members)
- BOE and Community Input for 2019-20 (On-Going)
- Presentation of Major Budget Drivers for 2019-20 (TBD)
- BOE Self-evaluation (TBD)

ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Secretary