

**ESSEX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
EES MEDIA CENTER
THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023 7:00pm**

F.O.I. Compliance – Subject to BOE approval at a future meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Seidman called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

VERBAL ROLL CALL FOR BOE MEMBERS

Attendance: Essex BOE

Lon Seidman

Marjorie Russell

Nancy Johnston

Cassandra Sweet

Mark Watson

Administration:

Brian White

Jennifer Tousignant

Bob Grissom

Sarah Brzozowy

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously **VOTED** to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of March 09, 2023 and the Accounts Payable report as written.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comment.

Superintendent's Report

District Update – Information and Communication

Mr. White acknowledged Principal Tousignant, as this will be her last Essex BOE meeting. He thanked Ms. Tousignant for her service at Essex Elementary and wished her well in her new position.

Mr. White shared an update and some next steps regarding the recent passage of the Region 4 Athletics Fields and Facilities Improvements bonding initiative at referendum.

Mr. White shared a brief summary of the discussions held at the Joint BOE Retreat on Saturday, May 6th.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

General Update

Dr. Brzozowy shared that The Connecticut Association of School Business officials have awarded Mr. Grissom with the Rising Star Award.

Financial Status Updates

Mr. Grissom reviewed the enclosures including the Current Year to Date Financial Status; the Cafeteria Fund Update; and the Medical Reserve Tracking report.

He also shared that he is collaborating with our Director of Food Services to develop a list and quotes for equipment that needs to be upgraded.

Principal's Update

Ms. Tousignant thanked the Board and shared a bit about her time at EES.

Other Items

There was a review and discussion of enclosure #6, the *Agreement Concerning the Establishment and Operation of an Interim Collaborative Preschool Program* dated February 13, 2008. The original contract expires on June 30, 2012 and per agreement may be renewed in 1 year increments upon agreement of all signing parties (Boards of Education for Chester, Deep River, Essex and the Regional Supervision District Committee) no later than June 30th

Principal Tousignant confirmed that EES has adequate space to host the program next year.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously VOTED to renew the *Agreement Concerning the Establishment and Operation of an Interim Collaborative Preschool Program* dated February 13, 2008. They will recommend the other boards vote to renew it as well, at the Joint BOE meeting in June.

There was a discussion led by Mr. Seidman regarding the general process for superintendent contract negotiations and evaluations.

Committee Reports

Curriculum

Nancy Johnston shared that the Curriculum Committee met, but there is nothing new to report.

Finance

Mark Watson shared that the Finance Committee discussed their thoughts on tuition rates for next year. A meeting of the Joint BOE Tuition Committee will be scheduled in order to finalize a recommendation for the Joint BOE to approve at their June meeting. The Committee also discussed a need to address substitute pay rates.

Policy

There was a chance to discuss the following proposed revised policies, all of which had their First Reading at the April 06, 2023 Joint BOE meeting. The Second Reading and possible Vote to approve them will be held at the June 1st Joint BOE meeting. Mr. Seidman shared that there may be a slight revision to the Dress Code to provide clarification regarding non-medical masks.

Policy #3160 Transfer of Funds between Categories (Fund Balance Section)

Policy #4118.231/4218.231 Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Free Workplace

Policy #5114 Suspension and Expulsion / Due Process

Policy #5132 Dress Code

Policy #6162.4 Volunteers

Policy / Bylaw #9221

There were no other committee reports shared.

Mr. Seidman appointed Marjorie Russell to serve as a representative on the Joint BOE Curriculum Committee.

Mr. White briefly discussed the upcoming search process for a new principal at EES. He shared that communications went out today to both Parents/Guardians and Staff to offer them opportunities for sharing feedback to help shape the upcoming search for the new Essex Elementary School Principal.

PUBLIC COMMENT – no comments were made

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously VOTED to move into Executive Session at approx. 8:02 p.m. for the following Personnel Matters:

- Evaluation of Superintendent
- Discuss Superintendent's recommendation regarding employee's request in accordance with Article 25(F) of the teacher's contract

The Board returned from Executive Session at approximately 9:25 p.m.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously VOTED to approve an employee's request in accordance with Article 25(F) of the teacher's contract.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Joint BOE Meeting Thursday, June 01, 2023 @ 7:00pm @ JWMS Library
- Essex BOE Next Regular Meeting September 14, 2023 @7:30pm

ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 9:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Bryan, Substitute Clerk