

**REGIONAL DISTRICT ELEVEN
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Chaplin, Connecticut**

**January 20th, 2026
7:00PM**

Parish Hill Middle/High School Library

1. Call to Order at 7:00pm by Chair Stacy Foster and Pledge of Allegiance

Members in attendance: Stacy Foster Michael Smardon, Cassidy Martin, Joy Becker, Hayley Albert, Ellen Gillon, Susan Lovegreen

Also Present: Superintendent Andrew Skarzynski

Members not in attendance: Steph Bayne, Camden Kammer

2. Communication with the Audience

No communication.

3. Written Communications to the Board

No communication.

4. Report on FY 2024 Audit

Darin Offerdahl- Offerdahl & Emerson LLC presented. Audit returned with no issues.

5. Approval of December 16, 2025, Region 11 BOE Minutes

Motion to approve by Michael Smardon. 2nd by Cassidy Martin

Stacy Foster, Joy Becker, Michael Smardon Ellen Gillon and Cassidy Martin voted to approve. Susan Lovegreen and Hayley Albert abstained.

6. Approval of Financial Statements – December 2025

Motion to approve by Michael Smardon. 2nd by Cassidy Martin

Unanimous Approval.

- i. Budget Forecast—FY 25-26 - Jobina Miller

7. Administrative Reports/Administrative Requests for Board Action

- A. Student

Student Representatives Allison Butts and Chloe Reid provided reports.

Discussed student mentoring program and senior prom planning.

- B. Teacher

No report.

- C. Principal

Principal McKenna provided a report. Sports updates. Band winter concert

1/28/26. Empty Bowl night in March. Studio hours available for individuals to make bowls for the event.

- D. Superintendent

Superintendent Skarzynski provided a report. Beginning to think about the next school year, budget specifically. Preliminary budget created with an increase of around 3%. Looking at offering new courses. State is requiring that each school has a study of the HVAC system every 5 years and this needs to be completed in 2027 which is driving up costs (~\$30,000). Roof at Parish Hill needs repairs. Initial estimate for roofing the main building is about \$600,000 and the library another \$300,000. This is possibly the original roof with a recoating. This can be submitted to the state for reimbursement of about 75%. The region would need to be able to fund 30% up front. Senator Gordon stopped by for a visit to discuss the needs of the region. Invited to a coop football league by Windham. Hoping to develop a regional art show for Elementary students.

8. Old Business/New Business

- A. Report by PHACT/PTSA

Joy Becker provided a report. Last met 1/7/2026. 32 Members. 28 Art entries in the Reflections program. Spreading the word to increase participation has been a challenge. Scotland received a grant for substance abuse related trainings, including a NARCAN training, 2 dates approaching. More info in The Happenings. Spring Fling May 2nd, 2026. Considering making the comedy night biannual.

- B. Review and Possible Action on 2026-2027 SY Calendar

Michael Smardon made a motion to approve a preliminary calendar for the 2026-School Year. 2nd by Cassidy Martin. Unanimous approval.

2027

- C. Discussion and Possible Action on Initial Budget

Proposed 3.19% increase. Additional \$232,000. Started developing in October.

Reduction in out of district Special Education placements which is saving some money. Teacher requests were very reasonable. Big cost drivers include Special Education costs, transportation, healthcare and insurance. Insurance was only a 6% increase when state costs ran 12%. Roof is figured in, new windows for the fitness center, as well as a door that needs to be replaced.

D. Tentative Approval of Board policies:

i. 1312.3/6161.12 Library Material Review & Reconsideration

*Motion to approve made by Michael Smardon. 2nd by Susan Lovegreen.
Unanimous Approval.*

ii. 1312.4/6161.13 Library Collection Development and Maintenance

*Motion to approve made by Michael Smardon. 2nd by Susan Lovegreen.
Unanimous Approval.*

iii. 1312.5/6161.14 Library Display and Program

*Motion to approve made by Michael Smardon. 2nd by Susan Lovegreen.
Unanimous Approval.*

iv. 6172.4/6161.31 Title I Parental and Family Engagement Policy

*Motion to approve made by Michael Smardon. 2nd by Susan Lovegreen.
Unanimous Approval.*

9. Committee Reports/Requests for Board Action

A. Fiscal & Plant

i. *Met prior to this meeting this evening 1/20/2026. Reviewed maintenance report and discussed facility needs.*

B. Educational and Board Policies

i. *Met last Wednesday 1/14/2026 and will meet again prior to the next Board Meeting.*

C. Central Office

i. *Meets next Tuesday 1/27/2026 to discuss budget and Superintendent review.*

D. Technology/Website

i. *To be scheduled.*

E. Personnel and Supervision

i. Meeting the next 3 Mondays.

F. Newsletter

i. To be scheduled.

G. CABE/EASTCONN

i. CABE focusing on advocacy for this legislative session. Working on increasing involvement of Board Members with the legislation.

10. Second Audience for Citizens

No communication from the audience.

11. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- A. Budget Presentation*
- B. Setting Graduation*
- C. Final approval of tonight's policies*

12. Adjournment at 8:19 PM.

*Motion to adjourn made by Michael Smardon. 2nd by Susan Lovegreen.
Unanimous approval.*