

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

July 1, 2025

Chair Cassidy Martin called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM. Board members present: Clark Stearns, Brittany Santiago, Beth Troeger, Gracie Martin (online). Administrators present: Superintendent Valerie Bruneau, Principal Ann Knowles, Special Ed Director Dawn Davis (online), Finance Coordinator Michele Demicco (online). Members Absent: Kaitlyn Shafer, Lisa LaBelle.

Board recited Pledge of Allegiance; Chair read Intro Statement.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

3. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD: None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **Regular Meeting of June 3, 2025:**
#1-25/26 Motion to approve June 3, 2025 regular meeting minutes, made by Clark Stearns, seconded by Beth Troeger and carried with abstention by Clark Stearns.

5. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD OR DELETE AGENDA ITEMS: None

6. CELEBRATIONS:

- School is out.
- Successful Graduation for Kindergarten and 6th grade ending the year strong.

7. REPORTS

A. Chairperson's Oral Report:

Unfortunately, former Hampton BOE Chair Rose Bisson passed away (service July 19th at 9:30am – Bacon Funeral Home).

B. Superintendent's Report – grant, facilities & legislative updates, enrollment projections:

Facilities: New floors down up to the gym (more tiles needed for design – will be fully functional for Summer School). All rugs cleaned. Far wing classrooms almost finished. AC in Library turned off (need to replace belts). Lawn looking good.

- Thanks to Dawn Davis for great job with the ESY program - about 40 kids including nearby towns (working on state funding to expand and run longer each day).

Grants: Afterschool Grant – \$100,000 (still planning family activities). Mental Health Grant - \$62,000 (funds Bloom BCRB services). Early Start Grant - \$113,000 (pays for 1 teacher and para for PreK). Title Grants (not much this year). IDEA - \$28,000 (used for para support). Stronger Connections Grant - \$2,100 (paid for October 4th Wellness Fair).

- CABE CAPSS Convention November 21-22 (registration cheaper if submitted before August 22nd).

C. Principal's Report – curriculum & instruction updates:

- Busy working out enrollment with tours of PreK including families from out-of-town (several families hoping to stay through 6th grade). Projections for next year include: 3-year-olds (9), 4-year-olds (12).
- Reading and Writing curriculum will stay the same. Math will stay the same for grades 4-6 (changing to Envision for grades K-3).

- Combined grades 2 and 3 for total of 12-13 with 1 FT teacher and FT para.
- Working on Early Start (replaced School Readiness) with LGPs sharing with nearby towns through EASTCONN.

D. Special Education Report – ESY update:

ESY will run for 3 weeks from July 7-25th with 38 students scheduled to attend from Scotland and surrounding towns (staff will include Special Ed teachers, paras, PE teacher, Bloom staff, Speech, O/T, P/T). Enrichment activities include: visit by Sophie the Dog, Waterplay Days, visit by the Party Pigs, Bounce House (commemorative T-shirts for everyone).

E. Financial Report EOY reporting: Anticipated surplus – left with \$44,098 (some invoices outstanding). Clark Stearns asked about 53020 Legal Services overbudget (mainly for teacher's contract with mediation), 53400 Business Office overbudget (Paychex Services), and oil overbudget (broken sprinkler incident, extra delivery).

#2-25/26 Motion to approve Financial Report made by Clark Stearns, seconded by Brittany Santiago and carried unanimously.

F. Shared Services updates: Covered already

G. Liaison Reports: Regional Issues – RD11 budget.

8. BOARD BUSINESS:

A. Item: Set Tuition Rate (Discussion & Possible Action):

Multiple students for PreK are from out-of-town (parents interested in tuition for the following year if all goes well). Current tuition rate - \$7,500.

#3-25/26 Motion to set Tuition Rate at \$7,500 for 25/26 School Year per Board Policy, made by Clark Stearns, seconded by Brittany Santiago and carried unanimously.

B. Item: 9000's Policies Continued (Discussion & Possible Action):

Motion to table 9000's Policies until next month, made by Clark Stearns, seconded by Gracie Martin and carried unanimously.

9. OLD BUSINESS UPDATES

Item: Rose Khourie Scholarship: No update

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

11. OTHER ACTION ITEMS: None

12. UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Clark Stearns suggested dedicating August meeting only for 9000's Policies.
- Beth Troeger asked what the Board does for the Resource Fair (everything is setup in house with a table for the Board).
- **Regular Board Meeting August 5, 2025 at 6:30pm**
- **Items for Next Meeting and Assignments: 9000's Policies**

13. ADJOURNMENT:

#4-25/26 Motion to adjourn (7:21 PM) made by Brittany Santiago, seconded by Clark Stearns and carried unanimously.

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