

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

December 2, 2025

Superintendent Valerie Bruneau called meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Board members present: Cassidy Martin, Clark Stearns, Morgan Conley, Beth Troeger, Michael Gile. Administrators present: Principal Ann Knowles (online), Finance Coordinator Michele Demicco (online). Absent: Lisa LaBelle.

Board recited Pledge of Allegiance.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

3. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD: None

4. NOMINATION OF BOE CHAIR/VOTE BY MEMBERS, NOMINATION OF BOE VICE-CHAIR/VOTE BY MEMBERS, NOMINATION OF BOE SECRETARY/VOTE BY MEMBERS:

#1-25/26 Clark Stearns nominated Cassidy Martin for Board Chair, seconded by Michael Gile. Vote to elect Cassidy Martin for Board Chair carried unanimously.

#2-25/26 Clark Stearns nominated Lisa LaBelle for Board Vice-Chair, seconded by Beth Troeger. Vote to elect Lisa LaBelle for Board Vice-Chair carried unanimously.

#3-25/26 Cassidy Martin nominated Clark Stearns for Board Secretary, seconded by Michael Gile. Vote to elect Clark Stearns for Board Secretary carried with the following vote:

YES: Michael Gile, Cassidy Martin, Beth Troeger, Morgan Conley.

NO: Clark Stearns.

Chair read Intro Statement.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **Regular Meeting of November 4, 2025:**

#4-25/26 Motion by Beth Troeger to approve November 4, 2025 regular meeting minutes with the following correction: Item #7B should read – (includes profile of Michael and Morgan who will be joining the Board). ***Motion seconded by Clark Stearns and carried with abstention by Morgan Conley.***

6. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD OR DELETE AGENDA ITEMS: None

7. CELEBRATIONS: Board presented with Christmas goodies.

8. REPORTS:

A. Chairperson's Oral Report:

Will be serving as Area 3 Director for CAFE along with Director from Coventry to put on Legislative Breakfast and communicate with other Boards.

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

- New CAFE President from Portland coming to BOE Meet & Greet.
- Afterschool Grant up and running with monthly family events - Gingerbread House Making next week, Wreath Making in November (about 80 attended), Pumpkin Carving in October (well attended).
- SEED Grant Expansion for Special Ed - received 1st installment that will pilot bringing in tutors to work with students that struggled with SBAC.
- Drip Grant for Facilities project likely to be used for boiler (getting quotes for repair and replacement).
- Looking at 3 Policies required for the library regarding censorship and book banning.

- Hired 2 Custodians - working well together (Lead Custodian Tina - 6:30am to 2:30pm and Tammy).
- Expecting about 30 people for BOE Meet & Greet tomorrow (representatives from Scotland, Hampton, Chaplin, Parish Hill, Ashford, Pomfret, Bozrah, EASTCONN, LGP Parent Ambassador, SERAC).

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

- Enrollment at 94 students with 22 PreK (includes out of towners).
- PD: Science of Reading for K-3 with emphasis on Early Literacy training (Jan), Classroom Management with Respectful Discipline (March), May TBD. Motto is Teamwork.
- Nice to see families taking advantage of family events.
- Thanks to Beth Troeger and her husband (member of Sunrise Rotary) on their annual visit to 3rd grade with dictionaries for each student.
- Very busy with basketball almost every night (helping Parish Hill practice here due to warped gym floor).

D. Special Education Report – ESY update:

Dawn Davis could not attend tonight's meeting – report the same for this month (in compliance, all reports done, continues with PPTs and Team Meetings).

E. Financial Report - EOY reporting: 35% of budget spent to date.

Clark Stearns asked about increase in Salary account for Substitute Teachers (filling long term absence), and 55101 Purchase Services – Special Ed Transportation deficit (determining contracted number of days for outplacement).

#5-25/26 Motion by Clark Stearns to approve Financial Report, seconded by Beth Troeger and carried unanimously.

F. Shared Services updates: Covered already

G. Liaison Reports: Liaison descriptions will be sent to the Board – will assign at next meeting.

9. BOARD BUSINESS:

Items for Discussion & Actions

1. Item: BOE Vacancy (Discussion & Possible Action):

Julie Conley interested in BOE vacancy (Clark suggested she present to the Board in person).

2. Item: Policies Updates (2000's) (Discussion & Possible Action): 2nd read - will vote next month.

3. Item: BOE 2026 Meeting Calendar (Discussion & Possible Action): BOE meets 1st Tuesday of each month.

#6-25/26 Motion by Clark Stearns to approve Scotland BOE 2026 Meeting Calendar, seconded by Michael Gile and carried unanimously.

10. OLD BUSINESS UPDATES: None

11. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

12. OTHER ACTION ITEMS: None

13. UPCOMING MEETINGS: BOE Meet & Greet - December 3rd 5-7 PM

- Regular Board Meeting January 6, 2026
- Items for Next Meeting and Assignments – 2000's Policies vote, BOE Vacancy, Liaisons

14. ADJOURNMENT:

#7-25/26 Motion by Michael Gile to adjourn (7:37 PM), seconded by Morgan Conley, carried unanimously.

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