

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

September 2, 2025

Chair Cassidy Martin called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Board members present: Clark Stearns, Beth Troeger, Gracie Martin (online), Lisa LaBelle. Administrators present: Superintendent Valerie Bruneau, Principal Ann Knowles, Special Ed Director Dawn Davis (online), Finance Coordinator Michele Demicco (online). Absent: Brittany Santiago.

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 August 5, 2025:**
#1-25/26 Motion to approve August 5, 2025 regular meeting minutes, made by Lisa LaBelle, seconded by Beth Troeger and carried with abstention by Clark Stearns.

5. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD OR DELETE AGENDA ITEMS: None

6. CELEBRATIONS: Back to school Open House well attended.

7. REPORTS:

A. Chairperson's Oral Report: None

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

- All mandatory facility inspections done.
- Still waiting for Afterschool Grant.
- Working on October 4th Regional Wellness Resource Fair with other towns in LGP participating – 20-25 tables (Fire Department decided not to have same day).
- CAFE signups done (look on CAFE website to pick break outs).
- Disposed old records from 2011-2019 (Town has 2 dozen more boxes to go through).
- Doing ESY billing this week – will bill directly to each town that came here. State Special Ed Director working on grant for next summer (hope to have 10 towns).

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

- Maintaining enrollment (increasing PreK, 1 home school family back).
- Kickoff for back to school very well attended.
- New this year - 4 lion dens: Mufasa (Gold Team), Sarabi (Red Team), Simba (Blue Team), Nala (Green Team) with 7-8 adults to 22 multiage students randomly selected for each den (selection on Friday) – will be tied around monthly Spirit Day for sense of belonging.
- Shared SBAC assessment – not where they wanted to be but headed in right direction, comparable with the ERG, constantly revisiting instruction for best strategies, growth in each category. Beth Troeger asked about other benchmark tests (Dibbles for literacy, Acadience for Math), and asked about PD for Math (collaboration done with other districts, available online through Zoom). PD that has taken place will be posted online (PMT training).

D. Special Education Report – ESY update:

- Wonderful summer with ESY – good time had by all (exit surveys with staff, parents, kids). Excellent attendance with 90-95% every day. Special Ed Directors from Northeast corner talked about starting small collaborative group (6 interested).
- Students identified with Special Ed needs at 25.6% (state at 17.8%). Staff caseloads for 21 students nicely spread out.

E. Financial Report - EOY reporting: 6% of budget spent to date.

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

F. Shared Services updates: Covered already

G. Liaison Reports:

Beth Troeger presented information on Town email (how to signup, how to submit events and news articles) to reach out to the community that currently goes out every Thursday to about 500 addresses – would like to include monthly news from SES (thanks to Wendy O'Connor for posting). Table will be setup at Wellness Fair for signups.

8. BOARD BUSINESS:

A. Item: Set dates for future collaborative BOE mtgs (Discussion & Possible Action):

Planning BOE Meet & Greet dinner with RD11, HES and CES on December 3rd (possible topics for discussion - ESY Collaborative, CES Behavioral Room, LGP, SERAC Grant, Resource Fair).

Item: BOE vacancy (Discussion): Seat to remain vacant with appointment after November elections.

B. Item: 9000's Policies Continued (Discussion & Possible Action): Review edits and approve next month. Packet of 2000's Policies presented for review.

9. OLD BUSINESS UPDATES

Item: Newsletter: Add Town email and Wellness Fair before sending out.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

11. OTHER ACTION ITEMS: None

12. UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Regular Board Meeting October 7, 2025 at 6:30pm
- Items for Next Meeting and Assignments: Policies updates (9000 series vote, 2000 series 1st Read), BOE Meet & Greet

13. ADJOURNMENT:

#3-25/26 Motion to adjourn (8:09 PM) made by Lisa LaBelle, seconded by Clark Stearns and carried unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Scott
Recording Clerk*