

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

May 5, 2026

**Chair Cassidy Martin called meeting to order at 6:31 PM. Board members present: Clark Stearns, Beth Troeger, Michael Gile, Lisa LaBelle, Morgan Conley, Julie Conley. Administrators present: Superintendent Dr. Valerie Bruneau, Principal Ann Knowles.**

Board recited Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** None

**3. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:** None

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- **Regular Meeting of April 7, 2026:**

**#1-25/26 Michael Gile motioned to approve April 7, 2026 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Julie Conley and carried unanimously.**

**5. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD OR DELETE AGENDA ITEMS:** Dedicate July & August meetings for Board Policies.  
**#2-25/26 Clark Stearns motioned to table 8D under Board Business, seconded by Michael Gile and carried unanimously.**

**6. CELEBRATIONS:** Congratulations to Superintendent Dr. Valerie Bruneau on her Education Doctorate.

**7. REPORTS:**

**A. Chairperson's Oral Report:**

Attended Regional meeting - discussed creating Excel spreadsheet of Special Ed services.

**B. Superintendent's Report – grant, facilities & budget:**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grant received from Local Prevention Council (\$10,000 for Nicotine Awareness).
- Working on PreK with EASTCONN and Local Governance partnership with 7 towns – doing needs assessment with survey sent out to families (Scotland received 11 responses out of 22).
- Will look at roof over the summer (drips in classrooms) using Drip funds in addition to heating system.
- Dawn Davis diligently planning for ESY with 10 interested towns (funding not expected this year - need funding to cover BCBA services and bussing from other towns) – will try for funding next year. Most of Education Funding from the State went to big cities. Scotland will receive \$50,986 in Supplemental Educational Aid K-12 (only for educational purposes), and \$19,307 for Pequot Town Aid.

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

- Working on enrollment for next year (now up to 92 with 22 PreK expected and 1 student coming back from STEM). Giving tours for PreK including 3 new families in town.
- SBAC testing started this past week with Math next week.
- Very busy celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week and National School Nurse's Day (tomorrow).
- Continuing with afterschool programs with about 23 students attending a day.
- Continuing grant programs for 7 field trips - Science and Literacy based for grades 1-6 including Meg Nature Center with Ranger Rick (wraps up in June).
- Family event May 28<sup>th</sup> - Family Arts Night and Spring Concert (serving sandwiches for dinner).
- Community table for Early Start setup at EASTCONN on Thursday at 5:30pm (actively involved in LGP).

**D. Special Education Report – updates:** Covered already

**E. Financial Report – audit update:**

77.8% of budget spent to date. Deficit reported last month with outplacement – found grants that can be drawn down to offset expenditures this year (Clark would like to see actuals with grants).

**#3-25/26 Clark Stearns motioned to approve Financial Report, seconded by Michael Gile and carried unanimously.**

**F. Shared Services updates:** Covered already

**G. Liaison Reports:** None

**8. BOARD BUSINESS:**

**A. Item: Budget (Discussion & Possible Action):**

Agreements signed for staff retiring. One change from last month with overall increase of 3.9% (\$96,131) with no places to cut (small increase for extended bus contract). Grant funds will cover items outside the budget (Drip Grant for facilities, Afterschool Grant for parent events, field trips).

**#4-25/26 Michael Gile motioned to approve 26/27 budget of \$2,740,146 with increase of \$96,131 (3.9%), seconded by Lisa LaBelle and carried unanimously.**

**B. Item: RLE Update (Discussion & Possible Action):** Will be cost neutral with savings of \$411 a month.

**#5-25/26 Clark Stearns motioned to authorize Superintendent to sign Non-Binding Letter of Intent with RLE for Incentive with Eversource and proceed to step 2, seconded by Lisa LaBelle and carried unanimously.**

**C. Item: Set 26/27 Tuition Rate (Discussion & Possible Action):**

Policy 5118 covers tuition for non-resident students (currently at \$7,500).

**#6-25/26 Lisa LaBelle motioned to set 26/27 Tuition Rate at \$7,500, seconded by Julie Conley and carried unanimously.**

**D. Item: 2000's Policies – 2<sup>nd</sup> review suggestions for recommended additions (Discussion & Possible Action):** Tabled

**9. OLD BUSINESS UPDATES:**

**Item: Rose Khourie Scholarship:** Cassidy Martin will straighten out with 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman.

**10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**11. OTHER ACTION ITEMS:** None

**12. UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

- **Regular Board Meeting June 2, 2026 at 6:30pm**
- **Items for Next Meeting and Assignments:** June 11<sup>th</sup> Graduation (Kindergarten at 5pm, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade at 5:30pm)

**13. ADJOURNMENT:**

**#7-25/26 Clark Stearns motioned to adjourn (7:27 PM), seconded by Michael Gile and carried unanimously.**

**Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Scott**

**Recording Clerk**