

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

October 6, 2026

Chair Cassidy Martin called meeting to order at 6:50 PM. Board members present: Clark Stearns (online), Beth Troeger, Morgan Conley, Julie Conley. Administrators present: Superintendent Dr. Valerie Bruneau, Principal Ann Knowles, Special Ed Director Dawn Davis (online). Absent: Michael Gile, Lisa LaBelle.

Board recited Pledge of Allegiance.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

3. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD: None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **Regular Meeting of September 1, 2026:**
#1-26/27 Beth Troeger motioned to approve September 1, 2026 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Morgan Conley and carried unanimously.

5. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD OR DELETE AGENDA ITEMS: None

6. CELEBRATIONS:

Nice partnership with the Fire Department for the Cooperative Community Health & Wellness Fair with Museum open for few hours (exceeded number of people here last year). SHINE here to experience Local Governance Partnership and toured PreK.

7. REPORTS:

A. Chairperson's Oral Report:

Attended Putnam meeting for Board Chairs – drafted letter to Blue Ribbon Commission on behalf of smaller districts.

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

Level 1 application for CABE Convention submitted.

Grants – No new Grants, waiting for quote for 2 bathrooms not functioning (will fix with DRIP funds), waiting on increase for PreK slots (estimated to be \$7,000), Town received grant for trails for Bart Laws Group (includes trail to connect to back of school and crosswalk before temporary trailer).

- Clark Stearns asked if 2nd expansion tank installed (installed), and if anything done with backflow preventer in basement (Ryan working on). Some roof repair done (areas of concern – outside Science Lab, PreK, Boys Locker Room).

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

- Enrollment continues to grow with 13 - PreK3, 15 – PreK4 and 1 expected in January (have 3rd classroom if needed).
- Beginning of the year assessments required by the State successfully done on iPads.
- New teachers acclimating nicely with staff.
- Competition between classes with attendance at 98% and above (big ice-cream celebration for 100%).
- Family events continue – Bowling included PreK and Kindergarten attending, October - decorating pumpkins, Parenting classes starting – open to the whole region.

- Den meetings held with every student part of a den color for the year (they go quickly to their dens when announcements begin).

SBAC Results: ELA – 49% exceeded & met (16% approaching – could be 65%).

MATH – 41% met or exceeded (28% approaching – could be 69%).

SCIENCE – 33% met or exceeded (44% approaching – could be 77%).

Teachers will be going to Canterbury to see what they are doing.

D. Special Education Report – updates:

Special Ed at 20 students (1 outplacement, 1 moving towards outplacement), 8 in referral process. 2 new Paras have joined the staff in Early Childhood wing (need additional support in specialized instruction).

Thanks to Suellen Henry for great job as Case Manager and dancing in Lion costume on Route 14 Sat.

E. Financial Report – updates:

Superintendent reviewed October Summary – unforeseen outplacement cannot be absorbed in this budget (will use 2% fund). Audit being worked on with small surplus anticipated.

#2-26/27 Clark Stearns motioned to approve September 30th Financial Report, seconded by Morgan Conley and carried unanimously.

F. Shared Services updates: Covered already

G. Liaison Reports: None

8. BOARD BUSINESS:

A. Item: Substitute Rate (Discussion & Possible Action):

Minimum wage goes up in January with Substitute Rate for other towns from \$120 to \$160 (includes Tech Schools). Superintendent recommends increase to \$125 (currently at \$110 with average of 3 subs used).

#3-26/27 Julie Conley motioned to increase Substitute Rate to \$125 starting November 1st, seconded by Beth Troeger and carried unanimously.

9. OLD BUSINESS UPDATES: Policy work tabled due to Executive Session Anticipated, will return Nov. 2026

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

11. OTHER ACTION ITEMS: None

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION ANTICIPATED

A. Item: Personnel Discussion (re: Principal position) – Discussion and Possible Action:

#4-26/27 Beth Troeger motioned to enter into Executive Session (7:31 PM) for the purpose of discussing Personnel, seconded by Morgan Conley and carried unanimously.

Board came out of Executive Session at 8:30 PM.

13. UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Regular Board Meeting November 3, 2026 at 6:30pm
- Items for Next Meeting and Assignments

14. ADJOURNMENT:

#5-26/27 Cassidy Martin motioned to adjourn (8:31 PM), seconded by Clark Stearns and carried unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Recording Clerk Kathleen Scott*