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

November 3, 2026 Chair Cassidy Martin called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM. Board members present: Clark Stearns, Beth Troeger, Morgan Conley (online), Julie Conley, Michael Gile, & Lisa LaBelle. Administrators present: Superintendent Dr. Valerie Bruneau, Principal Ann Knowles, Special Ed Director Dawn Davis (online). Board recited Pledge of Allegiance.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

3. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD: Email from CABE acknowledging the BOE will receive the level one leadership award at the CABE convention.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

· **Regular Meeting of October 6, 2026:**

#1-26/27 Clark Stearns motioned to approve October 6, 2026 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Beth Troeger. Carried: 5-0-2 abstained were Lisa and Michael because they were not in attendance.

5. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD OR DELETE AGENDA ITEMS: None except the executive session deleted: was from last month and never removed vote (1) Clark Stearns (2) Michael Gile 7-0-0

6. CELEBRATIONS:

New principal Dr. Garrett Dukette will start on Monday, November 9, and work with Principal Ann Knowles to transition into the role.

7. REPORTS:

A. Chairperson's Oral Report:

None

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

Facilities- The plumbing is in the process for the two toilets (top of the stairs and the nurses office). We will get a quote for the pipelining. The two expansion tanks were completed.

Budget- we won't start until after the new year. Will talk specifics about this one when I get to the financial report.

Grants – we have no new ones.

We did get QE grants (quality enhancement)- these are preschool funds and Scotland has four

1. Ann Knowles using the funds for a 7 part family series geared toward preschool parenting to feed them dinner
2. $2500. For a piece of upgrade to playground equipment
3. $2500 for Bob Golub, a literacy PD expert to present to early classroom teachers
4. A $2500 partnership with the library to bring in guest authors for all the towns in our consortium

LRE Weil be coming to do the energy efficiency updates to the lighting, pipe wrapping and aerators. A container has been delivered for the storage of the materials.

C. Principal's Report

Made it through parent conferences. Current enrollment is steady at some level. Spoke about teacher use of DIBELS and Amplify. The upcoming family event on November 18th- the pizza truck is coming and will help welcome Garrett Dukette and say goodbye to Ann Knowles. More details to follow.

D. Special Education Report – updates:

Dawn shared about how crisis team and current support team work at SES. Gave kudos to how cohesive they communicate on walkie talkie to be attentive to the needs of the children.

E. Financial Report – updates:

Super gave the report. BOE reviewed the attachments. The salary line will not be over 90,000. This will cover the new posted part time position still vacant for special education, and the overlap for the two principals in the month of November. There are some staff medical insurance changes that will hit the object line for the benefits so it is still too early to anticipate 37,000 there. We are waiting for the oil final update from 2025 still. Val will get it tomorrow and send it to Clark. Once the final town audit is done this year, the BOE will have a discussion on the agenda and address this. The superintendent will also make available audit copies to be housed in SES for the BOE moving forward.

F. Shared Services updates: Cassidy and Val unable to go to the Putnam Sunday meeting this month with the region. More updates next month.

G. Liaison Reports: None really. Spoke about the BOE presentation at the CABE convention Cassidy and Lisa are presenting with Val about "BOE and Superintendent Relationships: Our Story".
It is a Saturday presentation at 10:30. BOE members should send feedback, if they want to, regarding what to add.

8. <u>BOARD BUSINESS:</u>

Did not do policy book updates, instead did the 2026 legislative policy updates from Shipman and Goodwin. Discussed the PowerPoint of changes and which ones are coming for BOE to consider. Some discussion included homeschooling, Kindergarten waiver changes, budgeting, etc.

9. OLD BUSINESS UPDATES: None

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

11. OTHER ACTION ITEMS: None

12. UPCOMING MEETINGS:

· **Regular Board Meeting December 1, 2026 at 6:30pm (Board Reorganization Meeting)**

· **Items for Next Meeting and Assignments:** Contact principal, reorganization meeting, meeting dates for next calendar year, and policies.

13. ADJOURNMENT: ***#2-26/27 Michael Gile motioned to adjourn (8:40 PM), seconded by Lisa LaBelle and carried unanimously.***

Respectfully submitted