

*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**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**July 6, 2021**

**Chairperson Brynn Lipstreu called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Present were Board members Sherry Smardon, Steven Kurcinik, Scott Sears and Rod Perry. Administrators present were Superintendent Valerie Bruneau and Finance Coordinator Tim Smith. Unable to attend were Board members Cassidy Martin and Bill Trudelle.**

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. CELEBRATIONS/RECOGNITION:**

**A. Welcome New Administration:**

- The Board welcomed new Superintendent Valerie Bruneau.
- Brynn Lipstreu commended the staff for all their work during this most challenging year and hope they enjoy their well-deserved summer vacation.

**4. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:**

A letter was received from Kyle Jaybenito thanking the Board for being awarded the Rose Khourie Scholarship.

**5. COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE: None**

**6. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA – ADDITIONAL BUSINESS MAY BE CONSIDERED AT A REGULAR MEETING UPON 2/3 VOTE OF THOSE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT AND VOTING, PER STATE STATUTE:**

***#1-21/22 Motion to replace agenda Item #12A, Tri-Town BOE Meeting update with Ad-Hoc Committee for Interdistrict Education Cost Sharing, was made by Scott Sears, seconded by Steve Kurcinik and carried unanimously.***

**7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

***#2-21/22 Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from June 1, 2021, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Steve Kurcinik and carried unanimously.***

***#3-21/22 Motion to approve the special meeting minutes from June 15, 2021, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Steve Kurcinik and carried unanimously.***

**8. FINANCE COORDINATOR REPORT:**

**A. Financial Report:**

The Financial Reports were reviewed. Rod Perry asked about the following: status of closing the end of the year (expenses are very close and salaries are up-to-date), whether purchases were made for technology equipment and supplies for next year out of this year's budget (purchases made and included in this report), and why Repairs & Maintenance is double the budgeted amount (large expense for Fire Suppression System 10-year Fire Inspection that was overdue, window replaced in the gym (\$21,000) due to being hit by rock from the lawn tractor).

Brynn Lipstreu asked about \$900 under budget for fuel with buses not running for 8 weeks (amount budgeted was too low). Tim Smith reported that the cost of propane was locked in at 5 cents per gallon more than this year. Rod Perry asked about federal rebate for propane (Tim Smith will check).

Steve Kurcinik asked about the water pressure problem (problem was fixed at a cost of \$3,175).

**B. Approval of Financial Statement:**

***#4-21/22 Motion to approve the Financial Statement dated June 30, 2021, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Steve Kurcinik and carried unanimously.***

**9. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

**A. Other:**

- Working on grant deadlines with the Finance Coordinator.
- Working on extensions for some reports with the Administrative Assistant.

Tim Smith responded to Sherry Smardon regarding the Afterschool Grant funds that they were all spent on family memberships to Roger Williams, Sturbridge Village, Children’s Museum of CT and gift cards to local orchards (none of the memberships were from the Governor’s List).

**10. FRIENDS OF SES REPORT: No Report**

**11. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Rose Khourie Scholarship details:**

Sherry Smardon presented some details for the Rose Khourie Scholarship that currently does not belong to the BOE or the town. Current information is that \$250 be awarded to a Scotland student who is pursuing their education in healthcare. The Treasurer is searching for paperwork on the history of the scholarship that has a \$10,000 base with only the interest to be used for a scholarship. The award has not been collected in several years. Sherry Smardon suggested bringing a proposal to the town to put under the RD11 Scholarship Committee for a better chance of growth.

**B. Bus Monitors:**

Tim Smith received an inquiry regarding unemployment for the summer for bus monitors and whether they will be back for September. Superintendent Bruneau asked if they were temporary hires and if there was a contract (Tim Smith will check). They are not eligible for unemployment if there is no contract. Brynn Lipstreu reported that the Board previously decided not to have bus monitors for the coming school year.

***#5-21/22 Motion that the Scotland Board of Education not have bus monitors for the 2021-22 School Year, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Scott Sears and carried unanimously.***

**C. Summer Meeting Schedule:**

A special meeting will be held before the next regular meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and a Board Social will be held before the start of the school year.

**12. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**A. Ad-Hoc Committee for Interdistrict Education Cost Sharing:**

Brynn Lipstreu reported that Cassidy Martin will present update from the last meeting that included a speaker on Cooperative Agreements.

**B. CABE/EASTCONN:**

EASTCONN has revised their Bylaws and will review them at a special meeting on July 20<sup>th</sup>. The number of students served was hit by Covid but is gradually coming back. EASTCONN will have to rethink their services and the towns they serve.

**C. Readiness Council Report:**

The Council received an email from the Office of Early Childhood regarding supplemental funds that will be available. A meeting will be held next Monday to discuss what the funds can be used for.

**D. Policies Committee:** Need to schedule a meeting with the Superintendent to review policies.

**E. Personnel Committee:**

Notice was received from the state regarding teacher negotiations that will start in the fall.

**F. Technology Committee:**

Need to check on technology report from Savage Systems and meet with Superintendent to review. Rod Perry reported that the contract for Savage Systems is up in November and suggested getting competitive quotes from other sources.

**13. SECOND AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS:** None

**14. NEXT STEP HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS:**

- The Technology Committee and Policies Committee will schedule meetings with the Superintendent.
- Board members need to contact their nominating party if they want their name on the November ballot (there will be two vacancies). Sherry Smardon suggested reaching out to parents at the beginning of the school year for interest in serving on the Board. Brynn Lipstreu suggested posting a list of open positions for the November election on the town website and Facebook page (Sherry suggested including requirements). Superintendent Bruneau will email the Board a handout from CABE on Board responsibilities.
- Rod Perry will check with the Town Clerk regarding party affiliations for seats on the Board.

**15. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Air Conditioning

**16. EXECUTIVE SESSION ANTICIPATED:**

**A. Principal Board Interview:** None

**17. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Appointment of Principal:** None

**18. ADJOURNMENT:**

*#6-21/22 Motion to adjourn (7:57 PM) was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Steve Kurcinik and carried unanimously.*

*Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Scott  
Recording Clerk*